

Simply Sustainable



District of Maple Ridge
British Columbia, Canada

2007 CITIZENS REPORT



*Deep Roots
Greater Heights*



Vision 2025

The District of Maple Ridge is among the most sustainable communities in the world. As a community committed to working toward achieving carbon neutrality, residents experience the value of a strong and vibrant local economy and the benefits of an ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship and creation of stable and special neighbourhoods. Maple Ridge is a world leading example of thoughtful development and a socially cohesive community, especially as it relates to the use of leading edge “environmental technologies,” social networks and economic development. Other municipalities consistently reference the District of Maple Ridge for its innovative approaches to dealing with seemingly intractable challenges.

Mission

A safe, livable, and sustainable community for our present and future citizens.

Value Statements

Leadership: To encourage innovation, creativity, and initiative.

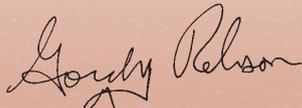
Service: To be fair, friendly, and helpful.

Reputation: To stress excellence, integrity, accountability, and honesty.

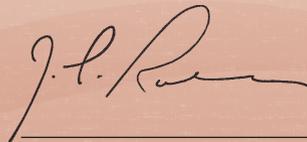
Human Resources: To recognize that our people are our most valuable resource.

Community: To respect and promote our community.

Stewardship: To consider the long-term consequences of actions, think broadly across issues, disciplines and boundaries and act accordingly.



Gordy Robson,
Mayor



Jim Rule,
Chief Administrative Officer

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Gordy Robson, Mayor

The past year has been very productive for Council and District staff having accomplished many of the goals we set out for ourselves a year earlier. As a team we have forged ahead on many fronts, first and foremost, on one of this District's most ambitious plans ever — to become among the most sustainable communities in the world. As a community we need to commit to a long-term process to become economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. Our plan itself needs to be sustainable.

We have also embarked on our largest capital investment program ever for this community to address a multitude of infrastructure projects without causing any financial hardship on our citizens. Our Council has worked hard to provide the kind of leadership necessary to address the many and complex factors that present themselves in a growing and thriving community. Working in partnership with municipal staff, local businesses and organizations and our citizens, we will continue to build an exciting and bright future for Maple Ridge.

Preserving and Enhancing the Environment

Maple Ridge Council has again achieved a great deal related to the environment including:

- Working cooperatively with builders and developers like Portrait Homes, who won an award for their storm water retention system.
- Diverting 6,000 kg of Operations Centre recyclables from the waste stream.
- Enhancing recycling services to include electronic waste (computers, printers, televisions) and hazardous materials.
- Reducing the printed version of the Parks & Leisure Services brochure (30% of registration is now done online).

Our commitment to think global and act local will ensure environmental issues are addressed as Council delivers on its mandate.

Accommodating Tremendous Growth

Maple Ridge has risen to the challenge of accepting growth by providing a well-planned transportation network including:

- Planning density around transportation corridors.
- Transit improvements:
 - Express bus to Braid Street Skytrain.
 - Increased 701 service to Coquitlam Centre.
 - Successful mid-day and weekend train bus.
 - Construction of a Town Centre transit exchange.
 - Increased accessibility.
- Intersection and traffic calming improvements.
- Implementing a new taxi service bylaw that endorses competition.

Enhancing the Safety and Vitality of the Downtown

Council's vision for Maple Ridge is a strong, vibrant downtown that is the heart and soul of the community. It is working on several fronts to make this a reality including:

- Increasing density in the downtown.
 - 224 Street Senior Zone enhancements.
 - Downtown area plan and parking strategy.
 - Comprehensive development cost charge bylaw review.
 - Developing Spirit Square on a cost share basis with the Province.
 - Considering a Green Zone amending formula.
- Collaboration between RCMP, municipal staff, and community agencies have helped to achieve a safe and vibrant downtown.

Social Issues and Community Standards

Maple Ridge has a very active and committed social network. This network in the past year, with municipal support and involvement, has achieved a great deal including:

- Obtaining \$1.5 million for community projects.
- Educating citizens regarding neighbourhood health, supporting connections and networks, developing and promoting programs and tools that assist in strengthening neighbourhoods.
- Supporting youth with addiction issues whereby agencies came together with the goal of streamlining services and working together to fill in service gaps.

- Obtaining almost \$200,000 in funding for the Community Connections project to develop a hub of services at Eric Langton Elementary School which includes a free drop-in early learning centre for pre-school children and their parents or caregivers.
- The Alouette Homestart Society's Iron Horse Youth Safe House and Outreach Services continue to receive federal and provincial funding for community work around homelessness.

All of the success to date has been due to defining a vision, hard work, and building strong relationships. Members of Council and staff have worked towards a vision that will benefit our present and future citizens. Our continued commitment to work with community groups, First Nations, government agencies, businesses and citizens of Maple Ridge is building a strong, healthy and sustainable community.

There is still much to accomplish in the year ahead. Members of Maple Ridge Council and District employees are up to the challenge. I encourage your comments and participation.

Gordy Robson
Mayor



District of Maple Ridge

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Jim Rule, CAO

I am pleased to present our 2007 Citizens Report on behalf of all employees at the District of Maple Ridge.

Our community is fortunate in so many ways. From its natural beauty and abundance of outdoor splendour to the unbridled volunteer enthusiasm that emanates throughout the community, Maple Ridge is a

wonderful place to live and to work. To build on these positive characteristics, Council has created a sustainable path that is helping guide our community to become a recognized leader on many different fronts. This past year's work plan illustrates the effort being put forth to ensure we get to where we want to go.

Highlights and accomplishments in 2007 were:

- Maple Ridge has risen to the challenge of accepting growth while at the same time protecting the quality of life. Good progress was made and continues in our efforts to revitalize and reinvigorate the downtown area, including:
 - Initiated a Town Centre Area Plan and Parking Strategy.
 - Completed the Randy Herman Centre for Community Safety building renovations.
 - Developed a new Economic Development website to support business location, retention, and expansion efforts within our community.
 - Supported the implementation of a Business Improvement Area.
- Maple Ridge continues to lead the nation in preserving and enhancing its community's quality of life, air, water, and land. A number of new environmental initiatives were undertaken, including:
 - Completed North Alouette, Davidson's Pool, and Whonnock Lake land acquisitions, and investigating additional conservation land acquisitions.
 - Developed a new Council Strategic Plan with a renewed emphasis on sustainability.

- Established the Agricultural Advisory Committee and the Alouette Task Force.
- Successfully activated the Emergency Operations Centre on several occasions including the 2007 Fraser Freshet. The District provided comprehensive communication planning and messaging, prepared a Maple Ridge Flood Response Plan, and submitted a successful grant application to raise the Albion Dike.
- Designed a new award-winning website with many new features included an online Home Owner Grant.

Major items to watch for in 2008:

- The District will implement actions recommended in the 2007-2011 Sustainability Report including: developing an inventory of corporate greenhouse gas emissions, establishing targets for achieving carbon neutrality, creating a policy that all new municipal buildings achieve minimum energy performance targets, and creating a green buildings program for residential, commercial and industrial buildings.
- The completion of an Area Plan for the Downtown.
- A new Tax and Utility System will be implemented.
- A strategy for dealing with municipally-owned lands in Silver Valley will be developed and implemented.

- We will continue to work with RCMP headquarters on making changes in policing that make sense, and will work with the local RCMP detachment to implement the Police Master Plan and the Community Safety Officer Program.
- A number of studies will be undertaken and plans implemented including: a Smart Commute Program for municipal employees, the Blue Mountain Sustainability Study, a Cemetery Master Plan, as well as a physical accessibility review and improvement plan for the Leisure Centre. We will work on a sustainability plan focusing on youth education, a critical infrastructure analysis, an analysis of requirements for future land acquisitions, and a systematic fees and charges review.
- We will be working with the SPCA and other interested parties in building a new facility that better meets the needs of the community.

I would like to thank Council, our employees and the many volunteers who make this community such a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

J. L. (Jim) Rule
Chief Administrative Officer



Website Implementation Team



Mike Murray,
General Manager

*We live in a great community!
Every day I have the pleasure
of talking to residents,
volunteers and colleagues
who care deeply about our
community and contribute in
significant ways to making this
an exceptional place to live,
work and raise a family. The
relationship we have with all
of these people and, in some
cases the organizations they
represent, is one of cooperation,*

*collaboration and mutual support. It is an old
expression but still relevanttogether is better!*

*The results below reflect a great deal of cooperative
effort and we certainly want to thank all our partners
in service for their contributions to making our
community so special.*

— Mike Murray, General Manager

The Division has responsibility for parks, recreation, cultural activities, programs, facilities, liaison with community groups, community development work, accessibility, social planning and emergency preparedness.

