



# City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Maple Ridge Council Unveils Social Housing Plan

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On Tuesday, March 12, Maple Ridge Council unveiled their Social Housing Plan in response to a request by the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing.

The Maple Ridge Social Housing Plan includes:

- 1) The provision of some additional temporary modular housing units at the current Royal Crescent site to be specifically allocated to the verified occupants of the St. Anne site to see the camp come to an end.
- 2) The development of affordable seniors housing at 11749 Burnett Street, a site owned by the BC Government.
- 3) Continued support for the affordable rental project under development at 11907 228 Street that will be operated by Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Community Services.
- 4) The development of permanent supportive housing in collaboration with BC Housing and Fraser Health using a 'Made in Maple Ridge' demonstration model to ensure that those living in the facility have access to a full suite of health care and supports. As this facility comes on line, the temporary modular site on Royal Crescent would be repurposed to address other housing needs. The development of this property would follow the normal City development processes.
- 5) Revert the operating model for Alouette Heights housing facility from rental tenancy agreements back to a model that uses program agreements to align with the original intent to provide transitional housing for the community.
- 6) The City and BC Housing working together on a public consultation process around the Social Housing Plan.

"One of the first priorities of our Council was to launch the development of our 'Community Safety Plan'. The provision of housing and social service supports is an important element of this work. This was our motivation to reach out proactively to our local MLAs to set up a face to face meeting with the Ministers in Victoria on February 25," said Mayor Mike Morden. "In laying out

this Social Housing Plan, our Council remains committed to a partnership with the BC Government and their agencies to address the immediate challenges in our community and champion a new approach to the delivery of housing and social support services.”

Mayor Morden continued, “Our Social Housing Plan addresses the continuum of housing needs and will create necessary change in the lives of citizens who are in precarious and stressful housing situations.”

The motion to endorse the Social Housing Plan and forward it to the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing was endorsed at the March 12 Council meeting.

The City of Maple Ridge will request a meeting with representatives of the Province of BC to seek agreement on the Social Housing Plan framework and to begin work towards implementation.