

Message from the Mayor



I am very proud to present the 2017 Annual Report on behalf of my colleagues on Council, our City staff and the citizens of Maple Ridge. This report provides you with an overview of our City's financial performance for the fiscal year ending on December 31, 2017. The Annual Report is part of a series of publications and online tools that address Council's commitment to transparency and accountability to our citizens.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the City's senior management team, CAO Paul Gill and General Managers Kelly Swift and Frank Quinn. They lead a team of professionals who work diligently on the annual work plan with great professionalism, efficiency and effectiveness. In October of 2017 we launched the City's Open Government Portal which propelled the City of Maple Ridge into a leadership position in transparency and innovation. This project, involving every department in our organization, reflects how well City staff embraced Council's goals around Open Government at the beginning of our term. I would

urge you to visit the portal at opengov.mapleridge.ca to explore the powerful tools that have been deployed.

One of the biggest projects of the year was the completion of our community consultation on new recreational facilities for Maple Ridge and the selection of eight projects, across the community, which will provide our citizens, especially our youth, with places to connect with their peers and live healthy lifestyles. Our staff did an incredible job in developing a financial framework to support Council's vision around these projects. In early 2018 the projects received electoral approval and we have transitioned to the work to deliver on the vision.

At the beginning of 2017 we learned that the Provincial Government would be building a new school in the fast growing Albion neighbourhood. The City worked closely with School District No. 42 to develop a 'pitch' that included the co-location of a community centre with the new school to create a strong neighbourhood centre for this area.

We also learned that Maple Ridge will host the 2020 BC Summer Games and as part of the announcement we revealed that a new synthetic turf field at Merkley Park would be named 'Karina LeBlanc Field' recognizing this amazing ambassador for Maple Ridge and Canada. This project received funding from the Federal Government as part of the Canada150 Legacy Fund.

All of this work is possible due to the financial strength of our community and the rigorous process we follow around long term planning. Please take the time to review this report and learn more about our community's financial performance.

Nicole Read

Nicole Read
Mayor

Tel: 604-463-5221
nread@mapleridge.ca

Message from the CAO

On behalf of the employees at the City of Maple Ridge, I am very proud to introduce the 2017 Annual Report. This report, along with the 2017 Citizens Report, provides citizens with a snapshot of the City's finances as of December 31, 2017.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Frank Quinn, General Manager Public Works & Development services, and Kelly Swift, General Manager Parks, Recreation & Culture, for their wise counsel and collaboration. Our team approach with each other and our staff, along with Council's support, has resulted in several incredible achievements throughout the year and laid the foundation for the future.

The decision in the fall of 2017 to proceed with a \$55.5 million dollar investment in community facilities represents one of the largest investments in infrastructure in the last quarter century. Maple Ridge is amongst the fastest growing communities in the Lower Mainland, and these investments touch our established neighbourhoods in Hammond, Whonnock and the downtown and also address the needs of some of our fastest growing neighbourhoods such as Albion and Silver Valley, meeting the overall needs of our broader community.

In 2017 we saw a number of announcements from the Provincial Government around improvements to the Lougheed Highway corridor and the new elementary school in the Albion neighbourhood. Regionally, the work has begun on the new B-Line rapid bus service from downtown Maple Ridge to connect with the Skytrain in Coquitlam and new bus routes have opened in Silver Valley.

There were significant announcements made by both the Federal and Provincial governments around safety improvements on Lougheed Highway during the year. I want to acknowledge the determination and persistence of our Council who work hard to lobby for these improvements in and around our City. Our staff team is proud to provide the technical support required for our Council to negotiate improvements on behalf of citizens.

As you review the 2017 Annual Report you will see the background work that is underway for projects that will be delivered into the future. It is through rigorous financial and business planning that we are able to address the day-to-day operation of our City and look into the future to anticipate and deliver the infrastructure and programs that will be necessary for our growing community.

I would like to conclude my introduction by thanking Council for their vision and leadership. These are very exciting times for the City of Maple Ridge. Thank you for taking the time to review this report.



Paul Gill
Chief Administrative Officer

Tel: 604-463-5221
pgill@mapleridge.ca

