



*Corporation of the District of Maple Ridge
1998 Annual Report*





Members of Council

Mayor Carl Durksen
Councillor Linda King Councillor Jim Clements Councillor Candace Gordon
Councillor Betty Levens Councillor Tom Baker Councillor Ken Stewart

Vision

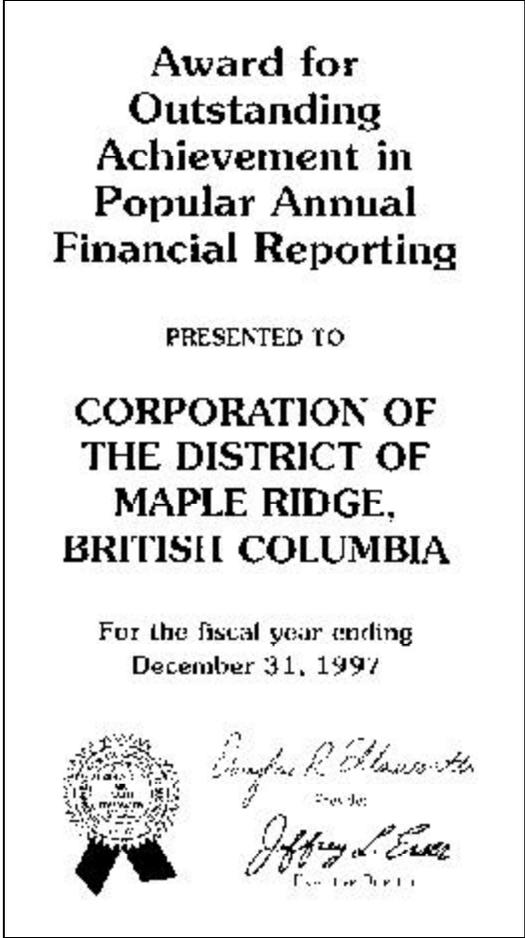
*A safe and livable community
for our present and future citizens*

Value Statements

<i>Leadership</i>	To encourage innovation, creativity, and initiative
<i>Service</i>	To be fair, friendly, and helpful
<i>Reputation</i>	To stress excellence, integrity, accountability, and honesty
<i>Human Resources</i>	To recognize that our people are our most valuable resource
<i>Community</i>	To respect and promote our community

<http://www.mapleridge.org>

Cover Photography by Oliver Reusz



The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the District of Maple Ridge for its Popular Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious international award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state/provincial and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. The District of Maple Ridge has received a Popular Award for the second consecutive year and are in very elite company being one of only two awarded in Canada. We believe our current report continues to confirm to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.

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Mayor's Message

Carl Durksen



On behalf of my colleagues on Council, I am pleased to present our third annual report. The report is produced in the first quarter of each year – it highlights the accomplishments in our community in 1998 and provides a financial overview of each municipal department. I would just like to share some of our thoughts on the many exciting activities that occurred in 1998.

The highest profile event in our community in 1998 was certainly the BC Summer Games. Thousands of young people from all over the province visited our community and competed under the hot July sun. More than four thousand volunteers contributed their time to make the games a real success – indeed, we have a lot of very generous people in our community. The BC Summer Games are referenced many times throughout this report – you will certainly appreciate the amount of work it takes to host an event like this once you realize that almost every municipal department had a role to play in the success of the Games.

The District completed the transfer of the Pitt Meadows Airport from Transport Canada in 1998. A new airport board of directors is in place and they are looking for ways to increase the economic viability of the airport. The possible business spin-offs from acquiring this airport are tremendous – and we've got the right people in place on the Board to make positive things happen.

The District hosted a four-person staff delegation from the Dongcheng District of Beijing in the spring – it was a very successful trip and the delegation took many ideas about local government in Canada back to China. In the fall, it was our turn to send a four-person staff delegation to visit the Dongcheng District; two Council members also attended and all were treated very well and gained a considerable amount of knowledge on the trip. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities Canada Open Cities Agreement has financially supported these initiatives.

One of the direct economic spin-offs to our sister-city relationship with the Dongcheng District is a public/private partnership with P3 International Trade and Investments Ltd. In part, this partnership is aimed at encouraging investment in Maple Ridge, specifically the downtown core project. The downtown core project is on target for public discussion and a decision by Council in 1999. Maple Ridge is a growing community and we must update our facilities to ensure they can meet the future needs of our citizens.



Maple Ridge received three heritage awards, two heritage plaques, and received four “blooms” in the Communities in Bloom provincial competition. The Rural Plan, the Heritage Management Plan, the Downtown Action Plan, Phase I of the Social Planning Advisory Committee Picket Fence Project, Hillside Policies, the District Master Transportation Plan and a review of commercial zoning were all undertaken last year. We are also actively participating in the ongoing development of the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority. The District continues to place a high priority on preserving and enhancing our community.

As you can appreciate, we had a very busy year in 1998; and, 1999 promises to be just as busy. We will continue serving the interests of all of the citizens of our community to ensure Maple Ridge is a safe and livable community.

Carl E. Durksen, Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer's Report

R.W. (Bob) Robertson



This is the third year for the publication of our annual report. It has proven to be a valuable and frequently requested document. In addition to receiving numerous awards, it is gaining recognition as a benchmark for other municipalities to use when creating their own reports. We are proud of the popularity surrounding this document and look forward to distributing it to the citizens and customers of the District of Maple Ridge.

In general, 1998 was a particularly challenging year for municipal governments in British Columbia – we are continually being asked to do more with less. The Council of the District of Maple Ridge has directed that staff use a business planning framework for program and resource allocation decision-making. The 1999-2000 business plans contain a commitment to identify and publish quarterly performance indicators. These indicators will provide solid information on how the District of Maple Ridge is performing on a regular basis. Watch for these reports on our website!



At the organizational level, we welcomed Mr. Jake Rudolph to the District of Maple Ridge in 1998 as the General Manager of Public Works and Development Services – a new department formed from the consolidation of two previously separate divisions. We are committed to improving service delivery for our customers and citizens in this department. In 1999, the department will work on a one counter concept; and, a more efficient computer tracking system for permits. Another important initiative was establishing an environmental manager position responsible for coordinating and promoting a more environmentally aware and sustainable community – Ms. Kim Grout is our new Manager of Environmental Affairs.

Taking the District of Maple Ridge into the 21st century is an opportunity that requires vision, leadership, and planning. The District is currently working with BC Tel to ensure Maple Ridge is technology-ready and prepared for the future demands of our citizens and businesses. BC Tel invested more than \$2 million in our community last year updating wiring and adding an additional exchange. The District also made significant progress on plans for the redevelopment of our downtown core. This project is a unique public-private partnership where all parties are excited by the potential to bring economic growth and new facilities to our growing community.

Finally, 1998 afforded Maple Ridge the opportunity to host the B.C. Summer Games, which was an excellent community showcase supported by many competent volunteers including a large number of District staff. Our sincere thanks go out to all of the volunteers that made this event so successful.

In summary, the District of Maple Ridge continues to work towards our vision of being a safe and livable community for all citizens. We welcome feedback from customers and citizens on how you think we are doing – our website continues to be an excellent medium for comments not only from Maple Ridge but from around the world. Our promise is to keep the public informed about the status of our community through this and other publications.