Administration

- Negotiated and finalized Protocol Agreement with Kwantlen and Blue Mountain Memorandum of Understanding with Katzie First Nation.
- Provided support for the local Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Spirit of BC Community Committee.

Recreation

The Recreation Department provides recreational opportunities for both Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows citizens. Programs and facilities include aquatics, fitness, arts, health related drop-in programs, skating, youth outreach initiatives, outdoor recreation opportunities, and special events.

Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Hosted a Recreation workshop, "Positioning for the Future", featuring current research, demographics and recreation trends, a review of department capital and long-term plans, and facilitated a review of department services.
- Worked with staff to develop a new Recreation Department structure to gain efficiencies, reduce duplication, and support long-term staff development and retention.
- Completed operational and building assessments for the Pitt Meadows Arenas followed by Arena acquisition negotiations.
- 19,858 participated in registered recreation programs and 427,750 admissions to drop-in activities were recorded.

Parks

The Parks Department maintains a total of 218 hectares of parkland including seasonal displays throughout Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. The Department also maintains landscaped boulevards, park sites, playgrounds, soccer fields, ball diamonds, cemeteries, major trail systems, tennis and sport courts, and administers the lease for the Maple Ridge Golf Course. Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Negotiated and finalized Maple Ridge Golf Course lease agreement.
- Finalized North Alouette, Davidson's Pool, and Whonnock Lake acquisitions, and commenced investigation of additional conservation area acquisitions (Biln, Bosonworth, etc).
- Commenced negotiations on a future Park and School Site Acquisition Agreement.
- Obtained Spirit Square funding and commenced detailed planning.

The Arts

The Arts Council and Art Gallery Society successfully completed the fourth full year of their contracts with the Commission for operation of the Arts Centre and Theatre. Increases over 2006 were experienced with almost 46,000 ticket sales (12% increase), over 13,000 visits to the Art Gallery and Gallery Shop (28% increase), 4,104 arts program registrations (reflecting a 31% increase in drop-in Friday Night Dance).

Social Planning

Social planning builds and strengthens community. There is particular attention paid to social impacts on individuals, families and the community at-large as a result of broader social, economic, political, and cultural forces in society. Working with a network of human service organizations and systems, social planning involves advocating for the development of essential community and social supports. Support was provided for collaborative efforts to apply for funding to address community social priorities — resulting in approximately \$1.7 million in funding.

Youth Services

Youth Services provides recreational program services for children (0 to 12 years) and youth (13 to 18 years) in the Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows areas. In addition, Youth Services oversees the operation of the Greg Moore and Pitt Meadows Youth Centres. Children and youth programming utilizes a benefit-based approach and a focus on active living and leadership development. The current programming supports children and youth to contribute to their own health and well-being.

Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Introduced health-focused monthly workshops in partnership with Fraser Health, including nutrition, stress, addictions, smoking, energy drinks, coping with school and mental health issues.
- Introduced new social recreation programs for parents and infants and for children in the middle years (e.g., Junior Engineers).
- Developed partnership with Ridge Meadows Association for Community Living - supported Child Development to assist children with special needs in recreation programs.

General Government Properties

Oversees the maintenance of all municipal facilities including Municipal Hall, fire halls, and public safety buildings as well as rental and leased properties. The functions carried out include janitorial services, elevator, boiler, heating, air handling service contracts, and energy management.

Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Completed Randy Herman Centre for Community Safety Building renovations and opened the facility.
- Completed installation of standby power systems for critical civic facilities.

Emergency Preparedness

The District's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is activated when the Municipal Manager deems an event serious enough to call together a broad range of resources such as police, fire, municipal works yard operations, and other emergency services. This group of agencies assemble and then coordinate their efforts to respond to the District's immediate needs in the event of a high-level emergency or disaster. The Fraser River freshet was an example of when an EOC is activated and when coordinating efforts can produce positive results.

Training of emergency responders from paid municipal and agency employees to community volunteers goes on year-round. Numerous employees and volunteers have enrolled in the Emergency Management Certificate Program. EOC training was provided to various employees and volunteers in individual courses such as: Operations, Logistics, Planning, Finance, Exercise Design, Registration and Referrals, Reception Centre Management, and Emergency Social Services.

Other activities the Emergency Program was involved with included:

- Activated the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) four times due to flood, freshet flooding and windstorms.
- Prepared Maple Ridge Flood Response Plan.
- Developed and reactivated support agreements with the SPCA, St. John Ambulance, Katzie First Nations, Clergy organizations, Salvation Army, and the Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Lions Clubs.



Mike Murray
General Manager:
Community Development, Parks & Recreation Services



Paul Gill,
General Manager

2007 was an extremely successful year for our community and I am proud of all that our staff and citizens have achieved.

— **Paul Gill, General Manager**

The Division consists of three departments, Clerk's, Finance, and Information Services. We also provide support to the RCMP, Police Services, and the Fire Department.

Clerk's

The Clerk's Department works with Council to ensure that municipal business is done in an open and transparent way and that Council meeting agendas and minutes are available in a timely manner at municipal hall or on the District's website. The switchboard provides exemplary and award-winning customer service, serving as the place where citizens can turn to in order to find the services that they require. The Department also oversees the property assets of the District.

Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Implemented Department succession plan, including the appointment of the Manager of Legislative Services, and realigned job responsibilities of other positions to enhance service levels.
- Conducted a thorough review of the Council Procedure Bylaw to ensure compliance with current legislation and adherence to Council's practices and procedures.
- Prepared agendas and minutes for 56 Council meetings (open and closed), 22 Committee of the Whole meetings, 37 Council Workshops, 11 Public Hearings, 72 Advisory Committee meetings, and one meeting of Maple Ridge Municipal Holdings Ltd.
- Received 41 Freedom of Information access requests that were processed under the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act, with all applicants receiving a preliminary response within five days.

- Relocated the Records Centre within the Community Safety Building. Provided required documentation to various departments to assist them in complying with the retention and transfer guidelines outlined in the Records Management manual.
- Provided Risk Management, Planning Section and Call Centre support to the Emergency Operations Centre during the November storm activation and the January and March flood activations.
- Conducted Freedom of Information seminars for staff at the Operations Centre, Municipal Hall and the Leisure Centre.
- Conducted tours of Municipal Hall for school groups.

Finance

The Finance Department provides financial services for the District in cooperation with outside agencies, other District departments, and the Province of BC. The Finance staff work within a shared framework of legislation, accounting principles, and Council policies to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the District. Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Worked with the Corporate Management Team in establishing Council's direction for the preparation of the 2008-2012 Business Planning Guidelines.
- Prepared numerous grant applications and award submissions; several were successful including funding of \$12,500 to improve performance reporting practices.
- Participated in a major review of the Development Cost Charge Bylaw.
- Completed implementation of Caseware software for preparation of 2007 Financial Statements.
- Received our 11th consecutive Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Reporting and our 17th consecutive GFOA Canadian Award for Financial Reporting.
- Conducted an audit of payroll compensation and related internal controls.
- With other District staff, developed an interim electronic Home Owner Grant application to provide improved customer service.
- With other District staff, produced the new Budget Handbook that can be used as a financial management tool.

- 25,374 tax folios billed for total of \$89 million with 93% collected prior to first penalty date and an additional 3% collected prior to the second penalty date.
- Produced first Performance Report to June 30, 2007 ensuring our performance reporting system measures progress on Council's strategic direction.

Information Services

The Information Services Department is responsible for managing the District's corporate computing assets including telephone, radio and email systems, website, networks and servers, staff workstations, and the business software systems and associated data that run on them.

The Department provides a variety of services including technical and security assistance for hardware and software, managing corporate databases, digital mapping support, as well as project management and consulting support services to departments undertaking computing improvements. The Department handled over 2,600 requests for assistance in 2007.

The computer network consists of a Gigabit Ethernet network using 40 Windows servers in a mixed virtual and physical environment, and utilizing a storage area network. The network supports over 350 workstations at eight sites. There are over 40 different enterprise-wide software systems that run on the computer network including a financial system, property and taxation system, payroll system, materials management system, budget system, recreation system, trade licences and building permits system, a property system and a Geographic Information System. The Department also manages web-based applications for mapping, recreation registration, and Home Owner grants.

Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Developed a new website (www.mapleridge.ca) which contains modern navigation and content, plus enhanced online services including mapping, Home Owner grants, newsletter, and RSS feeds. The website received the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' Community Excellence Program Award for an outstanding website that can be a model for other municipalities.

