

Maple Ridge This Month

MID-MONTH NOVEMBER 2017

INFORMED: Santa Claus Is Coming To Town

Saturday, December 2 Maple Ridge Celebrates Christmas in the Park

Mark your calendars, because Santa Claus is coming to town on Saturday, December 2 and he's doing it in style. The festival runs from 4:00 to 8:00 pm with the parade starting at 6:00 pm sharp. The Peace Tree at the corner of 224 Street and Haney Place becomes the largest Christmas tree in the Fraser Valley and when Santa magically lights the tree it marks the start of the parade.

There's so much to do - Memorial Peace Park, in fact all of downtown Maple Ridge is decorated with thousands of lights and the traditional red bells that signal the holidays are upon us. There will be music at the bandstand, cookies, popcorn and hot chocolate, a chance to visit with Santa and drop off your Christmas wish list in his special mailbox.

This annual festival is a delight for kids of all ages and is made possible by an army of volunteers. If you'd like to be one of 'Santa's Elves' and lend your help, or if you'd like more information about the Festival and parade go online to mapleridgechristmasfestival.com.



ENGAGED: CP Holiday Train

Join Alan Doyle & the Beautiful Band at Port Haney

On Saturday, December 16 at 7:30 pm the CP Holiday Train will make its way into the Port Haney West Coast Express station for its annual visit. The stage will lower at 7:45 pm and Alan Doyle and the Beautiful Band will entertain the crowd with a 45 minute show as a way of thanking everyone for their generous donations to the local food bank.

This is the single largest fundraiser for the Friends In Need Food Bank, so we wanted to get the word out as soon as possible. Maple Ridge firefighters will be out in the community the weekend before the visit collecting donations. As well, volunteers will be on hand at the CP Holiday Train event collecting cash and non-perishable food donations. The train parks at the western end of the Port Haney West Coast Express Station and the stage portion is located almost right across the street from the historic Billy Miner Alehouse & Cafe. That's the spot to hear Alan Doyle, former lead singer of Great Big Sea, and the band perform their FREE concert.

It's a magical evening that runs for about one hour in total. The best way to get there is to park downtown and walk south



on 224 Street, through the tunnel right out to the Port Haney Wharf. Please make sure you bring a donation for the food bank.

ENGAGED: Building Our Open Government Portal

Provide Your Feedback & You Could Win an iPad

A month ago the City of Maple Ridge launched the Open Government Portal packed with information and applications to help you learn more about your City. We are looking for your feedback so that we can make improvements to the site and focus on building new applications and provide the information that you want and need.

Throughout the portal we have placed feedback links, symbolized by 'thumbs up and thumbs down' icons, so you can complete the feedback form for the site. Your input is valuable, and that's why any person who provides a comment or suggestion is automatically entered into a draw for the grand prize of an Apple 32GB iPad tablet and two supplementary draws for a \$100 gift card at the winner's favourite local business. This "Community Beta Test Contest" Ends at 4:00 pm on November 30, 2017. Please take a moment from your busy schedule to help us improve the portal to serve you better.

The Open Government Portal is available at



opengov.mapleridge.ca. You can also access the portal on the main City website at mapleridge.ca. Thank you for help!

Contact us at: enquiries@mapleridge.ca

If you have a question about any of the content in this ad, or questions about any programs or services offered by the City of Maple Ridge, please email enquiries@mapleridge.ca and one of our team members will respond to you.

INFORMED: November 2017



Council Meeting Schedule

Mayor and Council encourage everyone to attend these important public meetings. It's your chance to see how public policy is debated and enacted.

Tuesday, November 21

6:00 pm, Council Workshop - Blaney Room

7:00 pm, Public Hearing - Council Chambers

Tuesday, November 28

7:00 pm, Council Meeting - Council Chambers

Tuesday, December 5

6:00 pm, Council Workshop - Blaney Room

7:00 pm, Public Hearing - Council Chambers

Agendas & Minutes

Agendas for these meetings are posted online the Friday before the meeting date. Go to mapleridge.ca, click the link under Your Council on the home page.

Workshop at a Glance

Subscribe to the 'Workshop at a Glance' eNewsletter that provides a summary of issues discussed at Council Workshop meetings. Go to mapleridge.ca, click the link to 'Notify Me' and sign up today.

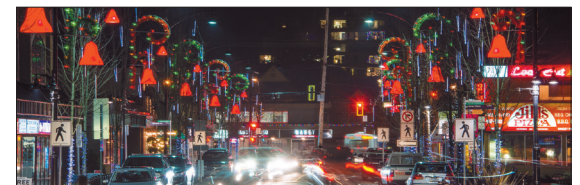
Council Meeting Videos

If you are unable to attend a Council Meeting or Public Hearing meeting you can now watch these meetings on your computer 24/7. The entire unedited meetings are posted two to three days after the meeting. The video is indexed to the agenda package so that you can watch them in their entirety or click through by agenda item. Go to mapleridge.ca and click on the video link at the centre of the home page. In addition, Council meetings are now broadcast on the internet via live streaming using the same technology used for our live budget Q&A sessions. For more information about the live stream go to the 'Council Meetings' page at mapleridge.ca.

INFORMED:

The Tradition Continues

The Red Bells & Christmas Decorations Are Going Up



Back in 1966 the Maple Ridge Downtown Business Association started a Christmas tradition when they purchased the red bell decorations to create a special holiday focus for the town centre.

Over the next couple of weeks the decorations, LED rope lights and icicle lights, will be installed throughout the downtown in preparation for the Annual Santa Claus parade and Christmas in the Park celebration. The star of the show is the red bell decorations that have been a Maple Ridge tradition for over 50 years.

The decorations will be hung and tested with everything being switched on at the end of November and staying on until early in the New Year. Bring your family downtown and share your photos and videos with your family around the world. Maple Ridge's downtown transforms into a magical celebration of the Christmas season.