*7 Budgeted Positions
Budget \$805,286*



Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
As at December 31, 1998
(Unaudited)



	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Financial Assets		
Cash and Temporary Investments	\$48,665,808	\$ 47,929,367
Accounts Receivable	11,294,878	11,297,235
Mortgage Receivable	1,450,000	1,450,000
Deferred Charges and Other	793,470	705,183
Properties for Resale	<u>417,160</u>	—
	62,621,316	61,381,785
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	6,912,746	7,320,422
Deferred Revenues	3,569,350	3,564,377
Restricted Revenues	15,325,663	13,581,361
Refundable Performance Deposits and Other	1,449,759	1,315,601
Long Term Debt	<u>13,446,788</u>	<u>15,210,158</u>
	40,704,306	40,991,919
Net Financial Assets	21,917,010	20,389,866
Capital Assets	<u>292,305,511</u>	<u>267,187,832</u>
	<u>\$314,222,521</u>	<u>\$287,577,698</u>
Equity		
Fund Balances	35,363,798	35,600,024
Equity in Capital Assets	<u>278,858,723</u>	251,977,674
	<u>\$314,222,521</u>	\$287,577,698

Copies of the District's award-winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report are available at the Municipal Hall and the Public Library.



Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 1998

(Unaudited)



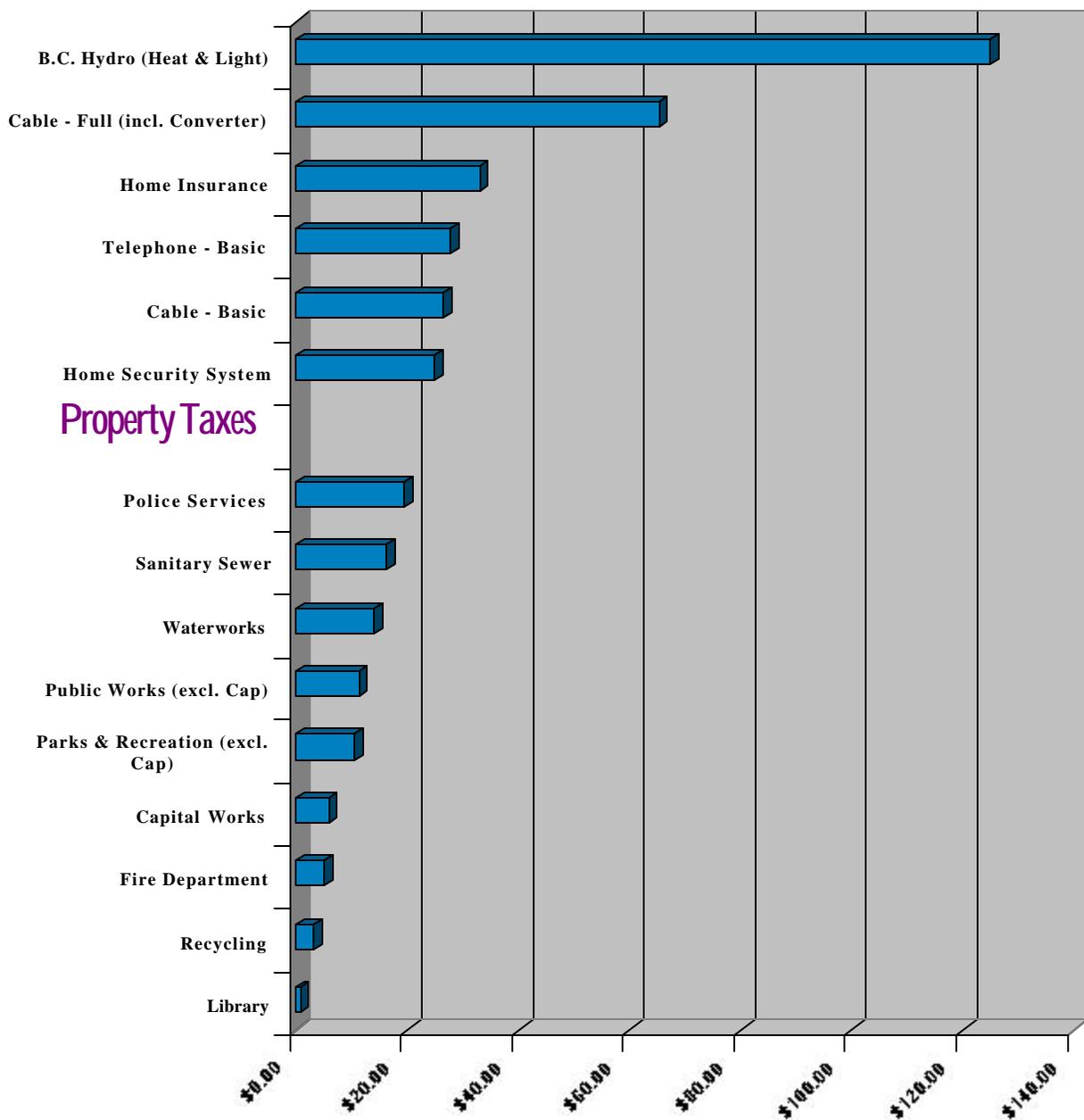
	Budget 1998	Actual <u>1998</u>	Actual 1997
Revenue			
Taxes			
Real property, special assessments, grants in lieu	\$49,254,713	\$49,565,541	\$47,464,925
Less: Collections for other governments	<u>24,065,038</u>	<u>24,074,245</u>	<u>23,180,201</u>
Total taxes for municipal purposes	25,189,675	25,491,296	24,284,724
Sale of services	3,586,745	3,590,564	3,533,682
Other revenue from own sources	2,907,654	3,472,282	3,173,939
Senior government grants – Utilities	1,643,863	1,709,115	1,588,036
Senior government grants – Capital	113,900	275,877	553,899
Development revenue	5,539,123	3,835,876	7,684,421
Provincial transfers	1,890,209	1,780,106	1,792,974
Investment income	1,830,000	2,145,271	1,698,042
Utility user fees	5,748,385	5,967,346	5,557,005
Proceeds of disposal and other	8,550	573,364	1,912,484
Contributed subdivision infrastructure	<u>12,923,171</u>	<u>12,923,171</u>	<u>5,419,640</u>
	<u>61,381,275</u>	<u>61,764,268</u>	<u>57,198,846</u>
Expenditures			
Protective services	11,591,109	10,476,122	9,581,170
Transportation services	11,397,148	7,573,933	10,355,779
Recreation and cultural	9,993,417	12,962,228	7,890,278
Sewer and water facilities	11,171,722	9,573,265	8,710,011
General government	7,092,244	6,328,970	6,818,004
Planning, public health and other	2,375,270	1,550,153	1,635,876
Reallocation of internal equipment usage	(1,204,285)	(1,150,718)	(1,072,523)
Subdivision infrastructure	<u>12,923,171</u>	<u>12,923,171</u>	<u>5,419,640</u>
	<u>65,339,796</u>	<u>60,237,124</u>	<u>49,338,235</u>
Excess Revenue Over Expenditures (Change in Net Financial Assets)	(3,958,521)	1,527,144	7,860,611
Principal Repaid	(1,729,135)	(1,763,370)	(1,727,093)
Debt Issued	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Consolidated Fund Balances	(5,687,656)	(236,226)	6,133,518
Consolidated Fund Balances – Beginning of Year	—	<u>35,600,024</u>	29,466,506
Consolidated Fund Balances – End of Year	(\$5,687,656)	<u>\$35,363,798</u>	\$35,600,024



Average Maple Ridge Home Comparison Municipal Property Taxes for Services (1998) and Other Standard Household Services Cost Per Month