- Reduced the impact of technology on the environment. The Department received a certificate for electronic waste recycling by the Electronic Recycling Association, and recycled other e-waste with the local Recycling Society. Many servers were virtualized in order to improve their utilization and reduce their space and power requirements, developed a local car-pooling program, and incorporated transit information onto the website and Corporate Intranet. The Department also embarked on a program to replace all printers and photocopiers with environmentally-friendly devices that save paper and power, use organic toner, and have recyclable cartridges.
- Signed an agreement with Tranzeo Wireless Technologies to develop a mesh network over downtown Maple Ridge to provide free Internet access in public spaces, and to allow District employees access to data resources while out in the field. The network has been implemented and is in testing mode.
- Contributed to the design and development of the new Economic Development website (www.investmapleridge.ca).
- Implemented emergency call-centre capability at the Municipal Hall.
- Contracted online computer training for staff access.
- Purchased a new Taxation and Utility Billing system; planning is now underway for installation.
- Hosted successful Municipal Information Systems Association (MISA) spring conference.
- Continued with corporate-wide document imaging needs analysis and replacement strategy, currently in the equipment testing phase.

Our citizens and staff should be proud of all that we have achieved.



Paul Gill
General Manager:
Corporate & Financial Services



Frank Quinn,
General Manager

2007 was an extraordinarily busy year for Public Works & Development Services. Staff responded with the utmost dedication and professionalism to a tremendous volume of development applications, an aggressive Capital Plan adopted by Council, and a multitude of situations caused by inclement weather.

**— Frank Quinn,
General Manager**

The Public Works & Development Services Division consists of four departments: Planning, Licences, Permits and Bylaws, Engineering, and Operations. The workload in the first part of the year was significantly dictated by the inclement weather. Windstorms, snowstorms, and rainstorms kept staff working around the clock. To top it off, the anticipated spring freshet required a tremendous response from Public Works & Development Services staff. Approximately \$2.0 million in provincial funding was secured to construct flood mitigation measures.

On the development side, the introduction of new Development Cost Charges (DCC) rates triggered an influx of applications both for subdivisions and for building permits. Planning and Building staff responded magnificently and processed the vast majority of applications on schedule.

In 2007, Council adopted an aggressive Capital Plan. The Engineering Department responded with the design, tender and public consultation on many large projects. In the background, staff remain heavily involved with the construction of the Golden Ears Bridge as it starts to come out of the ground. In addition, TransLink's support to secure a route to 256 Street was received. \$2.0 million in provincial/federal funding was obtained for Abernethy Way at 224 Street. The Alouette Task Force and the Agricultural Advisory Committee were formed and staffed through Public Works & Development Services. The Municipal Gravel Operation went through an extensive public process with an anticipated 2008 start up.

Planning

The Planning Department provides corporate and community service in four defined service areas: development application management, environmental management, policy review and development, and provision of professional support and information. Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Initiated Town Centre Plan and Parking Strategy.
- Received the Smarty Award for Policy Development from Smart Growth BC.
- Established the Agricultural Advisory Committee.
- Presented improvements to the development process to Council.
- Prepared discussion paper and report on the feasibility of Detached Garden Suites.
- Reported on trailer park redevelopment, suburban and residential development, and development on 256 Street.
- Completed 143 development-related reports for Council's consideration.

Licences, Permits and Bylaws

The Licences, Permits and Bylaws Department is responsible for enforcing the District's bylaws, issuing building permits, inspecting all construction works, overseeing the animal shelter, enforcing animal control regulations, and ensuring all businesses operating in the District are licensed. Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Developed a new Animal Services Fee for Service Contract.
- Collaborated with RCMP, Outreach workers and other service providers to reduce the number of homeless by hosting weekly Holistic Homeless Support Group meetings.
- Implemented Business Improvement Area and formed Security Committee.
- Proactive enforcement of Untidy/Unsightly Bylaw in the downtown area.
- Collaborated with Planning on enforcement of Watercourse Protection Bylaw.
- Developed Standards of Maintenance Bylaw.
- Issued building permits for over 1,200 units.
- Issued in excess of 4,300 business licences.

Engineering

The Engineering Department provides municipal engineering services and support to residents of Maple Ridge and other departments. Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Completed DCC Rates Review.
- Completed traffic improvements on 224 Street from Brown Avenue to 122 Avenue, traffic circle at 105 Avenue at Tamarack, and installed bike lanes and curb extensions on 203 Street from Hammond Road to Patterson Avenue.
- Completed water Local Area Service (LAS) project for Rothsay Street.
- Hosted 15 public open houses for capital projects.
- Assisted with 2007 freshet responses and completed approximately \$2.0 million of dike improvements.
- Supported the Alouette River Flood Management Task Force.
- Initiated preliminary design for new bridge to Silver Valley.
- Water quality report submitted to Fraser Health.
- Secured TransLink funding for conceptual design for Abernethy Way to 256 Street.
- Completed roadworks and storm sewer improvements on 240 Street.

Operations

The Operations Department is responsible for the management and maintenance of municipal infrastructure and provides services fundamental to the health, safety and convenience of our rapidly growing population in a manner that is responsive, economical, and environmentally responsible.

This includes providing 24-hour-a-day emergency response to residents. Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- Due to a succession of snow, wind, rain, and flood events in 2006 and 2007, this year has been the busiest in recent memory for the Operations Department. Identification of damages and recovery and repairs from those storms is still underway.

- Completed road resurfacing on Laity Street from Lougheed Highway to 117 Avenue, 232 Street from Slager Avenue to 117 Avenue, and Fern Crescent from 236 Street to 129 Avenue.
- Completed three structural bridge reviews.
- Constructed a bicycle lane on Dewdney Trunk Road from 248 Street to 256 Street.
- Replaced or repaired seven large diameter culverts: 216 Street, Dewdney Trunk Road, 116 Avenue, Spilsbury Street, Park Lane north of 136 Avenue, McNutt Road north of Dewdney Trunk Road, and 26900 block of 100 Avenue.
- Completed watermain improvements on Dewdney Trunk Road from 232 Street to 240 Street, pressure reducing valve station 240 Street and Dewdney Trunk Road, and installed water meters on 100 residential properties.
- Completed sanitary sewer replacement on 210 Street north of Dewdney Trunk Road.
- Purchased two additional hybrid vehicles as part of the Green Fleet initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Frank Quinn
General Manager:
Public Works & Development Services



224 Street Improvements



Maple Ridge is known for its outstanding natural setting including its wonderful waterways, majestic mountains and flourishing forests. The District of Maple Ridge is committed to maintaining a healthy ecosystem through sound environmental practices and has been recognized for its efforts.

In 2007 the District won the Environmental Stewardship Award from the British Columbia Landscape Nursery Association (BCLNA) for its Community Ecosystem Restoration Initiative.

The project involves various objectives and steps including:

- Identification of suitable restoration sites.
- Developing landscape prescriptions for hazardous tree removal, thinning, invasive plant removal, and replanting for municipal public and private lands.
- Securing tree stocks using native species.
- Planting nearly 300,000 tree specimens around the District of Maple Ridge.
- Developing a municipal-wide education outreach program for the general public and school children.

The overall goal of this initiative is to reduce carbon dioxide through the creation and restoration of habitat by giving a home to 300,000 native plants in Maple Ridge parks and on municipal lands. Funding comes from partners and companies seeking to address climate change.

The District's Smart Growth on the Ground Program has earned the District a 2007 Smart Growth Policy Award from Smart Growth BC. Maple Ridge was the first community in British Columbia to engage in the Smart Growth on the Ground program in partnership with the Design Centre for Sustainability at UBC, the Real Estate Institute of BC, and Smart Growth BC. The program has led to extensive policy and regulatory changes in support of a sustainable downtown area in Maple Ridge which is outlined in the Maple Ridge Town Centre Concept Plan.

The Concept Plan was produced based upon principles of sustainability and input from stakeholders who participated in public workshops. Intended as a guide for sustainable future development in the Maple Ridge Town Centre, the Plan incorporates various environmental components for greening of the town centre including pedestrian and bike-friendly transportation networks, encouragement of urban ecology and enhancement projects, support for innovative energy and water conservation technologies and innovative stormwater and rainwater management designs. The District's new stormwater and rainwater management standards are now a requirement of the District's Watercourse Protection Bylaw for all new developments.

