

# Message from Mayor

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On behalf of Maple Ridge Council, I am very pleased to present the City of Maple Ridge 2018 Annual Report. This document provides an overview of the City's financial performance for the last fiscal year ending December 31, 2018, and is part of a series of publications and online tools that represent our commitment to transparency and accountability to our citizens.

My Council colleagues and I began our term in November 2018, and we appreciate the efforts of the previous Council and those that came before us for the work they have done to see that our City continues to build a strong financial foundation to meet the opportunities and challenges of the future. Our previous Council established the Financial Plan for 2019-2023, affording new Council the opportunity to create a strategic plan to guide our City over the next four years.

I would like to acknowledge the support that Council received from City staff in the development of our Strategic Plan. The collaboration among Council members and staff is the starting point to create a sustainable plan, with metrics, around the key strategic priorities of Community Safety, Inter-government Relations, Growth, Community Pride & Spirit and the Natural Environment. The strong direction Council has provided on these priorities will ensure the City moves forward with a clear vision delivered through the execution of our Business and Financial plans.

A key component of Council's Strategic Plan is the development and implementation of a Community Safety Plan to ensure that citizens feel safe and welcome to engage in community life, facilitate access to social services, and promote an overall sense of community well-being. We are encouraged by the strong willingness of community stakeholders to work with us in developing a plan that will fulfill Council's vision.

We are making significant investments in new community amenities which, in tandem with projects to upgrade or rejuvenate existing facilities and infrastructure, will serve our citizens far into the future. In particular, there has been a focus on recreation and community gathering spaces to increase the vibrance for our fast growing City.

We strive for a strong social fabric and a sense of community (in a growing City) by providing spaces for residents of all ages to recreate, collaborate and socialize together. Our current commitments deliver on this mandate while taking into consideration the fiscal impacts of the decisions we make. As a result, we balance demand and service.

Thank you for taking the time to review our Annual Report.

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Mike Morden  
Mayor

# Message from CAO

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In 2018, the City of Maple Ridge continued its commitment to financial responsibility and open and accessible government. The 2018 Annual Report takes a look back at our City finances for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018. I'm confident that this report reflects the prudent stewardship the City has undertaken of key infrastructure investments along with ongoing work to maintain smooth operations as our community continues to grow at a rate above the regional and national average.

The Annual Report provides detailed financial information that complements other key information resources that deliver data directly to citizens. From the City's website, Annual Citizens Report to the award winning Open Government Portal, we continue to look at ways that we can provide our citizens with information in ways that are easy to access and understand. Many significant projects were set in motion in 2018 as the City began planning and construction of several key recreation infrastructure projects which together represent one of the largest investments in new community amenities in over 20 years. Significant among them is work to establish a new community centre in the Albion neighbourhood. This facility will be co-located with the new Cæsçønele Elementary School and a neighbourhood park to provide valuable and much-needed community gathering space in this area.

Another key project is the major renovation of the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre in the downtown core. Featuring a renovated leisure pool and new lazy river feature, bubbling play area for toddlers, hot tub and universal change rooms, this project will deliver important accessibility improvements and a greatly enhanced user experience for all ages and abilities. Other notable initiatives include field development projects such as the one at Telosky Stadium that features the construction of a new fieldhouse, improved lighting, and a field reconfiguration with the installation of synthetic turf to increase the year-round usability of the fields to meet growing demand from our robust sports community.

In 2018, the City entered the fourth and final phase of the Downtown Enhancement Project to achieve the overall goal of increased livability of the Town Centre, support for business growth, and encouraging future investment in the area while enhancing the street experience for pedestrians and shoppers and the safety of road users. Our Town Centre is the heart of the City and home to many special events throughout the year that will benefit from these improvements to make our downtown an even more vibrant destination.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank City of Maple Ridge staff for their passion and commitment to public service. We have a strong team working to deliver on Council's strategic priorities and ensure the City maintains a strong financial position. Thank you for taking the time to flip through this publication, and I encourage you to visit [opengov.mapleridge.ca](http://opengov.mapleridge.ca) for more information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelly Swift', written in a cursive style.

Kelly Swift  
Acting Chief Administrative Officer