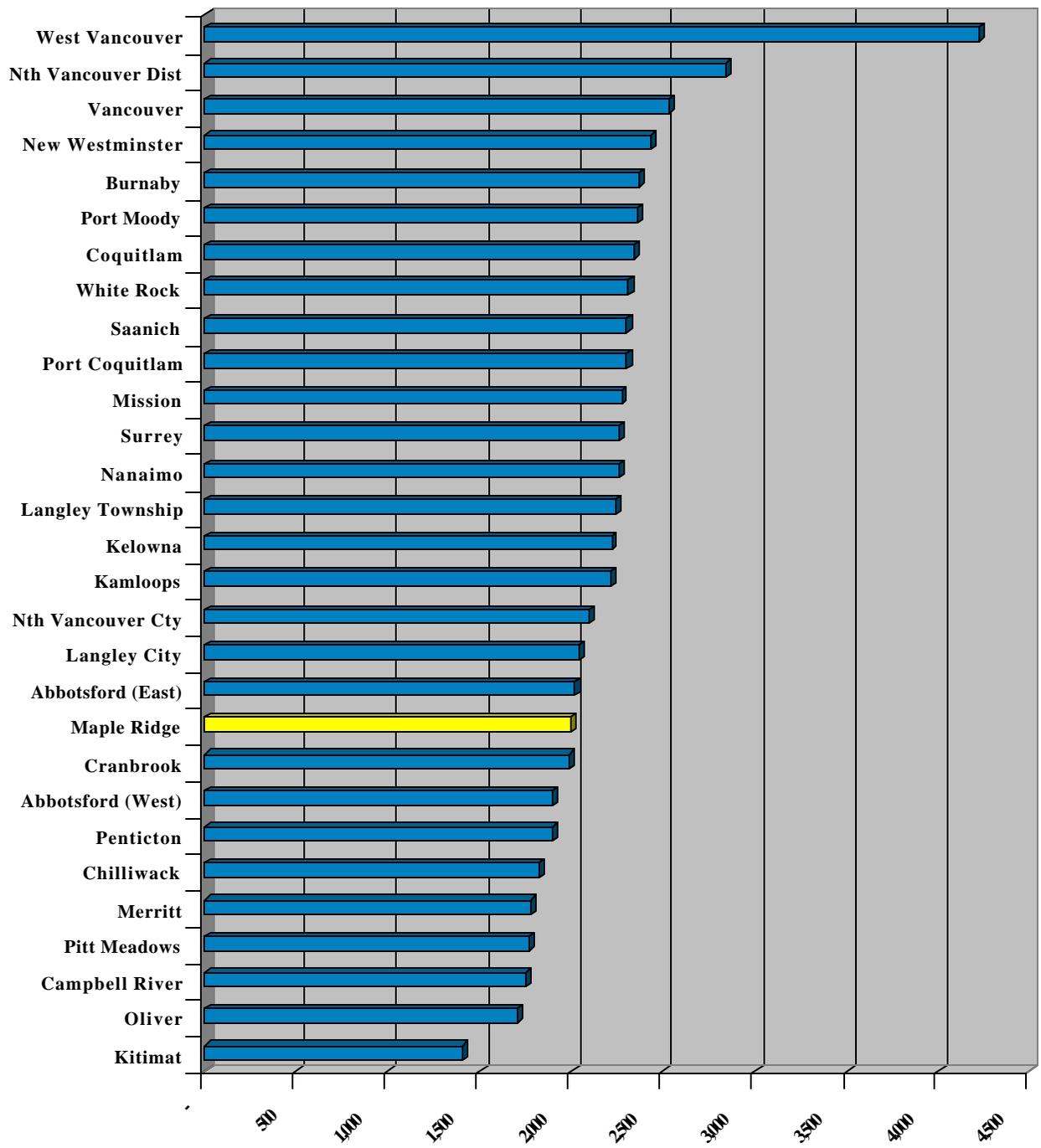


Household Expenditures





General Taxes for Municipal Services 1998 Average Home

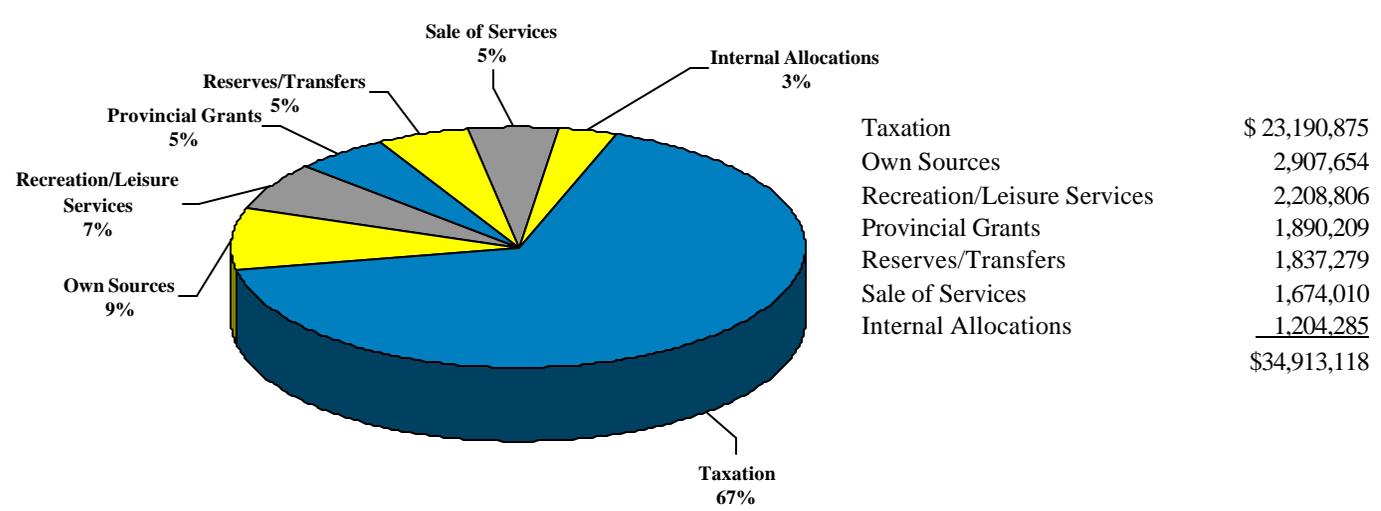




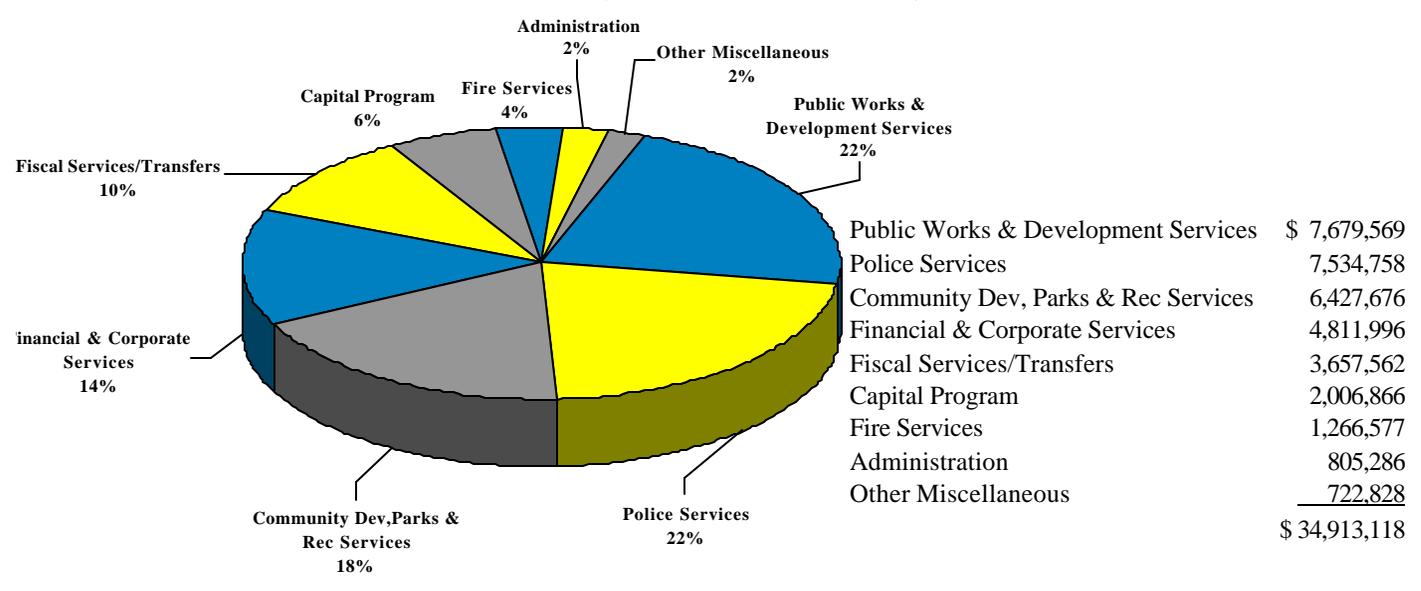
Financial Highlights General Revenue Fund