Maple Ridge has the largest municipal stream mapping and inventory information system in British Columbia and has received a great deal of attention ever since the project received a national environmental award in 2005 from the Canadian Administrative Management Association (CAMA). Many partners have been involved with this project including local stewardship groups, Katzie First Nation members, students, outdoor enthusiasts, and community members. All are helping to spread awareness of the District's environmental initiatives as well as promoting broader involvement in the management of our natural resources.

The stream mapping and inventory information system is used by federal, provincial, and regional agencies and has established new standards in several areas. The District continues to expand its environmental information system to include significant regional and municipal trail networks, protected areas and features, unique habitat areas, major wildlife movement corridors, potential hazard and vulnerable areas, and significant natural features to name a few examples.

The District's dedication to protect and preserve the environment by way of its innovative practices serves as a leading example for other communities. ■





Maple Ridge is a community of excitement, choice and opportunity that welcomes diversity and provides a safe and secure environment for residents and visitors alike. The economy is balanced, stable and provides jobs to residents. It is a sustainable community that values the environment and is working to balance land protection and green zones with job creation and development.

Completion of the Golden Ears Bridge in 2009, in addition to improving transportation efficiency for local businesses, is expected to significantly benefit the economy, generating an estimated \$800 million in new investment.

To fill a vital role in the continued growth of our dynamic community, a new Manager Economic Development was hired at the end of 2007. The work of the economic development team, guided by the economic development strategy adopted in 2006, works with local groups including the Economic Advisory Commission, Chamber of Commerce, regional and local tourism and the Business Improvement Association to attract, retain and grow successful business.

As an active member of the Economic Development Association of BC, its investment attraction arm, LinxBC, and the Economic Development Association of Canada, Maple Ridge stays abreast of the latest economic development opportunities, resources and best practices.

2007 notable highlights include:

- Introduced new corporate brand identity and logo — Deep Roots Greater Heights.
- Launched Economic Development Department website www.investmapleridge.ca profiling an array of resources available to business.
- Successfully raised the profile of Maple Ridge within Metro Vancouver through signature events such as the Jazz & Blues Festival.

- Continued growth in the entertainment production sector. With its magnificent natural beauty and genuine hospitality, Maple Ridge is a favourite among television and movie producers.
 - 2007 saw more than 60 productions, starring well-known celebrities at locations including Memorial Peace Park, Allco Park, the Town Centre area, Kirkpatrick gravel pit, Ridge Meadows Hospital, Billy Miner Pub, Municipal Hall and the Arts Centre Theatre.
 - In appreciation, the industry made generous contributions to benefit local groups including the Maple Ridge Library Literacy Program, Maple Ridge Food Bank, Youth Diversion Program, various sports groups and Youth Services Programs.
 - The industry has also developed a grassroots initiative, "Reel Green BC", whose focus is keeping the film industry environmentally friendly.

2008 Economic Development priorities include:

- Completion of BC Spirit Square — a beautiful outdoor "gathering place" in the heart of the Town Centre.
- Developing a sport tourism strategy to entice visitors to experience the natural beauty of the region.
- Completion of a High-Tech Attraction Strategy to attract high-tech companies to Maple Ridge.
- Attracting new businesses and higher-density residential housing to create a bustling, pedestrian-friendly downtown.
- Working with other municipal departments to help ensure that Maple Ridge is among the most sustainable, healthy and livable communities for present and future citizens.

This is an exciting time as Maple Ridge builds its reputation as one of the best places to live, work and play! ■





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Improving transportation and road safety is a priority for Maple Ridge. The safe and efficient movement of goods and people is essential for the economic success, livability and sustainability of our community. This commitment extends to improving vehicle, transit, pedestrian, equestrian and other modes of travel. For example, the District continues to install bicycle routes to encourage and support cycling. Routes have been built on 203, 224, 216 and 224 Streets. Future routes are planned for 240 Street. Safe walking routes for seniors in the Town Centre have been recently built and traffic improvements are ongoing including upgrades completed on Cottonwood Drive between 118 and 119 Avenues.

Working together with the many agencies responsible for transportation in Maple Ridge such as TransLink and the Ministry of Transportation, significant improvements are planned or underway such as the Town Centre Transit Exchange, Golden Ears Bridge, a new RapidBus service to connect Maple Ridge Town Centre with Braid Street Skytrain and an additional West Coast Express station to better serve the community. The new Pitt River Bridge, while not in Maple Ridge, will significantly decrease the commute times for both visitors and residents either travelling in or out of the community. Together, the new bridges will greatly improve the efficient transport of goods throughout the region.

In the longer-term, the District continues to pursue the extension of Abernethy Way from the Golden Ears Bridge to proposed employment lands in the eastern portion of Maple Ridge. A joint conceptual study by the District and TransLink will be started in 2008 to identify a feasible route. Planning also for a new bridge over the South Alouette River has started and in 2007 the District identified a preliminary route for the extension of light rail transit to the Town Centre.

Finally, to keep all roads, sidewalks and bridges safe and functioning, Council has established an infrastructure replacement plan and fund that will ensure citizens and visitors continue to trust and rely on a well-maintained public infrastructure well into the future.

Other transportation improvements undertaken to ensure a more safe and sustainable future include:

- Road, sidewalk and bicycle lane improvements on Abernethy Way at 224 Street and at 240 Street by Dewdney Trunk Road south to 113A Avenue.
- A new traffic signal at 232 Street and 128 Avenue.
- Walkway improvements in various parts of Maple Ridge to safely connect paths and trails.
- Improvements to sidewalks, roads and signals to meet accessibility needs.
- Improved sidewalks and landscape features to 224 Street in front of Memorial Peace Park.

The District of Maple Ridge has invested a great deal into the community and will continue to invest in it even more in future years in recognition of the significant growth that is taking place and the desire of its residents to maintain a balance between urban sophistication and a sense of rural charm. ■



EXIT



Aquatics Volunteer Orientation - 2007

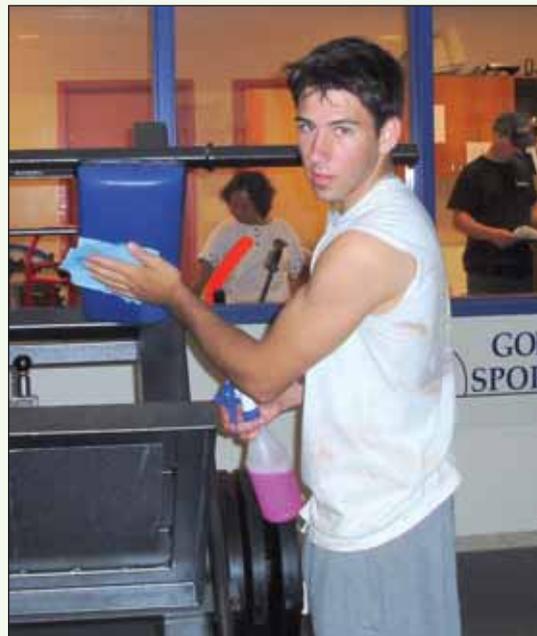


Two volunteers participate in a community carving project, now on display in the Maple Ridge Library.



Christmas parade volunteers

Deep Roots Greater Heights



Volunteer cleaning equipment

Maple Ridge has a long-standing tradition of volunteerism. Dating back to the early days of the community, people of all walks of life have contributed their skills and kind-hearted support to helping neighbours build a barn, carve a trail through the forest for horses, design a gazebo for community celebrations in the town park and assist with countless other beneficial projects.

As Maple Ridge has grown into a thriving municipality, the small town practice of shaping a strong, healthy and safe community through active participation has continued unabated. Today an estimated 33% of Maple Ridge citizens are actively involved in coaching sports, organizing special events, delivering meals to homebound seniors, and much more.

Volunteers are all ages, ranging from school children planting rows of lettuce for a community garden, to seniors helping carve a community mural for the local library. They range in ethnicity, economic background and abilities and it is the uniqueness of each individual that brings depth and originality to local culture.

Many hundreds of highly valued volunteers support District staff and are working hard assisting Fire, RCMP, Emergency Social Services, Parks & Leisure Services, Municipal Advisory Committee and partner society boards and organizations. They enhance the work of department employees and, in turn, volunteers personally benefit from being involved in their community through personal growth, heightened satisfaction and a greater sense of purpose through meaningful engagement.

