

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Council Approves New Albion Community Centre Construction**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On July 28, Council approved the Award of Contract for the Phase 2 Construction of the Albion Community Centre.

“The co-location of this new Community Centre with the c̓əsqənele Elementary School is a model of collaboration between the Province, School District and the City of Maple Ridge. Working together, this final addition to the site will create a social hub for the fast growing Albion neighbourhood,” said Mayor Morden.

He continued, “It is important to build complete neighbourhoods as we grow, which is at the core of Council’s Strategic Priority around Growth. This site will be active from ‘dawn to dusk’ which was a theme that rose from early on in the community consultation process for this project. Our Council is very proud to make that dream a reality.”

Phase 2 of the Albion Community Centre project is estimated at \$13 million. Part of the City’s investment in this new community centre is offset by two grants, \$1 million through the Federal ‘Enabling Accessibility Fund’ to increase accessibility for people with disabilities, and a \$1 million grant through the ‘Community Childcare Space Creation Program’ to create new licensed daycare spaces within local government facilities.

The facility will be operated by the City of Maple Ridge and will be a hybrid of direct service and partnership programming including arts, community building and leadership along with wellness and fitness classes. The co-location of the site with the c̓əsqənele Elementary School enables the City and School District No. 42 to work together to create a vibrant facility that fulfills Council’s vision of community engagement and resiliency for the Albion neighbourhood. This collaboration, supported by senior government grants, will see a full spectrum of childcare available on this site from infant to school age to support working families.

With the approval of the contract, construction on the facility is expected to commence in August of 2020 with a projected completion in late 2021.