Summary of 1998 Budget Revenues (Council Controlled)



Summary of 1998 Budget Expenditures (Council Controlled)

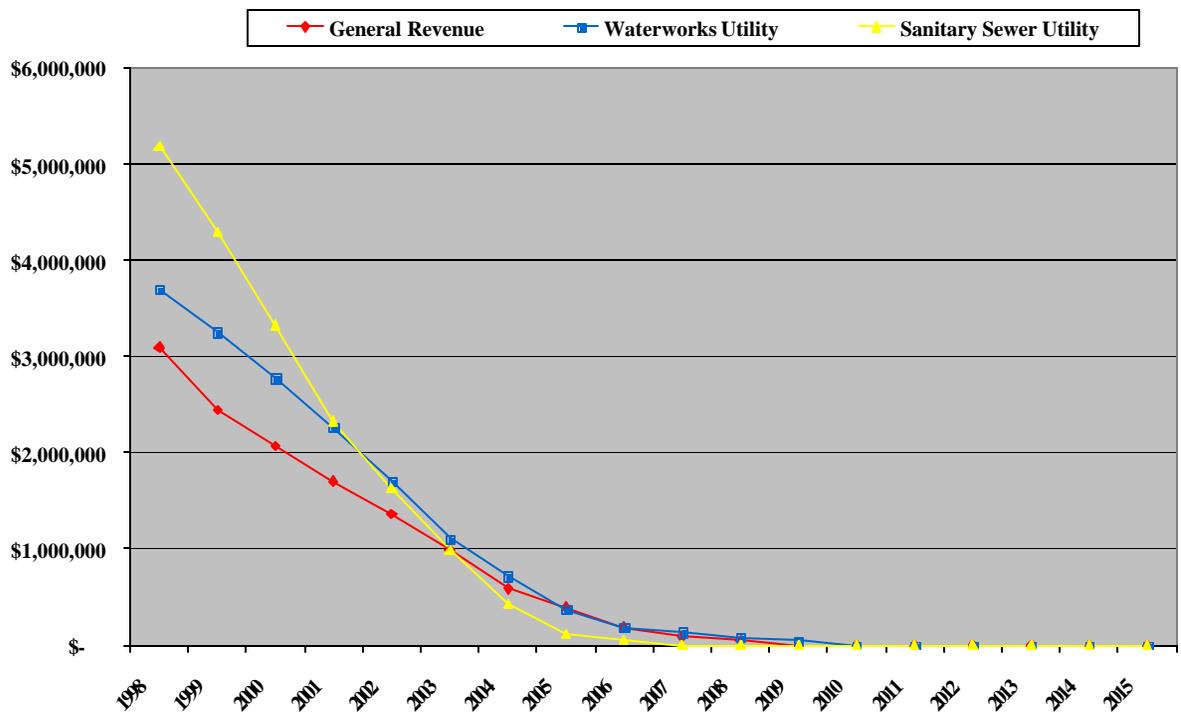




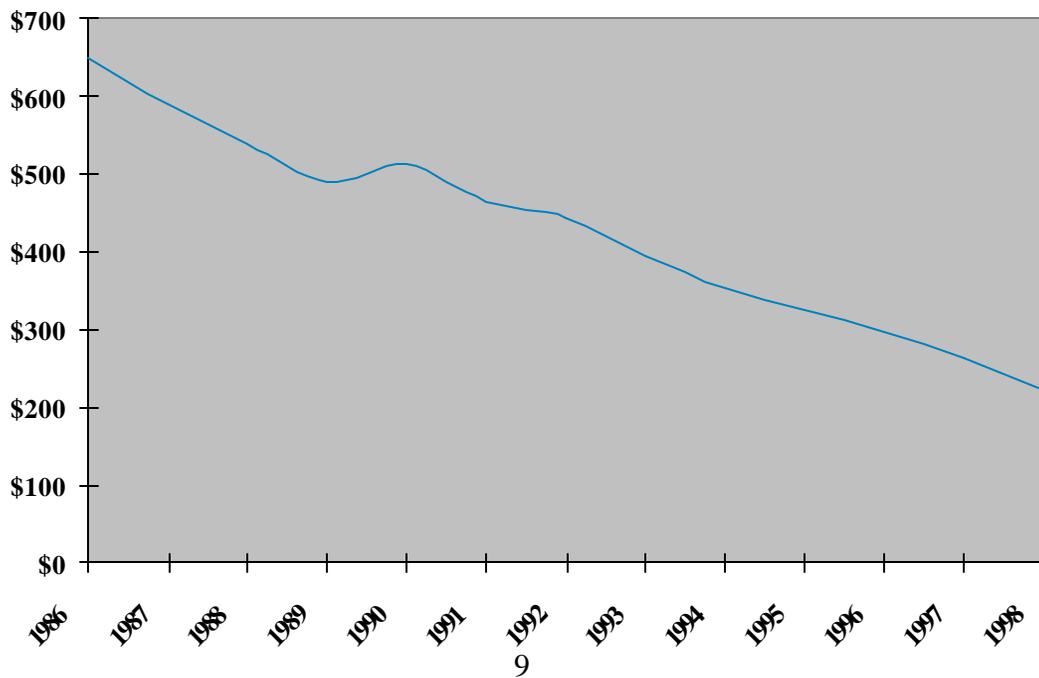
Debt Graphs



Debt Retirement



Debt Per Capita



1998

Maple Ridge R

January

- ◆ Mayor Durksen named to GVRD Transportation Committee.
- ◆ Chamber of Commerce names Jim Barton Businessperson of the Year.
- ◆ Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Times wins six Suburban Newspapers of America Awards.

February

- ◆ S.P.C.A. raises over \$1,100 for the local shelter and “Bru” Webb becomes the No.1 Dog in Maple Ridge.
- ◆ District of Maple Ridge wins prestigious Popular Annual Financial Report Award.
- ◆ 10-Year old Drew Richards nominated for award from the B.C.-Yukon chapter of the Life-saving Society.
- ◆ Bonnie Telep receives Citizen of the Year award from the Maple Ridge Community Foundation.

March

- ◆ School District 42’s Bob Schnider named an Apple Distinguished Educator by Apple Canada.
- ◆ Maple Ridge poet Gregory Scofield wins the 1998 Confederation of Poets Prize.
- ◆ “Poltergeist: The Legacy” filmed in Hammond.
- ◆ Golden Ears United Raiders complete unbeaten season with Soccer Cup Win.