With the upcoming 2010 Olympic Winter Games, the momentum and enthusiasm about volunteering is increasing and it is expected that citizens, who might not otherwise have done so, will become involved in community projects. The tradition of donating time and talents to building a vibrant Maple Ridge will continue to grow and shape this lively community, leaving a positive legacy for next generations to derive noble benefits. ■



Dr. Kwadwo Ohene Asante

- **Dr. Kwadwo Ohene Asante**, beloved pediatrician, a gentleman, a scholar, a teacher, a philanthropist, and Medical Director of The Asante Centre for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome received the prestigious 2007 Harry Jerome Award for Health Sciences in Toronto this past year. In his quiet, compassionate, and unassuming way, he embodies the values of the Harry Jerome Award: using his talents and social consciousness to better the lives of children and their families.

It was during Dr. Asante's time working in Northern British Columbia and the Yukon, that he read the first published paper on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and identified FAS as the cause of the "unexplained" disabilities among the children. Recognizing that this was a preventable disability, he has worked tirelessly to educate communities and his professional colleagues in B.C, across Canada, and internationally. This was the beginning of the awareness of FAS in Canada. He did the first research in Canada on FAS and more recently was invited to participate in a research study in South Africa. He is an internationally recognized expert in this field and his work has had a far-reaching effect. His clinical practice, research, writing, educating, and community involvement continues. In 2000, the community and the families of Maple Ridge honoured him by naming its clinic *The Asante Centre for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome*. The Centre provides diagnosis, assessment, education and family support for children, youth and adults affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Dr. Asante's achievements have also been recognized by his professional colleagues through the numerous awards listed on his resume, including the esteemed Meritorious Service Medal from Her Excellency the Governor General of Canada.

- **Margaret Kury** was recognized for her volunteer contributions and awarded the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, a working order dating back to the Crusades in Jerusalem. She has been involved with St. John Ambulance since 1982 and she also gives her time to the Adopt-A-Block program and Canadian Blood Services. "I feel pretty honoured," she said. "I'm not getting involved so I can be crowned. I just really felt quite honoured that they would do that."

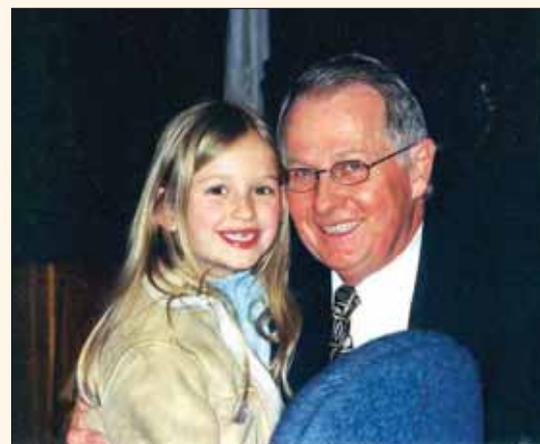
- **Julie Feil** received the Social Planning Advisory Committee Good Neighbour Award for her outstanding contributions to the community. Julie who has been a resident of Maple Ridge for four years has been involved in a number of groups and causes including participating as a leader in the Mountainview Neighbourhood Association, a member of the Moms of Pre-Schoolers Steering Committee, assisting at Alouette Elementary School with the SPARKS program and being an active member of the Building Community Solutions Steering Committee, an initiative of the Child, Youth and Family Network. Julie responded that she is deeply honoured to have just been nominated for the Good Neighbour Award. "I have always enjoyed working with others on projects and causes where others benefit. It is a rewarding feeling."

- **Annette Fulford** received the Heritage Achievement: History and Heritage Research & Publication Award from the Community Heritage Commission. For the last 10 years, Annette has written and edited the Maple Ridge Historical Society Family History Newsletter, which is widely circulated throughout the community and to genealogy organizations. Using a variety of research tools and techniques, she has been a tremendous resource to others seeking to record their family trees.

- **Dick Thiessen** was recognized for his commitment to the Canadian Cancer Society's Volunteer Driver Program. For the past seven years Dick, 83 years old, has been driving cancer patients several times a week, to and from their appointments. Good natured Dick says, "I've got the car, I've got the time, I've got the capabilities. Let's go!"

- **Lausanne Yamolky** received a Community Safety Star Award from the Maple Ridge Fire Department for her drive to ensure that her neighbourhood is a safe and livable community. The events that she has organized for the residents have not only developed a sense of community within the neighbourhood but have also fostered positive relations with service providers such as the RCMP and the Fire Department.

- **Tom Meier** was named 2007 Citizen of the Year by the Maple Ridge Community Foundation. Tom was President of the Chamber of Commerce in 1992, and has served our community on a number of boards, agencies and volunteer organizations. He has given unselfishly of his time on countless committees and community projects over the past 20 years. ■



Tom Meier — 2007 Citizen of the Year
Photo: The Times



Kanaka Creek – Return of the Salmon. Photo: Ross Davies

- Maple Ridge — Pitt Meadows Home Show with hundreds of commercial exhibits and displays drew upwards of 35,000 visitors. The Home Show also stages children's entertainment, the Times Taste of Ridge Meadows, and West Coast Amusements Carnival.
- Mountain Festival was a huge success with many exciting activities including a variety of children's and youth activities held in partnership with the Home Show, the People's Choice photography competition, and the FunZone 2007 at the Maple Ridge Fairgrounds.
- The Haney Farmers' Market held in Memorial Peace Park, the center of Maple Ridge's bustling downtown core — is a festival of sights and sounds with something for everyone! Every Saturday from May to October many enjoy grower-direct produce and plants, fresh baking, a wide array of handcrafted gifts, wonderful music, plus fun activities for the kids.
- Canada Day began with an early morning farmers' market followed by the traditional flag raising ceremony in Memorial Peace Park. Entertainment, kids' art activities, multicultural foods, and a giant craft market continued throughout the day.
- Webster's Corners Day brought together many families to celebrate their neighbourhood with activities for all ages — games, pie-eating contest, local artisans, raffle, interactive displays from local organizations involved in the community, and the Heritage Tea & Historic display for friends and neighbours to share memories and swap stories.
- The Caribbean Festival saw thousands enjoy live Caribbean bands, great music, colourful costumes, dancing, arts and crafts, and delicious food.
- The Ghost Ridge™ Halloween Haunted House at the Maple Ridge fairgrounds entertained thousands of thrill seekers as a fundraiser for local charities.

*Opposite page
Top: Christmas Parade
Centre: Maple Ridge Fair*

- Thousands attended the 106th annual Maple Ridge Fair. They enjoyed a logging show, 4-H shows, activities for children, headline stage entertainment, and up-close and personal animal displays.
- The Jazz & Blues Festival attracted thousands to Memorial Peace Park during eleven hours of non-stop live music from two outdoor stages. Festivities included some of BC's best local, regional, and national Jazz & Blues artists, an arts and crafts village, food vendors, and children's activities.
- The annual Whonnock Lake Day celebration began with an inter-denominational church service and a pancake breakfast. Food, crafts, children's activities, a 5 and 10 km run/walk, a 1 km non-competitive children's run, and musical entertainment were enjoyed by all.
- BC Rivers Day was held at Allco Park and Kanaka Creek — a special day celebrating spectacular river heritage and raising awareness of streams and rivers. Events included canoe tours, stewardship displays, walking tours, and interactive children's activities.
- Remembrance Day Ceremonies are held every November 11 at 11:00 am after the Remembrance Day parade from the Royal Canadian Legion building to the Cenotaph in Memorial Peace Park. Local heroes, the Veterans, are grateful to the many thousands of citizens who attend these events.
- Christmas in the Park and the Santa Claus Parade has become a favourite in December. Entertainment for children and families with wonderful floats, horses, and free hot chocolate.
- Christmas Haven served dinner and entertainment to those who were alone on Christmas Eve.

Six new community festivals were added to the annual events list in 2007. These included the Adstock youth event, the Spirit of Wood Festival and the Family Heritage Day. ■

*Top right: Canada Day
Centre right: Christmas Parade
Bottom right: Jazz & Blues Festival*



The primary mission of the Fire Department is the protection and preservation of life, property and the environment for citizens. This service is provided by a group of 100 dedicated paid-on-call firefighters, 28 full-time firefighters, six chief officers, and two administrative support staff. The department relies heavily on cross-training and good communication to ensure that it continues to function efficiently and effectively. Each of the assistant chiefs assumes responsibility for the operation of the individual fire halls. In addition to administrative duties, the career officers assume the role of Duty Chief, which involves responding to all serious Fire Department emergency calls 24-hours-a-day, on a rotational basis. Highlights of our 2007 achievements follow:

- The Charities Committee held several events throughout the year including the Car Wash for the Burn Unit, Muscular Dystrophy Boot Drive, and Firefighters for Families Food Drive. This committee demonstrates the firefighters' dedication to the community, high morale in the organization, and the spirit of cooperation and inclusiveness between the full-time and part-time members. In 2007, these events raised over \$20,000 for charities.
- Firefighters completed training in several programs including: Swift Water Rescue, Pump Operator/Driver training, First Responder First Aid Licence recertification, and Fire Officer One training.
- Several successful Public Education and Relations events were held in the community including: Hot Summer Nights, Camp Goodtime, fire safety presentations to all grade 5 and 6 students in Maple Ridge schools, and Summer Safety Smart Card program. Fire Prevention week was full of activities including: school fire drills, Panago Pizza partnership, Sign-up the Community program, Fire Chief for a Day, Community Safety Stars and Open House.

