



# District of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Mayor Invokes Community Charter to Bring Smoking Bylaw Back Before Council**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** Mayor Ernie Daykin has invoked section 131 of the Community Charter to bring the Maple Ridge Smoking Bylaw back before Council for reconsideration and another vote on April 8, 2014.

“As a parent and a grandparent I was very concerned about the message that Council sent to the community on March 25, 2014, when the new Smoking Bylaw failed to pass due to a tie vote,” said Mayor Ernie Daykin. “It is my hope that my colleagues, on reflection, will realize that this is a health issue. Smoking and second hand smoke kill. That fact is not debatable. The response I heard from the public was overwhelmingly in favour of this bylaw, so I have invoked section 131 of the Community Charter to bring this bylaw back for a vote,” noted the Mayor.

“The current three metre distance is the Provincial minimum and I don’t want the minimum for our community,” said Mayor Daykin. He continued “What I’ve heard, loud and clear, is that the majority of citizens want to breathe clean air around doorways and windows. My understanding is that this bylaw, and the 7.5 metre distance at doors and windows, will allow businesses to better police their own facilities and allow strata units to tighten their bylaws. The public expects us to act on behalf of all citizens and I hope that the debate and discussion on Tuesday reflect a focus on our citizen’s health and the desire to be leaders on this issue, not followers.”

For more information on this matter please contact Mayor Ernie Daykin at [edaykin@mapleridge.ca](mailto:edaykin@mapleridge.ca) or call 604-463-5221.