



*Deep Roots
Greater Heights*

District of Maple Ridge News Release

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Two new parks dedicated in Maple Ridge 's Silver Valley Neighbourhood

Maple Ridge , BC: On Monday, June 24, the District of Maple Ridge held official dedication ceremonies for two new neighbourhood parks in Silver Valley: Deer Fern Park is situated southwest of the intersection of 236 Street and Rock Ridge Drive; Cedar Park can be accessed north of the intersection of 133 Avenue and Rock Ridge Drive or from the south at 132 Avenue just west of 237A Street.

“These two parks were created with the input of area residents who worked with our Parks & Facilities Planning and Development team to create spaces that reflect their needs and the actual park sites. The results are spectacular,” said Mayor Ernie Daykin. “Deer Fern Park offers play equipment for kids, adult exercise equipment, and a sports court area. The use of the natural elements of the surrounding forest is simply beautiful. There is no doubt that the highlight of this park is the view. You can see west to the Golden Ears Bridge, SFU and the Metropolis at Metrotown. Cedar Park, when entered from the north, has a pathway that winds south through the forest, across a wood bridge and then into a clearing that leads to the children’s play areas and the sports court on the south side of the park. This park blends in with the area so perfectly,” he added.

“The opportunity to work with area residents who were part of the Park Planning Steering Committee for both parks allows us to focus on creating spaces that the people neighbourhood are looking for. In Deer Fern Park we were able to incorporate adult fitness equipment that parents can use when hanging out with their children, or use while admiring the view,” said Bruce McLeod, Manager Parks, Planning and Development. He continued, “In Cedar Park, the area residents wanted to take advantage of the forest canopy and have it open into an open play area and step down through the natural elevation of the park to the playground equipment to the sports court at the bottom of the park. It was clear from the opening event that the local kids love the sports court space by the ball hockey nets that had been abandoned for supper break.”

Deer Fern Park is 0.3 hectares in size and construction costs were \$330,000. Cedar Park is 1.2 hectares in size and construction costs were \$396,000. As noted, both parks were developed with the input of neighbourhood steering committees, an important part of the District’s approach to creating park spaces.

“By engaging the community with our professional park planners, we have created a string of incredible neighbourhood park spaces that are well suited to the neighbourhoods they serve. Last year we opened Webster’s Corners Park and Haney Nokai Park and both have become places where community members congregate and connect,” said Kelly Swift, General Manager: Community Development, Parks & Recreation Services. “We are currently working on a new neighbourhood park in Hammond and the Park Planning Steering Committee has come up with a great design for this river front space, Work will also be starting soon on a new spray park in Albion that will be a great asset in that neighbourhood and for the community as a whole,” she added.

“Council gets to see these projects from the land acquisition, through the planning to the approval of the tenders, and nothing is more fun than going out and joining members of the community and cutting the ribbon on these beautiful neighbourhood parks,” said Mayor Daykin. “These neighbourhood parks are important to the health of our community. They are places where people can meet and create connections, places for kids to play and be active, and, with the contributions of the volunteers in the neighbourhoods who invested their time and ideas, places where people can create a legacy for future generations,” he concluded.

For more information about these parks or the park planning process please contact Bruce McLeod, Manager Parks, Planning and Development, at 604-467-7338 or by email at bmcleod@mapleridge.ca.