- The firefighters continued the "Be Alarmed" smoke alarm program sponsored by Vancity and Canadian Tire. When firefighters encounter a home that lacks the protection of a working smoke alarm, the program enables firefighters to install smoke alarms at no charge.
- Implementation of the Fire Department Master Plan continued wherein six firefighters began full-time employment in January 2007 with another six coming on board in January 2008.
- The Community Wildfire Protection Plan was presented and approved by Council, with an implementation plan being developed and presented to Council in 2008.
- Implemented several traffic improvements including: ongoing installation of traffic signal pre-emption devices at all new traffic lights and selected intersections, the installation of highway location markers on Lougheed Highway to assist the public in providing a location when reporting an emergency, and completed a review of traffic control for emergency response at Fire Hall #1. ■



The priority of the Ridge-Meadows RCMP detachment is not only to reduce the incidents of crime and threats to public safety, but also to heighten the sense of safety on our streets and in our neighbourhoods. The detachment is addressing these priorities from several fronts. During 2007, the Crime Reduction Unit was very successful targeting car thieves, drug traffickers and other criminals.

Throughout 2007, there was a continued reduction in crime over previous years. General Duty uniform members respond to calls for service and are very active in crime reduction by ensuring known criminals and those before the courts are accountable for their actions. One technique being used is curfew checks, ensuring those on court-ordered curfews are at home. But the police cannot do it alone. The detachment is blessed with an abundance of volunteers who willingly sacrifice many hours away from their families in service to their community. The success of the detachment's service to the community is shared with the participation of almost 200 volunteers working as Auxiliaries, and members of Block Watch, Court Watch, Search and Rescue, Bike Patrol, Citizens on Patrol and the community policing committees. The citizens of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows truly participate in the policing of their own community.

The detachment is not only engaged in law enforcement but is very much involved in addressing the root causes of criminal behaviours. As much as members have been involved and successful in drug enforcement, they recognize drug addiction is often the root cause of aberrant behaviour. The detachment is closely aligned with several social agencies such as Alouette Addictions, Fraser Health, Maple Ridge Treatment Center, Social Planning Advisory Committee and the Salvation Army looking for ways to offer opportunities to those in need.

In May, the detachment added two members to the Crime Reduction Unit to work exclusively in the downtown core of Maple Ridge. Their mandate has been to build closer relationships with business, social agencies and the citizens with the goal of finding ways to enhance safety and reduce crime in the downtown community. Also in May, the detachment began building a relationship with the newly formed Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association Safety and Security Committee. This partnership has supported a number of safety-oriented initiatives including supporting Westridge Security in their efforts to contribute to the safety of the Maple Ridge downtown core.

The detachment works closely with the Crime Analyst who organizes and analyzes criminal intelligence, identifies hotspots, crime trends and makes recommendations as to where to focus resources. It has been very successful.

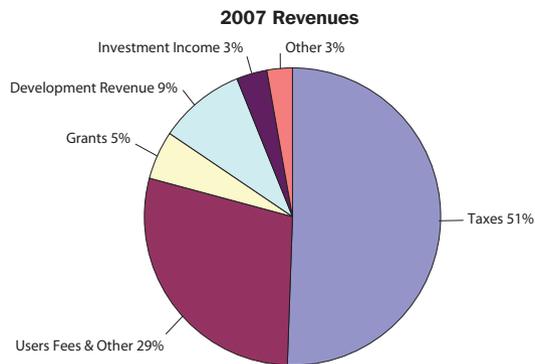
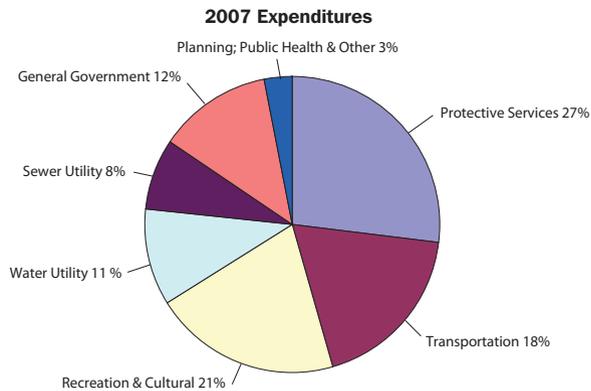
The Traffic section continues to work closely with ICBC and municipal and other government agencies focusing on problem traffic locations. The Traffic Section is working closely with the new Bar Watch Program to create ways to reduce impaired driving and liquor infractions.

Youth Resource officers entered into a pilot project with the Youth Diversion program and Westview Secondary School referring youths directly from school to the diversion program with input from the police.

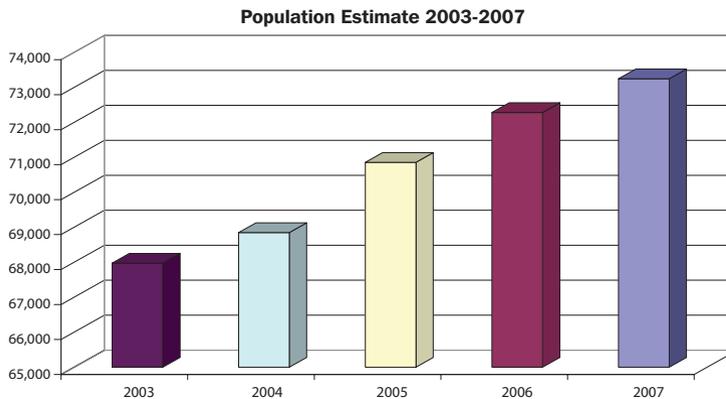
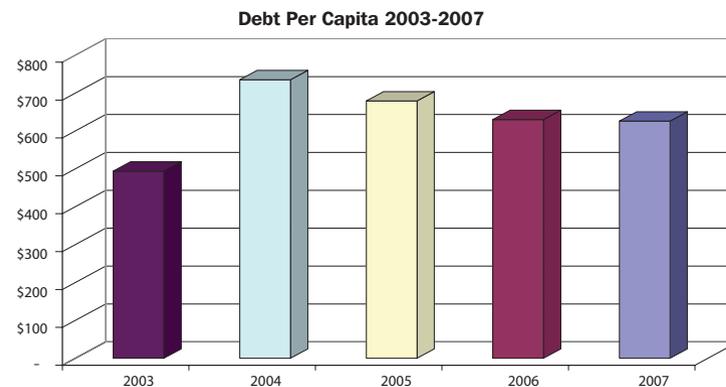
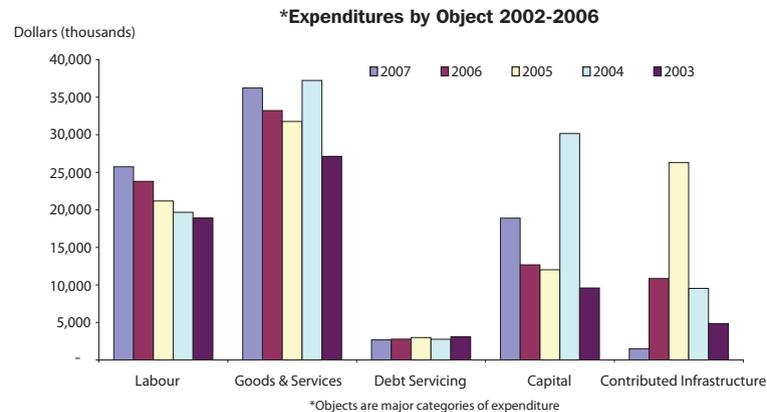
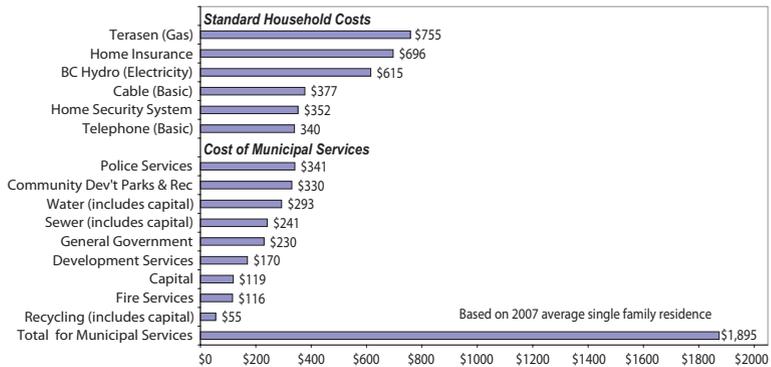
The community response to the threat of flooding in the spring was an example of the excellence in leadership and organization skills of the Emergency Operations Centers that developed emergency planning strategies throughout the spring. The Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Emergency Operations Centres were the epitome of integrating all emergency, governmental and community resources to respond to any emergency event. ■



