



City of Maple Ridge Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For further information, contact:
Fred Armstrong at 604-467-7452
farmstrong@mapleridge.ca

Maple Ridge 140 Birthday Bash Entertainment Line-up Announced

Maple Ridge, BC: On Friday, September 12, 2014 Maple Ridge kicks off a two day Birthday Bash to celebrate the 140th Anniversary of the founding of our community. This FREE family concert starts at 5:00 pm at Memorial Peace Park and folks are invited to bring a lawn chair or blanket down to the park and settle in for the concert and special presentations that will run until 9:30 pm.

The event, which we are calling the Port Metro Vancouver Main Stage kicks off on the Bandstand at 5:00 pm sharp on Friday night. Thanks to Port Metro Vancouver for their generous sponsorship of the stage and concert.

The evening begins with a band called Tusket, featuring local musicians Ivan Boudreau and Greg Stuart. Singer songwriter Ivan Boudreau is familiar to most folks as the host of the Songwriter Nights at The ACT and talented drummer Greg Stuart's many accomplishments include his work at the Maple Ridge Jazz & Blues Festival, as a player and organizer as well as his relentless promotion of live music in our community.

At 5:40 pm we welcome DaniElle, a talented young country performer who is starting to get national attention for her amazing voice and stage presence. We're very proud to have her at the 140th event. DaniElle is followed by another rising star from our community, Ria Jade. Ria is an amazing young singer songwriter who is all over the new media. She too has caught the eye of the music industry, and it's a pretty good bet that when Maple Ridge turns 150 Ria and DaniElle will be headlining big venues across Canada.

At 6:45 pm the Maple Ridge Concert Band has a very special presentation. Earlier this year they celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the bandstand which was conceived of and built with the leadership of their group.

At 7:00 pm we begin a formal presentation that will include a historical drama presentation by the Emerald Pig Theatrical Society. The talented actors from this local group will take us on a journey through the 140 year history of the community. They will be joined by local dignitaries who will say a few words to mark the occasion followed by the singing of Happy Birthday and the cutting of a large birthday cake that will be served to the crowd.

The person leading us in the singing of Happy Birthday is Kat Wahamaa, the Artist in Residence for Maple Ridge. Kat will be joined on stage by Tony Rees, and as their bio says, they will share their love of music, and each other, with the crowd.

At 7:55 pm we welcome James Thorhaug to the stage with his band. James is one of the founders of the Maple Ridge Jazz & Blues Festival and a popular local musician whose promotion of live music is second to none.

At 8:15 pm we welcome Ivan Boudreau back to the stage for a set. Ivan's roots in the Maritimes have infused his DNA with a love of Celtic and Roots music that were popular among our early settlers.

At 8:35 pm we welcome the talented Wendy Levan to the stage. Wendy's musical journey spans all genres and in the last few years she has emerged as beloved singer songwriter whose style and swagger will bring a smile to your face and whose music will resonate deeply with you.

Following Wendy is Simon Jarrett, an amazing guitarist who is well known to folks who follow the local music scene. Simon has been part of a number of bands that span many musical genres, and you will be dazzled by his mastery of the guitar.

The night finishes with a 'Maple Ridge Super Band' comprised of some of the musicians featured earlier in the night and fronted by a fellow who is a walking party - Steve Ranta. Steve is one of those artists who bring music alive, and his up-tempo playing is the perfect way to end the evening. His goal is to get you dancing and singing along, so you better be

ready.

There will be a number of other talented musicians backing up these artists including guitarist Chris Rollins. Chris has been part of many local groups and recording sessions across a variety of genres from Country to Jazz. We are very proud to have him as part of the Maple Ridge 140 concert. We will be introducing all of the musicians as part of the Friday night concert.

In addition to the concert, there will be a display of Police, Fire and Maple Ridge Engineering vehicles in the south section of the park. It's a great opportunity to take photos of your kids in the vehicles and with your public employees. These volunteers will be handing out flags and buttons as souvenirs for the big birthday event! The bottom line? Pack up a lawn chair and get down to Memorial Peace Park for a great concert and birthday party. It's the event that everyone will be talking about next week.

On Saturday the Haney Farmers Market runs from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm with great historical displays, product sampling including apple cider, potato chips and blueberry jam and the announcing of the winners of the Tweetable Poetry Contest.

On Saturday evening the Port Haney Wharf becomes an outdoor theatre for a showing of the film 'A Shark Tale' after the sun sets on the Fraser River. This is brought to you by the Port Haney Neighbourhood Change Initiative. There's lots of parking in the old log sort yard just off the Haney Bypass. There will be free popcorn for the kids, face painting and, best of all, it's FREE. This event runs from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.