



# City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Chevron donates \$10,000 to Kick Off the Strong Kids Team in Maple Ridge**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On January 26, 2016 Adrien Byrne, Chevron's Policy, Government and Public Affairs Representative, appeared before Council and presented a cheque to the City of Maple Ridge to help fund the Maple Ridge Resilience Initiative Strong Kids Team. In his presentation to Council Mr. Byrne noted that Maple Ridge has made a big difference in what is considered an intransigent issue.

"As a corporate citizen of this community we applaud the investment and effort that Maple Ridge's Mayor and Council have made in addressing the issues of homelessness, addiction and mental health in our community. Chevron would like to strongly encourage the broader business community in Maple Ridge to get behind the leadership of your Mayor and Council and contribute to the homelessness solution. As one such business in Maple Ridge, Chevron is pleased to contribute \$10,000 to the 'Strong Kids Team' component of the Maple Ridge Resilience Initiative to help, in small part, address the cycle of homelessness in the city," said Chevron spokesperson, Adrien Byrne.

"To say that we are overwhelmed by the generosity and vision of Chevron would be an understatement. On behalf of my colleagues on Council and all citizens, I would like to thank Chevron for this spontaneous gesture. This donation will strengthen the work of the Team as they start a community conversation around raising strong kids," said Mayor Nicole Read. "This donation, and the offer to be a leader in engaging the business community towards a better future, is the very definition of 'resilience.' Chevron has been located near our community's homeless shelter for over a decade. To respond to the challenges of homelessness, mental

health and addiction issues in this fashion reflect a desire to effect change by being part of the solution and that is very inspiring.”

The Strong Kids Team, co-chaired by School Trustee Susan Carr and Councillor Kiersten Duncan, has been reviewing the data from the broad community survey conducted before Christmas. The Strong Kids Team will be launching a ‘Youth Survey’ that will be an important component to ensuring that the upcoming Community Forum has a solid alignment between the goals and issues facing our kids and the community that has the responsibility to raise them.

For more information or to make a donation to the Maple Ridge Resilience Initiative Strong Kids Team please contact Tony Cotroneo, Recreation Manager for Youth & Seniors and staff liaison for the Strong Kids Team at [tcotroneo@mapleridge.ca](mailto:tcotroneo@mapleridge.ca) or by phone at 604-465-7392.