

## City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 16, 2019 #19-47

For further information, contact: Mayor Mike Morden at 604-463-5221 communications@mapleridge.ca

## **BC Supreme Court Dismisses Pivot Legal Application**

Maple Ridge, BC: Consistent with previous direction from the BC Supreme Court, a July 15 judgment of Mr. Justice Grauer has reaffirmed the original Court Order relating to the occupation of the St. Anne lands in Maple Ridge, and confirmed the City's conduct related to the implementation of these Orders.

The judgment was made in response to an application from Pivot Legal Society for new Court Orders pertaining to the use of the property, none of which were approved.

The July 15 judgment recognizes that the City has the right to control its own property and to place conditions on the use of the property, including searches prior to entry for items prohibited by the Court. Furthermore, the Court found no basis to agree with Pivot's poor characterization of the City's conduct in carrying out the existing Orders.

"The City respects the rule of law and appreciates the court's decision to uphold the Fire Safety Order. Staff have diligently followed the terms of that order with empathy and professionalism," said Mayor Morden.

"Our citizens and businesses have been very patient as Council continues toward the goal of closing the camp to fulfill the promise of a neighbourhood park. Council has our 'Community Safety Plan' in motion that will bring a safer City and ensure we facilitate the various housing and services that people really need."