



City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maple Ridge Council Moves Forward With Tree Protection Bylaw

Maple Ridge, BC: On February 2, 2015 Maple Ridge Council endorsed a public process to review and update the City's tree protection legislation. In addition, Council amended the current Tree Protection Bylaw expanding the scope of the bylaw to ensure that all tree cutting activities in the community go through a permit process until the community consultation has been completed and Council is presented with a new Tree Management Bylaw.

"The 2014 Citizen Satisfaction Survey affirmed the fact that Maple Ridge citizens see the protection of our environment as a core value of the community. We felt that it was important to move forward with the amendment to the existing bylaw to deter the inappropriate removal of trees prior to the community consultation on the new Tree Management Bylaw," said Mayor Nicole Read. "I strongly encourage the stakeholders in our community, both from the development community and citizens at large, to participate in the consultation process to ensure that the final bylaw presented to Council reflects our shared values around our environment.

The consultation will include professional tree experts including arborists, foresters, woodlot managers, development consultants, environmental professionals and environmental stewardship groups. In addition, the City will conduct an open house to hear from neighbourhood groups and the public at large. All of the feedback from the community consultation will be summarized for Council and the new Tree Management Bylaw will be presented for discussion and a final vote at the end of Spring.

A draft Tree Management Bylaw was presented to Council as part of the agenda package for the February 2, 2015 Council Workshop. The report also contained the amendment that has been adopted for the existing Tree Protection Bylaw. That meeting was live streamed and the video recording is available at mapleridge.ca for citizens to review the discussion that occurred on the issue. The report and recording are available by clicking the 'videos' button on the home page.

For more information about the interim Tree Protection Bylaw and the long term Tree Management Bylaw please contact Rod Stott, Environmental Planner at rstott@mapleridge.ca or by phone at 604-467-7390.