



# City of Maple Ridge News Release

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## **Maple Ridge Receives Two NAIOP Awards for Municipal Excellence**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On, Thursday, November 26, 2015 the Metro Vancouver Chapter of the Commercial Real Estate Development Association (NAIOP) presented Maple Ridge Mayor Nicole Read with two NAIOP Awards for Municipal Excellence recognizing Maple Ridge as the ‘Most Improved’ and ‘Most Business Friendly Municipality’ in the region.

The NAIOP Awards have been given out for the last four years by the Commercial Real Estate Development Association. The 2015 Awards were based on an industrial development project that was sent to all communities replicating the development process a company would follow if they were filing a development application. The award materials noted that Maple Ridge was awarded the ‘Most Improved Award’ based on improvements to both the development fees and the estimated processing time for the development scenario. Maple Ridge also received an award for “Most Business Friendly” based on the Employment Lands Investment Incentive for industrial developments that incorporate LEED Silver or better environmental certifications. The program offers tax incentives to encourage ‘green development’ that will reduce the long term operational costs for an industrial development and result in a superior ‘carbon footprint’ for the community.

In her presentation to the association members, Mayor Read talked about the vision that Council has around ‘building awesome.’ “Maple Ridge has a magnificent natural setting combined with a growing population that is eager for retail, commercial and employment development throughout the community. There has never been a better time to invest in Maple Ridge,” said Mayor Read. “Our Council and our staff are dedicated to working with the development community and entrepreneurs in a way that is efficient, effective and builds the

complete community that we are all working towards. We are very proud that the development community recognizes the benefits of Maple Ridge's Employment Lands Investment Incentive that clearly demonstrates a shared vision around sustainable development. That is the very definition of awesome."

Details of the 2015 NAIOP Awards and more detailed information on the development scenario and metrics are available from their website at [www.naiopvcr.com/media/27657/2015-Cost-of-Business-Survey.pdf](http://www.naiopvcr.com/media/27657/2015-Cost-of-Business-Survey.pdf).

For more information about the award please contact the Manager of Economic Development for the City of Maple Ridge, Lino Siracusa by email at [lsiracusa@mapleridge.ca](mailto:lsiracusa@mapleridge.ca) or by phone at 604-467-7319.