

City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## \$50,000 Federal Government Grant Helps Make Leisure Centre More Accessible

**Maple Ridge, BC:** The City of Maple Ridge has been granted \$50,000 from the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) that supports capital costs of construction and renovations relating to improving physical accessibility and safety for people with disabilities in Canada. The \$50,000 grant will go towards providing three fully accessible change rooms equipped with a ceiling lift, change table and shower.

"I am delighted to see the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre upgrade was able to access \$50,000 from the EAF. It is gratifying to see this collaboration between the Federal Government and the City towards a shared goal of making the spaces we all enjoy fully accessible for all citizens," said Maple Ridge Member of Parliament Dan Ruimy.

"I want to thank Jean-Yves Duclos, the Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, for creating this fund. Any time the City has an opportunity to upgrade existing facilities or build new ones we take every opportunity to raise the bar on accessibility and inclusiveness. In the coming weeks we will be making a submission to the EAF for the new Albion Community Centre project to ensure that this new community hub will be a model for inclusiveness and access for all citizens," said Maple Ridge Mayor Mike Morden. He added, "Our local Member of Parliament, Dan Ruimy, has been tireless in his advocacy for our community during his term. I want to thank him for his hard work in securing the grant for the Leisure Centre upgrade and I know he will be a strong voice for the Albion Community Centre grant application."

For more information about the Leisure Centre upgrade please contact Danielle Pope, Director of Recreation and Community Engagement by email at <u>dapope@mapleridge.ca</u> or by phone at 604-467-7447.