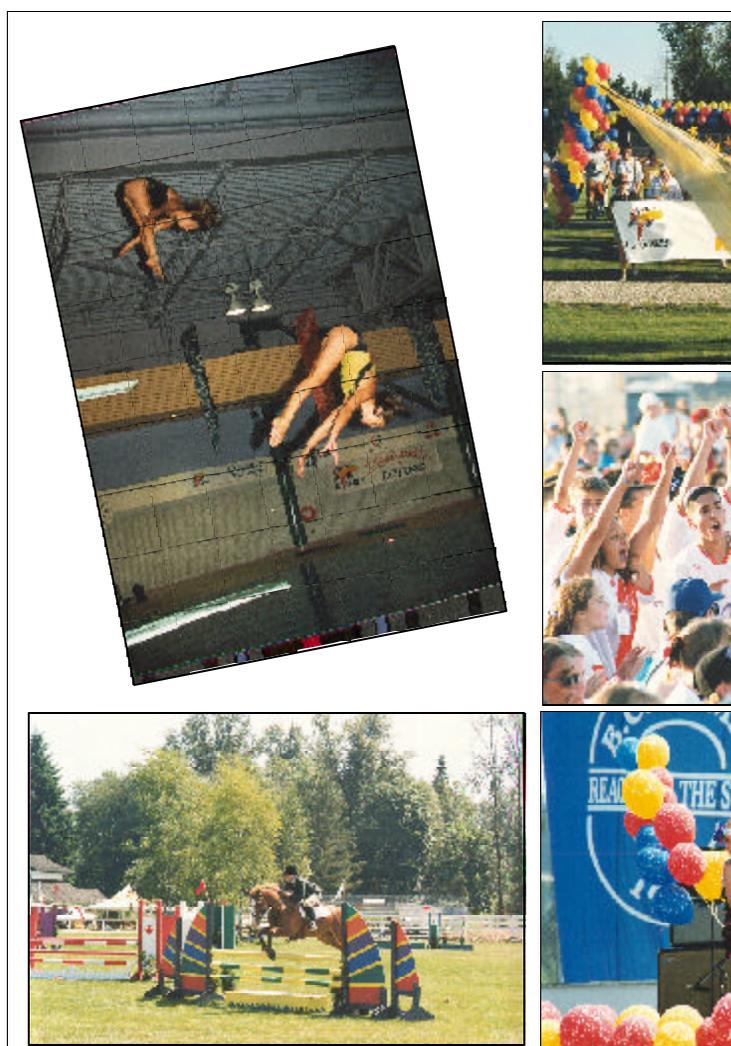
April

- ◆ Riverside Elementary School raises over \$6,000 for the B.C. Heart and Stroke Foundation.
- ◆ Maple Ridge Secondary School Ramblers claim the 1998 Provincial Badminton Championships.
- ◆ Ridge Meadows Flames win their second Provincial Junior B Hockey Championship as well as the Western Canadian Championship.
- ◆ Albion Sports Complex opens at the Albion Fairgrounds.

May

- ◆ China Trade Office officially opens and staff exchange group from Beijing spend three weeks observing municipal functions.
- ◆ 3,828 line dancers combined to break the North American record for the largest country line dance.
- ◆ Ridge Meadows RCMP raise \$3,000 for the Sunshine Foundation by selling Subway sandwiches.

*Capital Program & Other
Budget \$2,729,694*



June

- ◆ Maple Ridge Welcome Wagon honoured with 1997 Outstanding Canadian Community of the Year award in the Population Category of 25,000 – 60,000 people.
- ◆ Hunter Wallace and Sonni Pacheco named Western Canadian Gymnastic Champions.
- ◆ Local realtors raised more than \$2,400 for needy people by hosting the Real Garage Sale.
- ◆ Maple Ridge cadet Tim Haveman earns a rare spot at the nation’s top military college in Ontario.

Review

ed for the Stars



July

- ◆ Ridge-Meadows Rockies baseball team finished the season by winning all three Mosquito titles.
- ◆ Maple Ridge riders score 16 medals at the B.C. Games for Athletes with a Disability.
- ◆ Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows hosted the B.C. Summer Games and also came away with 137 medals, including 41 gold.
- ◆ Sabrina Mazepa chosen to play Kate in this summer's Theatre Under The Stars production of Oklahoma.

August

- ◆ Maple Ridge referee, Grant Goodall, saves seriously injured hockey player in Burnaby.
- ◆ Ridge-Meadows AAA All-Stars midget baseball team capture 1998 Provincial Championship.
- ◆ Maple Ridge Jazz and Blues Festival draws more than 10,000 people to Centennial Park.

September

- ◆ At the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Kim Grout plays Netball for Canada and Kim Eagles captures a bronze medal in individual sport pistol shooting .
- ◆ Eli Wilson becomes the only undrafted free agent at the Canucks' training camp.

October

- ◆ RCMP Inspector Gary House retires after more than 36 years of service.
- ◆ Maple Ridge receives four blooms during the judging of the nation-wide Communities in Bloom contest.
- ◆ RCMP Corporal Randy Herman awarded Rotary International's highest honour, the Paul Harris Award.
- ◆ Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Agricultural Association earns its third "Fair of the Year" award in four years.

November

- ◆ The Maple Ridge Boxing Club brings home 3 gold and 2 silver medals in the B.C. Amateur Boxing Provincial Championships.
- ◆ East Maple Ridge Pony Club members Chelsey Dale, Natasha Pusch and Amanda Mayer take home top honours at the Mission Horse Club Awards Banquet.
- ◆ Near record winds pummelled the Lower Mainland in a storm that leaves almost half the homes in Maple Ridge without power.

December

- ◆ Judy Dueck elected chair of the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School Board.
- ◆ 224th Street Royal Bank ranked best out of 248 Royal Bank locations surveyed across Canada.
- ◆ Larry Walker is the 1998 winner of the Lou Marsh Award for Canada's top athlete and the Lionel Conacher Award for Canada's top male athlete.
- ◆ "Last Skate" at the Cam Neely Arena.

Fiscal Services/Transfers
Budget \$3,657,562



Community Development, Parks & Recreation Services

Mike Murray
General Manager



BC Summer Games – A Community Legacy

The BC Summer Games were a highlight of 1998. Thousands of young people from all over the province visited our community to compete in amateur athletic events. More than four thousand volunteers contributed their time to make the Games a real success. The enhancement of the volunteer network and the generous contributions of friends and neighbours to this outstanding event is the true legacy of the Games.

To prepare for the BC Summer Games, the District opened the Albion Sports Complex, the 45-acre Fields for Kids sportfield site; completed a new all-weather track at Maple Ridge Secondary School; and constructed the Thomas Haney Tennis Courts.



Parks & Facilities

Maple Ridge now boasts twenty-three grass soccer pitches; thirty-eight ball diamonds; three lighted all-weather pitches; five batting cages; thirty-four playgrounds; thirty tennis courts; eight sport courts; six picnic shelters; eight major trail systems; and, sixty-five kilometres of equestrian trails.

More than 12,000 people used our sports fields in 1998. Nearly 2,700 children participated in minor soccer alone! We completed construction on the new “Planet Ice” ice arena complex and we look forward to increased levels of ice hockey, speed skating, figure skating, and other ice-related activities, including dry floor uses like lacrosse.



In 1998 we dedicated Jim Hadgkiss Park on the museum grounds in Maple Ridge, and constructed the Edith McDermott School and park site. We are making plans to revitalize the downtown core including constructing a new youth centre, an arts centre, a new library and an expanded leisure centre.

