



CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE  
**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Maple Ridge Council Endorses Council Conduct Bylaw**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On Tuesday, May 12, 2020 Council endorsed Bylaw No. 7637-2020. This bylaw follows in the footsteps of many elected bodies across the country, not just unique to politicians but also to many organizations who set professional standards of conduct.

The Council Conduct Bylaw is a legal framework that consolidates existing bylaws, policies and standards, consistent with this Council's past practice of creating compendium bylaws to collate regulations into one document. Overarching senior government legislation, such as the Criminal Code, Charter of Rights and Freedoms, WorkSafe regulations are included as related schedules and appendices. The Community Charter and Local Government Act define the legal obligations of local elected Council members.

"The public expects and deserves a high standard from their elected officials. It is the responsibility of each elected representative to listen, consider and communicate respectfully with each other, staff and the public as we make decisions that shape our City. By working together with professionalism, respect and with open minds, we can be successful in our role as community leaders, regardless of differences of opinion," said Mayor Morden.

"This bylaw creates a culture of transparency, accountability and collaborative decision making. The goal is to inspire public trust and confidence and foster a safe and respectful environment for all. Further, it ensures respect for the collective decisions of Council when representing our City in public forums and in intergovernmental relations, while holding each other accountable for our conduct," he continued.

"This will be one of the great legacies of this Council. It will ensure good governance, maintain civil discourse, each being held accountable for how we treat each other, our staff and the public. It brings clarity and definition to how we serve," he continued.

“If we want the best people to run for office then we have to ensure there is a strong culture of accountability, which starts from this chamber and will emanate out into the community. In a time when collaboration and leadership are more critical than ever, now is the best time to set high professional standards to ensure great outcomes for the City of Maple Ridge now, and for the future,” he concluded.