Financial Statements



Comparison of the Average 2007 Annual Property Tax Bill for All Municipal Services to Other Standard Household Costs



Summary of Financial Statements*

Financial Position

December 31, 2007	2007	2006
Financial Assets		
Cash and temporary investments	\$ 18,321,091	\$ 28,066,766
Portfolio investments	92,159,630	67,030,331
Accounts receivable	17,036,111	15,355,354
Recoverable local improvements	876,209	814,774
Other assets	600,067	611,828
	<u>128,993,108</u>	<u>111,879,053</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	12,213,451	10,299,934
Deferred revenue	8,260,924	6,678,982
Restricted revenue	40,865,715	36,699,742
Refundable performance deposits and other	7,490,986	2,631,336
Employment future benefits	4,122,800	3,915,400
Long term debt	45,844,029	47,737,412
	<u>118,797,905</u>	<u>107,962,806</u>
Net Financial Assets (Debt)	<u>\$ 10,195,203</u>	<u>\$ 3,916,247</u>

* Financial Statements

The Financial Statements are presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting practices (GAAP). For a copy of the full 2007 Annual Report including audited 2007 Consolidated Financial Statements which include more detailed information, please contact the Finance Department at 604-463-5221 after June 1, 2008.

Financial Activities

Year ended December 31, 2007

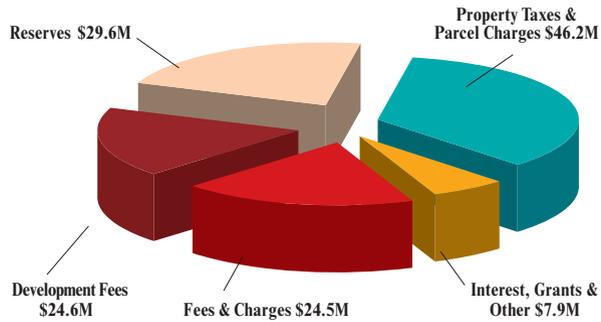
December 31, 2007	Actual 2007	Budget 2007	Actual 2006
Revenue - (segment report):			
Taxes for municipal purposes	\$ 46,096,676	\$ 46,200,741	\$ 42,221,337
User fees and other revenue	26,139,978	24,452,628	24,568,587
Senior government transfers	4,914,817	4,358,860	2,487,939
Development revenue	8,556,488	24,476,456	5,065,681
Interest and investment income			
Investment income	\$ 2,846,285		
Interest income	1,315,634		
Less: Deferred amount	(985,393)		
Interest and investment income	<u>3,176,526</u>	1,695,000	2,455,874
Asset disposal proceeds and other gains	929,590	1,137,000	525,221
Contributed subdivision infrastructure	1,490,323	1,490,323	10,848,250
	<u>91,304,398</u>	<u>103,811,008</u>	<u>88,172,889</u>
Expenditures - (segment report)			
Protective services	22,997,397	31,893,381	19,173,524
Transportation services	15,621,956	29,545,408	16,659,206
Recreation and cultural	17,525,321	24,309,923	17,872,291
Water utility	9,087,857	9,299,602	9,388,844
Sewer utility	6,681,886	8,258,612	7,873,626
General government	10,483,182	13,370,651	9,553,553
Planning, public health and other	2,627,843	4,025,258	2,607,170
Change in allowance for investments	-	-	169,283
	<u>85,025,442</u>	<u>120,702,835</u>	<u>83,297,497</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	<u>6,278,956</u>	<u>(16,891,827)</u>	<u>4,875,392</u>
Principal/Sinking Fund payments	(1,893,383)	(1,974,770)	(2,398,105)
Debt Issued	-	900,000	(357,675)
Increase (decrease) in Fund Balances	<u>4,385,573</u>	<u>(17,966,597)</u>	<u>2,834,962</u>
Fund Balances – Beginning of the Year	<u>51,653,659</u>	<u>51,653,659</u>	<u>48,818,701</u>
Fund Balances – End of the Year	<u>\$ 56,039,232</u>	<u>\$ 33,687,062</u>	<u>\$ 51,653,659</u>

2007 Taxation

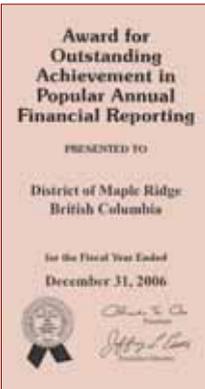
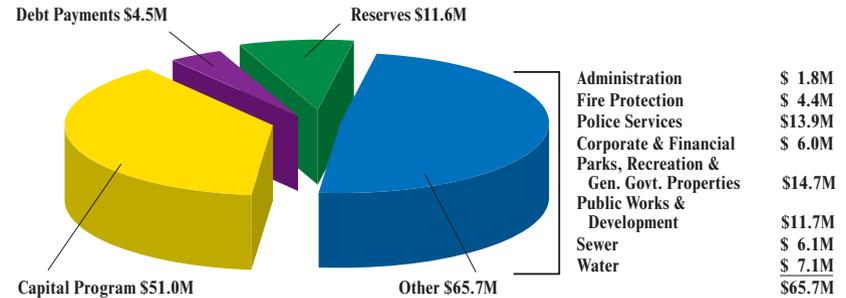
Throughout 2007 the municipality placed continued emphasis on sound financial management. Council endorsed a funding strategy to address the long-term sustainability of our infrastructure. The strategy begins to address the need to maintain our existing infrastructure as well as providing for future growth. By addressing this issue early we will be in a better position to leverage the financial resources needed to sustain our infrastructure and services, employing the fiscal practices necessary to earn the confidence

and trust of our citizens. Property taxation provides the District with over 50% of its revenue for general purposes and services such as police and fire protection, parks and recreation, transportation and the associated capital requirements depend on funding from property taxation. Maple Ridge residents enjoy a high quality of local government services with one of the lowest levels of property taxation in the British Columbia Lower Mainland.

2007 Projected Revenue — \$132.8 Million



2007 Projected Expenditures — \$132.8 Million



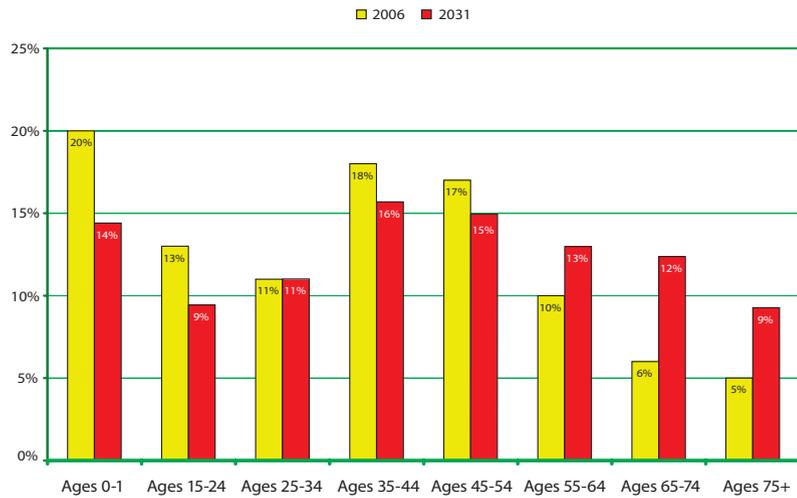
The Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR) to the District of Maple Ridge for its Popular Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious international award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state/provincial and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal. An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only.