We are looking forward to the completion of the Elderly Citizen’s Recreation Association (ECRA) senior’s centre in 1999. In 1998 we finalized agreements with ECRA and construction is well underway. The new facility is more than twice the size of the existing Centennial Senior Citizen’s Centre and will serve all of our community.

Emergency Preparedness

The Search and Rescue building underwent a significant upgrade to serve as the Emergency Operations Centre – it also acquired a portable generator to provide emergency power. The Emergency Operations group successfully organized two “tabletop” exercises designed to imitate disaster scenarios and test emergency preparedness plans.

Community Building

From Mountain Festival to youth dances, the District participated in 114 special events in 1998 held at various venues including our eight community centres and forty-six parks. The “Picket Fence” Neighbourhood Planning consultation was also undertaken in 1998 involving 600 children and parents in Yennadon identifying important places or issues in their neighbourhood.

Recreation Program Highlights

1998 Recreation Program Registrations	13,836
1998 Leisure Centre Admissions	265,158
1998 Youth Outreach Drop-In Hours	49,856

79 Budgeted Positions
Budget \$6,427,676

Did You Know?

Over 5,000 volunteers were involved in hosting 114 special events involving 83,699 participants in 1998.



Financial & Corporate Services

Richard Wells
General Manager



Community and Business Relations

The Community and Business Relations department had a busy year promoting economic development in Maple Ridge and producing a variety of materials that profile business and investment opportunities in the community. We also published an Economic Development magazine, completed a comprehensive Community Profile document, and produced an outstanding corporate video. These are available to the public and will be used to market our community worldwide. To encourage international investment, we hosted a four-person staff delegation from the Dongcheng District of Beijing in the spring. In the fall, four of our staff and two Council members visited the Dongcheng District of Beijing and also traveled to Taipei, Taiwan.



We continue to support the movie industry, assisting five productions filming in Maple Ridge. We issued 2,873 business licenses and 1,028 home-based business licenses.

Technology and Y2K Readiness

In January 1998, the District established a Year 2000 (Y2K) steering committee to ensure Y2K readiness in all information, technology, business and operational systems. The committee inventoried more than 130 items – examining specific pieces of hardware, software, and equipment for Y2K compliance and corrective actions. Contingency plans are in place complete with supplier lists and contacts. We will continue to be diligent in reviewing and analyzing Y2K issues as the year 2000 approaches.

Finance

In 1998 the Finance Department became the first and only municipality in Canada to receive three finance awards in the same year from the Government Finance Officers Association; the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting for our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our Annual Budget Document and the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for our 1997 Annual Report. The Public Sector Accounting and Auditing Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants also recognized us as a leader in meeting the new standards for financial reporting for public entities. We have implemented the first three modules of our new financial software programs – all Y2K compliant – which are designed to handle business processing more efficiently and improve response times.

Personnel

In 1998 we presented 32 GEM awards to staff who “Go the Extra Mile” in performing their job duties. We also presented three VIP awards to “Very Innovative People.” The generosity of our staff is evident when we look back and realize our staff raised \$295.00 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation; nearly \$250.00 for Children’s Hospital; and, \$11,604.00 for the United Way.



45 Budgeted Positions
Budget \$4,811,996

Did You Know?

Maple Ridge incorporated on September 12, 1874, is the sixth oldest municipality in B.C.. Also, we are the eleventh largest in land size at 26,710 HA or 66,000 acres.



Public Works & Development Services

*Jake Rudolph
General Manager*



“To promote the continued safety and livability of the community through effective planning and development, and the responsible design, construction, and maintenance of roads and municipal services” is the mission statement of the newly formed Public Works And Development Services division.

Current and Long Range Planning

We completed the Rural Plan, the Heritage Management Plan, the Downtown Action Plan, Phase I of the Social Planning Advisory Committee Picket Fence Project, Hillside Policies, the District Master Transportation Plan and began a review of commercial zoning in 1998. We developed a secondary suites bylaw and sent an Expression of Interest to the Ministry of Forests to participate in one of three community forest pilot projects.

Despite the downturn in the British Columbia economy, development activity was relatively strong in Maple Ridge in 1998 as we continued to receive zoning applications and we issued \$103 million worth of building permits.

We remain committed to the Official Community Plan and to ensuring all growth and change that occurs in the District is in the best interest of our community. The planning department initiated an environmental portfolio and hired a Manager of Environmental Affairs to ensure the District takes a proactive approach to environmental issues.

Engineering

Engineering staff began preparing a Design Criteria manual to establish servicing criteria for the efficient and effective design and delivery of municipal servicing infrastructure. The Engineering Department continues to work closely with the Greater Vancouver Regional District on numerous initiatives affecting the region and to address environmental issues such as Watercourse Protection and Classification, Storm and Sanitary Liquid Waste Management and Solid Waste Management.

Ridge Meadows Recycling Society introduced an orange bag for cans; started collecting plastics at the depot; and, secured a large number of commercial cardboard recycling contracts. In total, they recycled 6,969 tons of material and diverted 38% of Maple Ridge’s garbage.



Operations

The Operations Department received 2,738 action requests in 1998 and was responsible for:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 404 km of road | 1744 ornamental street lights |
| 206 km of sanitary sewer | 1550 overhead street lights |
| 312 km of watermain | 6100 traffic signs |
| 152 km of storm sewer | 15 traffic signals |
| 13 bridges | 130 crosswalks |
| 5 water pumping stations | 3 water reservoirs |
| 21 sewage pumping stations | 1413 fire hydrants |

*111 Budgeted Positions
Budget \$7,679,569*



Public Works & Development Services

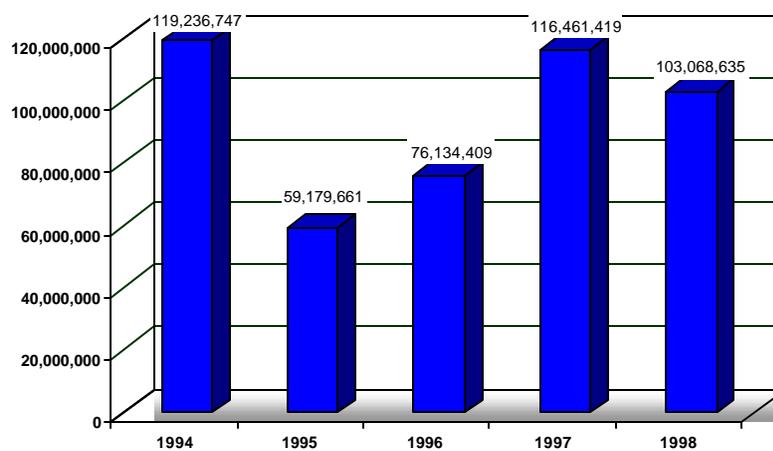
Jake Rudolph
General Manager



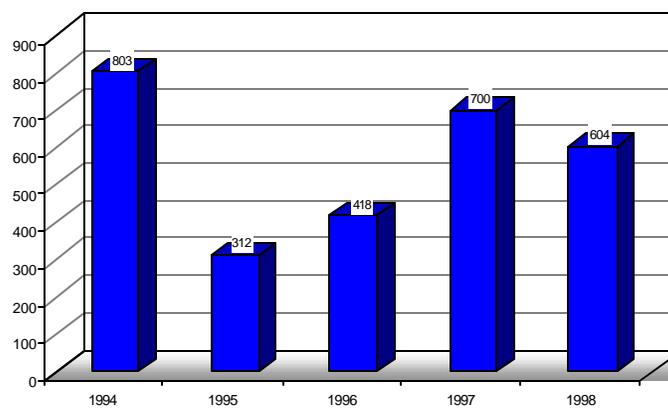
Inspections

Inspection Services staff conducted 14,055 inspections and issued 3,413 building permits. New provincial Building, Fire, Electrical and Plumbing Codes were adopted in 1998 resulting in enhanced ventilation requirements for houses and new building envelope standards. Three staff members achieved the Registered Building Official Professional designation.

