

Summary of Services and Regional Relationships

Maple Ridge is nestled between the Golden Ears Mountains, part of the Coast Mountain Range, and the Fraser River. Our City is the sixth oldest and eleventh largest (by land size) of the 162 municipalities in British Columbia (BC). Much has changed since the City of Maple Ridge was incorporated in 1874. The City provides its citizens with an extensive suite of local government services:

- Building Permits
- Business Licensing
- Bylaw Establishment and Enforcement
- Cemetery Services
- Economic Development
- Emergency Preparedness
- Filming Production Support
- Financial Planning
- Heritage
- Land Use Planning
- Parks and Facility Services
- Police and Fire Protection Services
- Recreation & Cultural Services
- Sanitary Sewer Collection System
- Storm Water Management System
- Transportation Network
- Water Distribution System

Services that are not an assumed responsibility of Maple Ridge include:

- Dyking Maintenance and Flood Control – Dyking Districts partner with the City of Pitt Meadows and the BC Government
- Garbage Collection and Organics (Private Operators)
- Hospital Care Systems (Fraser Health Authority)
- Housing and Homelessness (Provincial)
- Public Education (BC Government, School District 42 and Private Schools)
- Golden Ears Park (operated by the BC Provincial Parks) and the Kanaka Creek and Blaney Bog Regional Parks (operated by Metro Vancouver Parks)
- Sanitary Landfill (Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District)
- Social and Health Programs (BC Government)

Maple Ridge issues the property tax notices and acts as a collection agent for all property taxes. The following levies are included on the property tax notice; Council does not have control or responsibility over their levy, expenditures or operation, except in some instances as a voting member (*see page 70*):

- BC Assessment Authority
- Dyking Districts
- Metro Vancouver Regional District
- Municipal Finance Authority
- School Taxes on behalf of the BC Government.
- TransLink

Maple Ridge contracts services from other organizations and is represented on several regional boards, which provide a variety of services for Maple Ridge residents:

- **BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA)**

The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in BC. The City has contracted the BC SPCA to provide domestic animal impound and shelter services and to enforce the animal control bylaws.

- **Emergency Communications for Southwest British Columbia Incorporated (ECOMM)**

E-Comm is the largest 9-1-1 call centre in BC and provides dispatch services for police and ambulance services throughout the province. E-Comm also owns and operates the wide-area radio network used by police, fire and ambulance personnel throughout Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley.

- **Fraser Valley Regional Library (FVRL)**

FVRL is the largest public library system in BC, with 25 community libraries serving over 700,000 people. Funding comes from annual grants from each of the member communities along with a Government of BC operating grant. The City of Maple Ridge provides the space for the library and the collection and operation of the facility are managed by the FVRL.

- **Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (GVS&DD)**

GVS&DD is responsible for major distribution components, sewage pumping stations and wastewater treatment plants. Metro Vancouver also works with municipalities to manage stormwater and drainage issues.

- **Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD)**

GVWD is responsible for providing clean, safe drinking water and delivering it to the member municipalities for distribution by local systems. Metro Vancouver also plans for water shortage response, watershed management and water use.

- **Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Arts Council Society**

The Society operates the Arts Centre Theatre; a 500 seat performance facility, art gallery, event lobby and arts and cultural programming space, in addition to providing arts and cultural programming to residents.

- **Metro Vancouver**

Metro Vancouver is a federation of 21 municipalities, one Electoral Area and one Treaty First Nation that collaboratively plans for and delivers drinking water, wastewater treatment and solid waste management.

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Metro Vancouver also regulates air quality, plans for urban growth, manages a regional parks system, workforce, provides labour relations services, administers the 9-1-1 emergency communications system and provides affordable housing. The regional district is governed by a Board of Directors of elected officials from each local authority.

- **Ministry of Education, BC Government**

The Ministry of Education provides the Provincial Government school system serving kindergarten to grade 12 students in public schools, independent schools and home-schooled. The purpose of the British Columbia school system is to enable children to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to contribute to a healthy society and a prosperous and sustainable economy.

- **Municipal Finance Authority (MFA)**

The MFA pools the borrowing and investment needs of BC communities through a collective structure and is able to provide a range of low cost and flexible financial services to our clients equally, regardless of the size of the community. The MFA is independent from the Province of British Columbia and operates under the governance of a board of members appointed from the various regional districts within the province.

- **Municipal Insurance Association of BC (MIABC)**

Maple Ridge is a member of the MIABC (The “Exchange”) as provided by Section 3.02 of the Insurance Act of the Province of British Columbia. The main purpose of the Exchange is to pool the risks of liability so as to lessen the impact upon any one subscriber. Under the Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement, Maple Ridge is assessed a premium and specific deductible for its claims based on population.

- **Ridge Meadows Recycling Society (RMRS)**

Ridge Meadows Recycling Society is a community-based, non-profit organization, advocating zero waste, operating responsible waste reduction services and providing environmental education. They employ people with developmental disabilities assisting their integration into the community.

- **Ridge Meadows Seniors Society (RMSS)**

The Society operates the Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre and partners with the City to provide recreation programming and advocacy for seniors. The mission of RMSS is to advance the well-being of seniors

by providing social support services, education & recreational programs for seniors 55+ within the community. Volunteers are involved in a wide variety of activities that expand and strengthen our ability to provide quality programs and services.

- **Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)**

The RCMP provide policing services for the City of Maple Ridge (as well as many neighbouring communities) based on a contract between the Provincial and Federal Governments. The City is responsible for providing the civilian clerical support services and facilities for the local RCMP operations.

- **TransLink**

TransLink is Metro Vancouver’s regional transportation authority and is responsible for planning, financing and the management of all public transit in addition to major regional roads and bridges in Metro Vancouver.

TransLink is responsible for regional transit, cycling and commuting options as well as Intelligent Transportation System programs. Their services are delivered through companies such as subsidiaries like Coast Mountain Bus Company, HandyDart and the West Coast Express.

TransLink also shares responsibility for the Major Road Network (MRN) and regional cycling with municipalities in Metro Vancouver. We are the first North American transportation authority to be responsible for the planning, financing and managing of all public transit in addition to major regional roads and bridges.

Maple Ridge shares and supports transit services through the provision of transit facilities (such as bus stops and exchanges). Shelters and benches are provided by Maple Ridge where it is cost effective.