



# City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## City of Maple Ridge Rallying to Support Those Impacted by BC Wildfires

**Maple Ridge, BC:** Wildfires in the province over the last week have had a significant impact on families in British Columbia.

As of the date of this release 14,000 people have been forced from their homes and over 10,000 more are on an evacuation alert. Many families in Maple Ridge have loved ones in these areas and citizens have reached out to the City to find out how they can help.

In response to the compassionate desire of our community to assist, the City of Maple Ridge has organized a number of ways for citizens to make financial donations, which is the most valuable way to donate at this time.

- The following link <https://goo.gl/jBferc> has been added to the City's website for donations to the Red Cross.
- An account has been set up at the Finance counter at City Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, BC.
- Funds are being collected at special events throughout the City including Hot Summer Nights in Tolmie Park, 20260 Lorne Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC on Thursday, July 13, after 6:30 pm.
- An account is also being set up at TD Canada Trust at Valley Fair Mall, 560-22709 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge, BC.

While the Maple Ridge Fire Department has not yet been deployed to the Cariboo, they still want to help out! On Saturday, July 15, 2017 Maple Ridge firefighters will be in Memorial Peace Park from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm hosting a BBQ, for donations and of course there will be fun with water, a kid's firefighter obstacle course and more!

We ask if people want to donate household goods or clothing they should hold on to them until a request is made for these items. Right now the focus is on financially supporting those assisting residents that have been evacuated.

Mayor Nicole Read has reached out to Mayors in the affected areas to express the City's support. "Living as we do in a heavily forested area, one day this could be our community. Just as important as the donations is the message of camaraderie, and support to our friends in communities in the Interior who are impacted by these fires."

For more information on this news release please contact the Mayor's office at 604-463-5221.