Total Construction Values (\$)



Number of Residential Housing Starts



Did You Know?

In 1998 we purchased 8,122,900 m³ of water from the Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD) and we installed:

- 1,756 m² of thermoplastic cross-walk paint*
- 168 new street signs*
- 1,200 reflective markers*
- and marked 219 km of traffic lane*



*Peter Grootendorst
Deputy Chief,
Manager Operations*

Fire Services



*Dane Spence
Deputy Chief, Manager
Community Fire Safety*

Maple Ridge Volunteer Fire Department

In 1998 the Maple Ridge Fire Department restructured and formed a team approach to management. We hired a training officer; appointed a data management person; and, welcomed a new front office person. The fire department acquired a new tanker pump vehicle in 1998, and participated in the TAPP-C program aimed at educating juveniles about the dangers of fire-setting. Fire Hall #1 received seismic upgrading and Fire Hall #2 is currently receiving an addition. Plans are underway to build Fire Hall #4 in the Albion area.



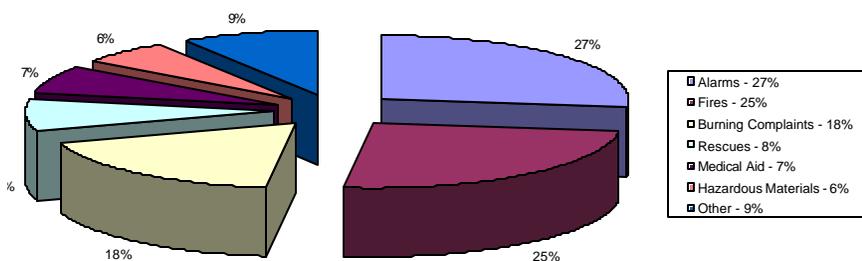
Volunteer Recognition



In 1998, the department honoured 12 volunteer fire fighters with long-term service awards – between them they had 170 years worth of service! The Maple Ridge Volunteer Fire Department devoted 30,770 hours to protecting and educating the community in 1998. This equals approximately 360 hours per volunteer per year. Twelve new volunteers completed their training and were accepted as Volunteer Fire Fighters in 1998. Seven other members are participating in the Company Officer's Program.

Beyond Our Borders

The provincial government declared a State of Emergency in Salmon Arm, BC in the summer of 1998 when a brush and forest fire broke out. Maple Ridge dispatched two trucks, a command vehicle and two crews of fire fighters to assist fire crews already in Salmon Arm. Our crews spent seven days in the region, patrolling 24-hours a day to extinguish spot fires. Salmon Arm residents were deeply grateful for the swift response of our Maple Ridge crews. Local crews also responded to a serious brush fire in Pitt Meadows in September.



*6 Budgeted Positions
Budget \$1,266,577*

Did You Know?

Once their 3 month training period is complete - which includes 150 training hours - each volunteer fire-fighter volunteers over 360 hours per year on average.. Our volunteer fire-fighters have the highest level of First Responder Medical Training available in the Province.



Police Services

*Bill Dingwall
Officer in Charge*



Policing in Ridge-Meadows

The Ridge-Meadows Detachment of the RCMP, in partnership with the community, is dedicated to the preservation of the quality of life and safety of the public they serve. They are dedicated to the principle of community policing and working with the public to provide long term solutions to identified problems. To achieve this principle, the focus is on the prevention and detection of crime, the prosecution of criminals, community involved problem solving, and response to criminal activity and traffic safety. The department encourages positive community relations, a professional police image, public education, and the ability to respond to the needs of our community.



Community Partnerships

Forming partnerships with the community was a major focus in 1998. We formed new partnerships with ICBC, the School District, Maple Ridge Chrysler, and Westgate Volkswagen for funding and vehicles to target specific crimes in the community and support community policing. The Ridge-Meadows Protective Services Society was also formed – it offers monetary rewards for assistance in the solution of crimes.



The local RCMP participated in the 1998 B.C. Summer Games held in our community. We conducted security checks for all Games officials and volunteers, provided a police liaison for Games security, and donated many staff volunteer hours.

Volunteers contributed more than 8,000 hours to community policing efforts in 1998. Committed volunteers are involved in Speedwatch, Citizens on Patrol, Blockwatch, Victim Services, and as Auxiliary officers. Local RCMP presented 759 talks to elementary and secondary students and we have five school liaison officers working with youth.

Community Policing Team

The Community Policing Team was formed in May of 1996, and given the mandate to take a leading role in our Detachment's Community Policing efforts. Since then, the Team has been successful in forming effective partnerships and mobilizing community resources. During 1998, we formalized Community Policing Committees (CPC) in Haney Central (for Port Haney and the downtown core), and West Maple Ridge (for West Maple Ridge and Hammond). There is a functioning CPC in Pitt Meadows, and one is under development for East Maple Ridge, with an expected start date of June 1999. These committees act in an advisory capacity and also involve citizens in problem oriented policing projects.

More Successes

During 1998 the local RCMP enjoyed several high profile operational successes, including charges being laid in two historical homicides (one from 1978, the other from 1985); several charges laid related to an auto theft ring; and, numerous marijuana grow operations were dismantled with charges laid. Also in 1998, we welcomed Inspector Bill Dingwall as our Officer In Charge.

Did You Know?

The local RCMP 1998 Charity Golf Tournament presented a cheque for \$10,280 to the Sunshine Foundation, bringing the three year total to \$13,886.

