

Maple Ridge This Month

MID-MONTH JUNE 2015

SPOTLIGHT ON: Canada's Birthday

Canada Day is Wed., July 1 and We're Having a Party

Mark your calendar! Wednesday, July 1 from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm it's a full blown party. Here's what's pinned down at deadline. The Haney Farmers Market will be in their usual spot between 224 Street and the Bandstand. Just south of them in Memorial Peace Park, is the Downtown BIA Market. The Bandstand will be active with music and dance, and on the east side of the park the Canada Day Mainstage, in front of the Arts Centre, will be the place for music and the official flag raising ceremony at 12:30 pm.

During the event we encourage you to take part in the "Neighbourhood Challenge." This is a chance to get active, show your passion and navigate your way through several physical literacy challenges, while helping your neighbourhood win a private pool party! Come join the challenge.

This might be enough for some communities, but there will also be mini golf, balloon twisting, face painting, crafts, mascots, prize giveaways, a trivia challenge, hydration station (bring your own cup or water bottle) and a multi-cultural food fair.

Finally, we're encouraging folks to dress in their best red and white Canada Day outfit and display your Canadian pride. Our volunteers will be looking for the best dressed citizens and awarding prizes.



This is our biggest Canada Day ever, and it's made possible by an army of volunteers who have been working for months to make sure that you have a great experience. Take a moment and say thanks to these wonderful folks who have invested their time in building this great event and our great community.

For more information about the Canada Day celebration or to volunteer please contact Dave Speers at dspeers@mapleridge.ca or call 604-467-7433 Ext #1.

INFORMED: June 2015

Council Meeting Schedule

Mayor and Council encourage everyone to attend these important public meetings. It's your chance to see how public policy is debated and enacted.

Monday, June 15

9:00 am, Workshop - Blaney Room
1:00 pm, Committee of the Whole - Council Chambers

Tuesday, June 16

7:00 pm, Public Hearing - Council Chambers: Cancelled

Tuesday, June 23

7:00 pm, Council Meeting - Council Chambers

Agendas & Minutes

Agendas for these meetings are posted online the Friday before the meeting date. Go to mapleridge.ca, click the link under Your Council on the home page.

Council This Week

Subscribe to the 'Council This Week' eNewsletter that provides a summary of issues discussed at Council Workshop meetings. Go to mapleridge.ca, click the link to 'Notify Me' and sign up today.

Council Meeting Videos

If you are unable to attend a Council Meeting, Public Hearing, Workshop, or Committee of the Whole meeting you can now watch these meetings on your computer 24/7. The entire unedited meetings are posted two to three days after the meeting. The video is indexed to the agenda package so that you can watch them in their entirety or click through by agenda item. Go to mapleridge.ca and click on the video link at the centre of the home page. In addition, Council Meetings, Workshops, and Committee of the Whole are now broadcast on the internet via live streaming using the same technology used for our live budget Q&A sessions. For more information about the live stream go to the 'Council Meetings' page at mapleridge.ca.



INFORMED:

2015 Fraser River Forecast

Lower Flows Forecast for 2015 Have Come True

This year we had a very mild winter and while there was lots of rain in the Lower Mainland, the snow pack along the Fraser River system was moderate, even low, in most places. The result is that unlike the past few years, the Spring Freshet, the term used to describe the annual melt of the snowpack along the river systems of BC, is quite mild.

The Fraser River is higher than it was a few weeks ago as the warm weather in the interior has melted the snow that did accumulate in the mountains. While the levels are lower than past years, there's still a strong current on the Fraser River, so you should be mindful while you are out enjoying our natural setting. The water level is up in the Kanaka estuary, but the forecast is that the water will recede over the next few weeks and is currently well below seasonal levels. Bottom line, stay safe, but it looks like 2015 is going to be a non-story for flooding.

INVOLVED: Haney Farmers Market

Start Your Weekend at the Market



Saturday morning, at 9:00 am Memorial Peace Park comes to life with the Haney Farmers Market. The smell of fresh brewed coffee and breakfast sandwiches from the Hunger Management Food Truck wake you up and prepare you for the day. Then you smell the fresh basil, garlic and herbs and take in the visual feast of fresh heirloom tomatoes and ripe local berries which make you dream of the incredible meal you can create for dinner. Fresh baking: breads, tarts, pies and croissants, are also on offer along with fruit preserves, salsas, chips and even local wines and other spirits. It's 'foodie' paradise!

So call up a friend and make a date to meet at the Haney Farmers Market in the heart of Maple Ridge. The Market runs from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday mornings at Memorial Peace Park on 224 Street just south of Dewdney Trunk Road.

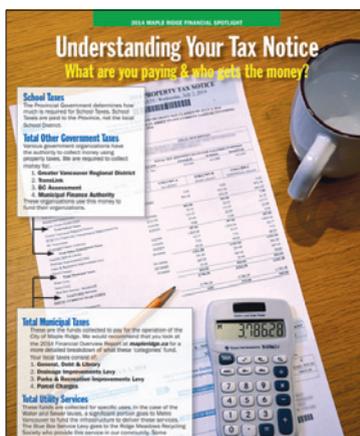
Haney Farmers Market is looking for people interested in volunteering or busking at the Market. Get in touch with Eileen at 604-467-7433 or email hfmfinfo@haneyfarmersmarket.org.

INFORMED: Tax Time

Tips to Help You Meet the July 2 Deadline Without Lining Up

At the end of May or very early in June you should have received your 2015 Property Tax Notice in the mail. From the back of the envelope to the special insert inside, we are trying to give you tips on how to avoid waiting in line to claim your Home Owner Grant and pay your property taxes.

You can claim your Home Owner Grant online at mapleridge.ca by clicking on the 'online services' link on the left side of the home page. In fact, setting up a 'My Maple Ridge' account online will give you 24/7 access to your tax information and allow you to sign up for the paperless tax notification as well as track your payment history. It's just one way to save time. Once you claim your Home Owner Grant you can pay the balance owing at most financial institutions either in person or by using your online or telephone banking.



You can drop off your Home Owner Grant and post-dated cheques at the secure drop box located at the west entrance of City Hall near the Economic Development Office as another way to avoid lining up. The box is cleared daily and will be cleared at midnight on July 2, 2015.

For those of you who prefer to make payments in person, our offices are open late on Thursday evenings until 8:00 pm for the rest of June. Take a few moments to read through the material that came with your Tax Notice and learn how you can avoid any line-ups. The illustration for this article is 'Page 30' of the 2014 Citizens Report which can be found online at mapleridge.ca or on the racks in the

lobby of City Hall. It's a great way to learn how your tax dollars are invested in our community.

Contact us at enquiries@mapleridge.ca

If you have a question about any of the content in this ad, or questions about any programs or services offered by the City of Maple Ridge, please send an email to enquiries@mapleridge.ca and one of our team members will respond to you.



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