



# City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date January 24, 2017 #17-08

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## **Council Urges Citizens to Participate in Community Facilities Conversation**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** The City of Maple Ridge is in the very early stages of a community consultation to gather citizen's feedback on proposed Parks, Recreation & Culture facilities projects to meet the needs of our growing community. The facility concepts that are before the public have been taken from the 2010 Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan.

"All of us on Council are excited to hear feedback from the community on these proposals. The Master Plan was created with deep community input, and before Council makes any decisions we want to find out what our citizens have to say about the recreation and cultural facilities that are being proposed," said Mayor Read. "If you get a letter in the mail inviting you to participate in the survey we hope that you will be part of this important conversation."

Information, including estimates of the cost for each of the proposals, is available on the City website at [www.mapleridge.ca/1676/Community-Facilities-Conversation](http://www.mapleridge.ca/1676/Community-Facilities-Conversation). On January 9, 2017 Jennifer Wilson, the consultant leading the 'Community Facility Conversation,' outlined a number of methods that are being used to seek public input and confirmed Council's support for a random survey that will be launched in the coming days. Invitations are being mailed to 3000 randomly selected homes in Maple Ridge inviting residents to participate in a survey that will capture comments, ideas and thoughts about the proposed projects and how they are funded.

"No decisions are going to be made on priorities and funding until we get wide community feedback. Once we get the final consultation report later this year the seven of us elected in 2014 will roll up our sleeves and set the priorities and timeline for the projects that our community needs in the short and long term. That's why it's important that citizens get engaged on this issue through the community consultation," said Mayor Read.

The community survey form, open to all citizens, is available online at [www.mapleridge.ca/1692/Online-Survey](http://www.mapleridge.ca/1692/Online-Survey) and paper versions of the survey are available at the pop-up displays located in the Business Tower Lobby, the Maple Ridge Public Library, the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre and Planet Ice.