*105 Budgeted Positions
Budget \$7,534,758*

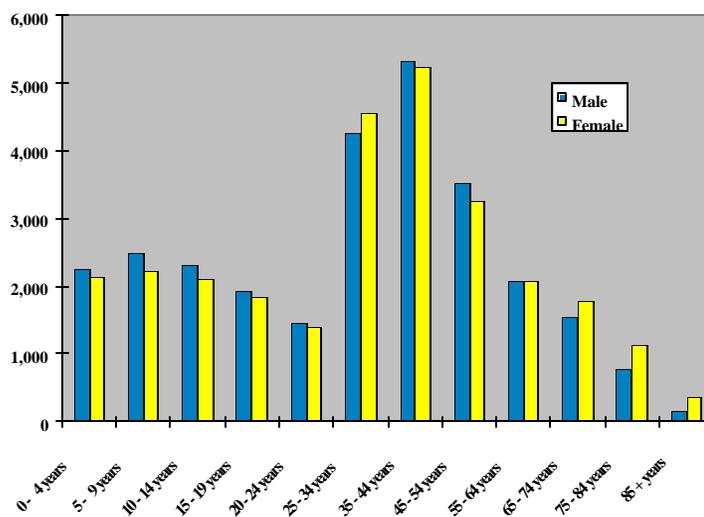


Demographics



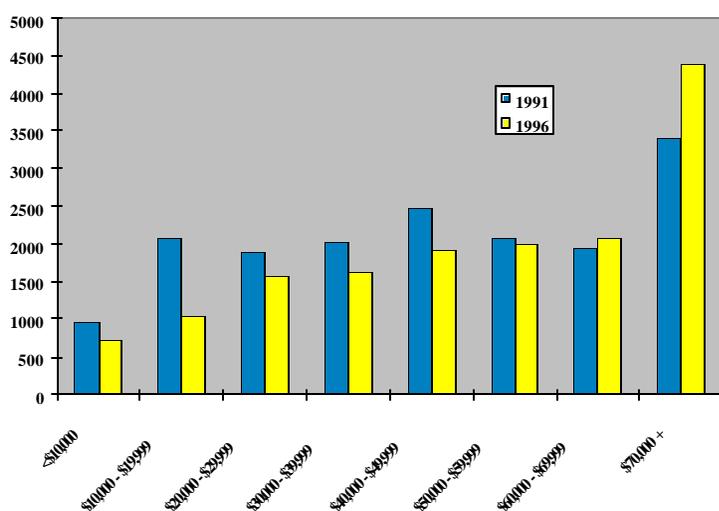
Population Composition

Age	Male	Female	Total
0 - 4 years	2,250	2,125	4,375
5 - 9 years	2,495	2,235	4,730
10 - 14 years	2,305	2,090	4,395
15 - 19 years	1,935	1,825	3,760
20 - 24 years	1,465	1,390	2,855
25 - 34 years	4,260	4,545	8,805
35 - 44 years	5,340	5,235	10,575
45 - 54 years	3,535	3,255	6,790
55 - 64 years	2,070	2,075	4,145
65 - 74 years	1,560	1,790	3,350
75 - 84 years	770	1,115	1,885
85 + years	165	355	520
Total	28,150	28,035	56,185



Source: Statistics Canada
1996 Census

Household Income



	1991	1996
<\$10,000	965	730
\$10,000 - \$19,999	2,095	1,050
\$20,000 - \$29,999	1,910	1,565
\$30,000 - \$39,999	2,020	1,630
\$40,000 - \$49,999	2,480	1,925
\$50,000 - \$59,999	2,095	1,995
\$60,000 - \$69,999	1,945	2,080
\$70,000 +	3,390	
\$70,000 - \$79,999		1,415
\$80,000 - \$89,999		1,040
\$90,000 - \$99,999		690
\$100,000 +		1,260
Average	\$49,151	\$56,338
Median	\$46,295	\$53,606

Source: Statistics Canada
1996 Census



Telephone List



General Information & Enquiries (11995 Haney Place)	463-5221
General Fax Line	467-7329
Cemetery (21404 Dewdney Trunk)	467-7307
Clerks Department	463-5221
Community & Business Relations (2-11996 Edge St.)	
Business Enquiries and Licences	467-7305
Bylaws	467-7305
Economic Development	467-7305
Parking Enforcement	467-7305
Fax Line	467-7330
Engineering Department	
Engineering Enquiries	467-7339
Administration	467-7340
Operations Centre (23925 Dewdney Trunk)	467-7363
Emergency - Nights & Weekends	463-9581
Fax Line	467-7360
Recycling-Ridge Meadows Recycling Society (10092-236th St.)	463-5545
Finance Department	
Purchasing	467-7345
Property Taxation (Info Line)	467-7336
Fire Dept.	
Emergency Calls Only	911
Administration Only - Non-Emergency Calls	463-5880
Fax Line	467-7332
Inspection Services	467-7311
Building	467-7312
Electrical	467-7313
Gas-Plumbing & On-Site Servicing	467-7314
Plan Checker	467-7348
After Hours Inspection Line	467-7380
Library (22420 Dewdney Trunk)	466-2601
Mayor	463-5221
Municipal Emergency Program	463-5221
Nights & Weekends	463-9581
Parks & Leisure Services	
Administration & General Information (1-11996 Edge St.)	467-7346
Fax Line	467-7393
General Manager's Office (11995 Haney Place)	467-7347
Elderly Citizens Recreation Association-Centennial Centre (11940-224th St.)	
Seniors Program & Information Office	467-4993
Seniors Lounge	467-0072
Facility & Sportfield Reservations	467-7438
or	465-2452
Sportfield Conditions & Closures	467-7321
Leisure Centre (11925 Haney Place)	
General Programs	467-7322
Touch Tone Info (Swimming, Skating, Aerobics, Community Events)	467-7321
Fax Line	467-7373
Maple Ridge Campground Reservations	467-7301
Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council Office (22520-116th Ave.)	467-3825
Fax Line	467-1498
Personnel Enquiries/Job Line	467-7350
Planning	467-7341
Development Applications	467-7342
Administration	467-7343
Police-RCMP (11990 Haney Place)	
Emergency Calls Only	911
Non-Emergency Calls	463-6251
Crime Prevention	467-7644
Firearms Registration	467-7682
Fax Line	467-7644
Crime Prevention Office (Pitt Meadows)	465-2402
SPCA Animal Shelter (10235 Industrial)	463-9511

The Legend of the Beast

In the valley of the Golden Ears Mountains in Maple Ridge, 'The Beast' ran, and frolicked from the beginning of time in perfect harmony with the environment.

Mother Nature took many hours of pleasure just watching the beauty of the 'Beast's' movement and the sheer joy of living the 'Beast' projected as it ran and jumped in play with the other animals in the valley, without a mean bone in its' body. Mother Nature found perfect solitude in the mountains and a place to rest from her ever increasing workload throughout the world when time would allow.

Sadly, it came to pass one day that man became extremely proficient in the destruction of the earth. Man's technology in the production of toxic chemicals, nuclear waste, sewage and larger machines to cut down the forests quicker had a devastating effect on the earth. The oceans were used as dumping grounds, drift nets, miles long, were set to kill anything living without regard, and oil was spilled as if to make sure everything else was destroyed.

Mother Nature worked so hard trying to repair the damage that she was just about finished. Man in his greed was ready to put his final touch to the end of nature, but he had not reckoned on the appearance of 'The Beast' who came thundering out of the Valley of the Golden Ears to help Mother Nature.



The battle was fierce, but 'The Beast' was not like Mother Nature who would not hurt anyone or anything. 'The Beast' ran over people that were causing this destruction and gave battle in any way that was possible, and in the battle, man used chemicals, nuclear waste, fire and pollution of every sort to try and stop this thing from the Valley of the Golden Ears.

When the battle was over and Mother Nature had a chance to regain her strength, she found 'The Beast' was just about done in with man's pollution of nuclear waste, chemicals, acid rain, smog, sewage and smoke from what was left of the forests. There was no way she could save 'The Beast' and restore it to what it was when it ran free in the valleys and mountains around Maple Ridge. The damage was too great. This was a sad day. A few tears fell from Mother Nature and anger started to swell up in her until she was mad. In her anger, this was what she decreed:

"While 'The Beast' cannot be as before, I can make it in another form and I will make 'The Beast' into a statue for all the world to see. I will not let man or the sum of all mankind go without punishment. They who try to destroy by pollution and technology shall have their souls imprisoned and shall wake up with nightmares of 'The Beast' as he captures them and does what he will.

Furthermore, I, Mother Nature, make this decree that I will give mankind another chance to change his ways and use his intelligence to help the environment.

Because of past performance, I am starting the Clock of Time, and how much time is left to the world depends on what is done. For now, the clock is running with the souls and spirits of those who would not heed my warning. Trapped, their pain and anguish can be seen in their eyes. 'The Beast' would give no mercy if it could get at them and they would be destroyed, but their destruction would not be enough punishment. Instead, they will have to look over the world every hour and see what they have done for an eternity and every hour 'The Beast' shall have its' vengeance as it tramples upon those inside the clock who have done damage to the earth."

D.R. Brayford (Copyright 1989)

RCMP Bike Squad
Lends a Helping Hand

(Photo Courtesy of
"The News")



Eagle Release at River's Day

Water Safety Lesson



Fire Department
Long-term Service Awards



Record Breaking
Line Dance



Canada Day Celebration

"Planet Ice" Opens