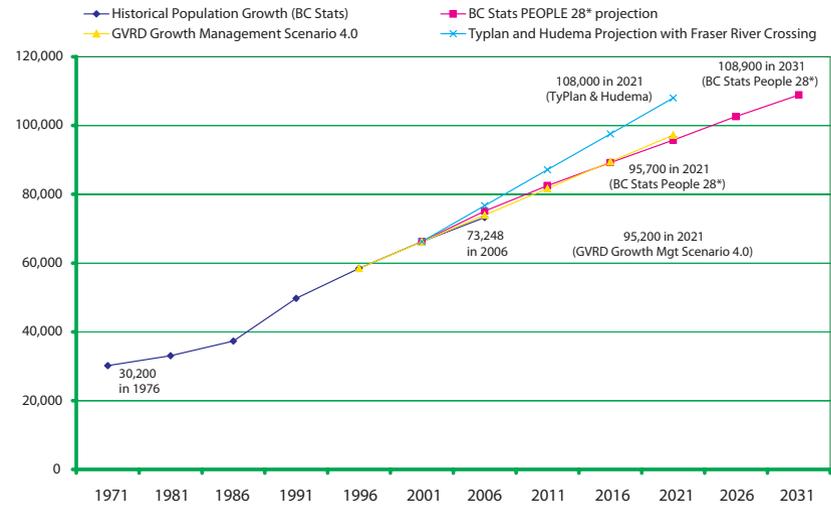
The municipality of Maple Ridge has received a Popular Award for the eleventh consecutive year and is very fortunate to be only one of four municipalities in Canada awarded a PAFR for 2006. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.

Demographics

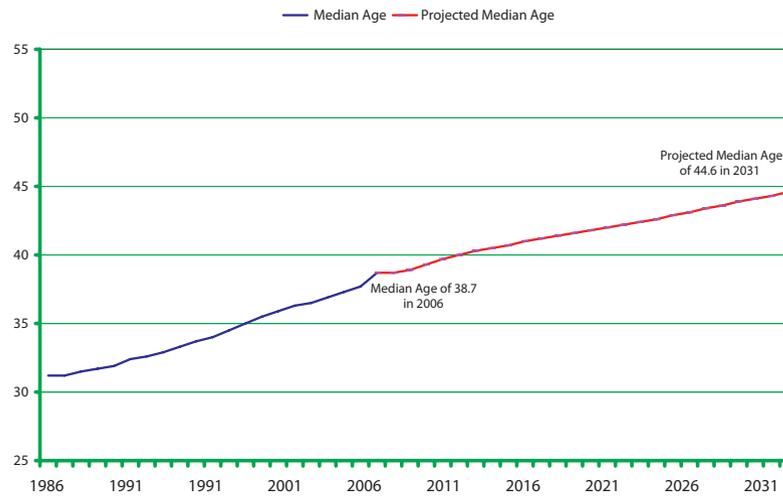
Percentage of Population by Selected Age Groupings, 2006 and 2031



Review of Existing Population and Housing Projections



Projected Median Age, Maple Ridge 1986-2031



Source: District of Maple Ridge Planning Department

Municipal Contact Numbers

District of Maple Ridge • 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 6A9 • www.mapleridge.ca

Switchboard/General Information.....604-463-5221

Public Works Emergency – 24 hours.....604-463-9581

General Fax Line.....604-467-7329

Fire, Police & Ambulance Emergency.....911

A

Administration..... 604-463-5221
Arts Centre & Theatre (ACT)..... 604-476-2787

B

Building Inspections
Building..... 604-467-7312
Electrical..... 604-467-7313
Gas-Plumbing..... 604-467-7314
General..... 604-467-7311
After-Hours Inspection Requests..... 604-467-7380
Business Licences..... 604-467-7440
Bylaw Enforcement..... 604-467-7305
After-Hours 604-467-7422

C

Cemetery..... 604-467-7307
Communications..... 604-467-7452
Council Members..... 604-463-5221

D

Dog Licences..... 604-467-7316

E

Economic Development..... 604-467-7320
Engineering Enquiries..... 604-467-7339
Environmental Enquiries..... 604-467-7499

F

Finance Department
Accounts Payable..... 604-467-7388
Accounts Receivable..... 604-466-4334
Administration & Accounting..... 604-463-5221
Property Taxes & Utilities..... 604-467-7336
Fire Department (Non-Emergency)..... 604-463-5880
Flooding (After-Hours)..... 604-463-9581

G

Garbage – Metro..... 604-466-9277

H

Human Resources..... 604-467-7350

L

Library..... 604-467-7417

M

Manager Legislative Services..... 604-463-5221
Mayor's Office..... 604-463-5221
Municipal Emergency Program..... 604-467-7301
Nights & Weekends..... 604-463-9581

P

Parking Enforcement..... 604-467-7305
Parks & Leisure Services
Direct Info Line (24 Hrs)..... 604-467-7322
Direct Reservation Lines
Arenas – Booking/Program Information
Municipal Ice Rental 604-465-2499
Planet Ice (Maple Ridge)..... 604-467-2883
Ridge Meadows Arenas (Pitt Meadows)..... 604-460-1531
Campground – Maple Ridge..... 604-467-7357
Facilities – Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows..... 604-465-2499
Picnic Shelters..... 604-465-2452
Sportfields..... 604-465-2499
Festivals Society..... 604-467-7325
Greg Moore Youth Centre..... 604-467-7354

Leisure Centre

General Enquiries..... 604-467-7322
or..... 604-465-2452
Aquatics Supervisor..... 604-467-7302
Program Registration..... 604-465-2470
Parks & Facilities Administration..... 604-467-7346
Pitt Meadows Family Rec Centre..... 604-465-2452
Sportsfield Conditions & Closures..... 604-465-2499

Volunteer Services..... 604-467-7459
Youth Services
Children's Programs..... 604-466-4339
Youth Outreach Initiative..... 604-467-7354

Planning

Enquiries..... 604-467-7341
Administration..... 604-467-7343
Police - RCMP (Non-Emergency)..... 604-463-6251
Volunteer Services Coordinator..... 604-467-7644
Pitt Meadows Community Policing..... 604-465-2402
Pound - SPCA..... 604-463-9511
Property & Risk Management 604-467-7315
Public Works
Enquiries..... 604-463-9581
or..... 604-467-7363
Public Works Emergency - 24 hours..... 604-463-9581
Purchasing..... 604-466-4343

R

Recycling..... 604-463-5545
Roads Maintenance..... 604-467-7363

S

Schools..... 604-463-4200
Seniors' Programs & Information..... 604-467-4993
Sewer Maintenance..... 604-467-7363
Sidewalk Maintenance..... 604-467-7363
Snow Removal..... 604-467-7363

T

Traffic Enquiries..... 604-467-7339

W

Water Maintenance..... 604-467-7363

Z

Zoning..... 604-467-7341

Simply Sustainable

This Annual Report has been produced using paper made up of mostly 100% postconsumer (PC) fibre and 100% recycled paper, using a waterless offset printing press. This printing process reduces the consumption of water and the release of VOCs (volatile organic compounds) into the atmosphere. Conventional offset printing fountain solutions use either isopropyl alcohol (IPA) or specially formulated alcohol substitutes.

Waterless printing does away with both IPA or its substitutes. The other pressroom VOC components are cleaning solutions and inks. And now with the introduction of new water-washable waterless inks, a waterless printer can eliminate between 85% and 95% of pressroom VOCs. This could mean the reduction of tons of VOCs annually.

The total print run uses 685 kg of paper which has a postconsumer recycled percentage of 100%. The entire report is 100% recyclable.

The savings below were achieved through using PC recycled fibre in place of virgin fibre:

- 14.5 trees preserved for the future
- 19 kg waterborne waste not created
- 23 litres wastewater flow saved
- 309 kg solid waste not generated
- 608 kg net greenhouse gases prevented
- 1.08×10^{10} joules energy not consumed

Savings from the use of emission-free wind-generated electricity*:
316 kg air emissions not generated.

In other words the savings from the use of wind-generated electricity are equivalent to planting 47 trees or not driving 1215 km.

*Windpower is the fastest-growing green energy source in the world. At present it is the least expensive, most developed, and fastest to build. The natural energy of wind is converted into electricity through a wind-powered turbine. The turbines, high-tech windmills, can be grouped into wind farms. They are responsible sources of energy because they allow multiple uses of land, don't disturb wildlife, blend well with the landscape and provide alternative sources of income to farmers and landowners.

The 2007 Citizens Report has been prepared and compiled by the Communications Department.

This department is responsible for developing and maintaining effective communications between the District of Maple Ridge and its customers and employees.

Comments regarding this publication can be forwarded to:

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- Committee of the Whole on the first and third Monday of each month at 1:00 pm
- Council Workshop on Mondays at 10:30 am
- Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm
- Public Hearings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm
- For more information on public hearings, special Council sessions, and civic events, check our website.

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