

Maple Ridge This Month

JANUARY 2019

INFORMED: Business Licence Renewal Time

Business Finder Application Helps Connect Citizens with Local Business

Business licence renewals have been sent out to all businesses in Maple Ridge. There are a number of benefits to having a business licence. It allows the City to regulate the locations and types of businesses operating in the community and it assists in the development of demographic and statistical information on the local business climate.

Business licensing also supports parking enforcement, community policing and the Adopt-A-Block program. The data gathered as part of annual business licensing is also used by the Economic Development department to develop promotional materials aimed at attracting business investment and job creation within the community.

You may be eligible for the 'Inter-Municipal' Business Licence program that allows you to operate in any of the 11 communities that are part of the program. This is a great program for building contractors and other service businesses. Visit mapleridge.ca/876 for more details.



If you're an existing business this is a reminder to renew your business licence. If you're a new business please contact us and we will help you with the process of applying for your new business licence so you can get up and running in 2019.

Contact our Business Licensing department by phone at 604-467-7440 or by email at licencesandbylaws@mapleridge.ca

INFORMED: Dog Licence Renewals

Dog Licences Are Due by January 31. Renew Online!

When you receive your dog licence renewal notice in the mail, look for the account number and access code that can be used to renew your dog licence online. Go to the City's website at mapleridge.ca and click the 'eSERVICES' button, then scroll down to the Dog License renewal section. Payment can be made by credit card or Interac from most major banks.

Remember that there is a substantial discount if you renew by January 31. Up until January 31, the licence fee is \$25 for spayed and neutered dogs and \$52 for unaltered dogs. After January 31, the licence fee is \$41 for spayed and neutered dogs and \$68 for unaltered dogs. This year, seniors (65+) get their dog licences at a 50% discount. For senior, it's \$12.50 for a licence for spayed and neutered dogs and \$26 for unaltered dogs, up until January 31. After January 31, the licence fee is \$20.50 for spayed and neutered dogs and \$34 for unaltered dogs.

Your dog's tag and receipt will be mailed to you. You still have the option of renewing by phone, by mail or in person at the Finance counter in the reception area of City Hall. Check out other online services available including the Home Owner Grant application and online access to your tax accounts. It's your 'virtual' City Hall!

If you no longer have your dog please contact us by phone at 604-467-7384 or by email at licencesandbylaws@mapleridge.ca.



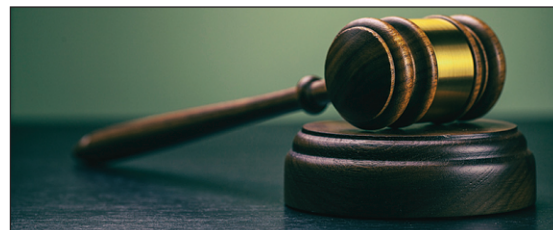
ENGAGED: 2019 Council Meeting Schedule

Make a New Year's Resolution to Stay Informed

At the end of 2018, Council established the schedule for their 2019 Council meetings. The meeting dates are available in two formats online at mapleridge.ca/640. You will also find information regarding upcoming meetings, agendas and reports, which are typically posted on the Friday prior to the meetings.

One of the best ways to stay informed about any upcoming meetings is to sign up for notifications to your email or smartphone. Using the 'Stay Connected' link on mapleridge.ca provides you with access to the Notify Me feature, a 'one stop' location to sign up for notifications for Council or Committee meetings that you are interested in. By signing up for this service you are notified the minute when agendas and reports are posted, and if there are updates, you get those too.

You can also live stream council meetings as they happen by visiting mapleridge.ca and clicking the "Your Government"



menu, at the top of the page, then hitting the "Live Stream" link. There you will also be able to watch archived council meetings.

Our goal is to ensure that you have access to the information, agendas, reports and presentations that Council receives as part of their decision-making and governance of our community. Get in the loop and get engaged!

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: January 2019



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.

Monday, January 14

1:30 pm, Council Workshop - Blaney Room
7:00 pm, Council Meeting - Council Chambers

Tuesday, January 22

1:30 pm, Committee of the Whole - Council Chambers
3:00 pm, Council Workshop - Blaney Room
7:00 pm, Public Hearing - Council Chambers

Tuesday, January 29

1:30 pm, Council Workshop - Blaney Room
7:00 pm, Council Meeting - 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.

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/640.

INFORMED:

Property Assessment Notices

What Do You Do Now?

By now you should have received your 2019 Property Assessment Notice in the mail from BC Assessment. That document contains the assessed value of your home and property as of July 1, 2018 and that amount will be used to determine your property tax amount later this year.



You should read the document carefully and compare it to last year's notice. If you think that the value is not correct, there is a process to appeal your assessment that has to be initiated by the end of the month. Go to bcassessment.ca for information on how the assessment is determined, what's involved in filing an appeal, and find tools to allow you to browse home values in your area online so you can do some comparisons before you file an appeal.

There are wide variations in the values of properties depending on the dwelling type and the neighbourhood. Some people saw a drop in the value of their property and some have seen significant increases. That's why it's important to check your assessment carefully before filing it away with your other important documents. The deadline to file an appeal is January 31, 2019. Look for complete details online at bcassessment.ca. You can also visit mapleridge.ca/178 to learn more and stay informed about property taxes in Maple Ridge.



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