



District of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2014 #14-11

For further information, contact:
Jeff Boehmer at 604-467-7492
jboehmer@mapleridge.ca

232 Street Bridge Dedication Ceremony Scheduled

On Thursday, May 15 at 12:30 pm, Mayor and Council will be taking part in a ceremony to officially dedicate the new bridge at 232 Street across the north arm of the Alouette River. The ceremony, including the unveiling of the bridge dedication plaque, will take place at the southeast corner of the bridge. Citizens are invited to join the dedication ceremony and meet the engineering and construction crews that have been part of the project.

“I thank the residents in the area for their patience during the construction. The new bridge has greater capacity and strength than the old span, and is a welcome addition to the transportation network in this fast growing part of our community,” said Mayor Ernie Daykin. He continued, “I would like to thank the construction team and all of the associated trades for their hard work on the structure. I know that nature threw some tough weather at them, but the final product reflects the professionalism and skill of everyone involved.”

This new structure replaces a 70 year old wooden structure that had reached the end of its life. The new concrete span offers more space for cars and pedestrians, including a large sidewalk that is equestrian friendly on the east side of the bridge. The new bridge is higher than the old structure, above the 200 year flood level, and has been built to modern seismic standards. In addition, the bridge can be expanded to four lanes if the road system is widened in the future.

This week the final landscaping and paving was completed prior to the dedication ceremony. The entire construction process was captured by District staff and updates were posted regularly on the District’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/yourmapleridge. The photo gallery was updated on Tuesday with photos of the final surveying for the new road markings and some views of the bridge from the trail network along the north side of the Alouette River west of the bridge. The project started on Monday, July 15, 2013 and the bridge opened for traffic in early February. The recent wave of warm weather was perfect for the final paving and landscaping to restore the area, which is a popular location for the equestrian community. In addition, the area is a popular spot to view spawning salmon and the construction was scheduled to specifically avoid disturbing these runs. The photo gallery shows some of the spawning salmon right under and beside the bridge during construction, a testament to the care taken to protect the environment during the project.

We hope that citizens who have been regular visitors during the construction will take the time to come down and be part of the dedication ceremony. The best parking will be at the south lot of Maple Ridge Park and the dedication ceremony is a short walk to the north.

For more information about the project please contact Jeff Boehmer, Manager of Design & Construction for the District of Maple Ridge at jboehmer@mapleridge.ca or by calling 604-467-7492.