

City of Maple Ridge  
**COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
**AGENDA**  
*Thursday, October 11, 2018, 7:00 pm*  
*Blaney Room, Maple Ridge City Hall*

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** – September 13, 2018
4. **DELEGATIONS**
- 4.1. **Statements of Significance**
  - Don Luxton, Donald Luxton & Associates
5. **FINANCE**
- 5.1. Financial Update
- 5.2. Robertson Cemetery
- 5.3. Business Plan 2019-2023  
For information only.
6. **CORRESPONDENCE**
7. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- 7.1. 2019 Committee Recruitment
8. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
- 8.1. Communications
- 8.1.1. Fall Calendar
- 8.2. Recognitions
- 8.2.1. Heritage Week 2019
- 8.3. Education
- 8.3.1. Local Voices
- 8.3.2. BC Heritage Fairs
- 8.4. Digitization
- 8.5. Heritage Resources Program
- 8.6. Master Conservation Plan

9. **LIAISON UPDATES**

- 9.1. BC Historical Federation
- 9.2. Heritage BC
- 9.3. BC Museums Association
- 9.4. Maple Ridge Historical Society
- 9.5. Council Liaison
- 9.6. Staff Liaison

10. **QUESTION PERIOD**

11. **ROUNDTABLE**

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

**QUESTION PERIOD**

Question Period provides the public with the opportunity to ask questions or make comments. Each person will be given 2 minutes to speak. Up to ten minutes in total is allotted for Question Period.

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The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Community Heritage Commission, held in the Blaney Room, Maple Ridge City Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, on September 13, 2018 at 7:07 pm.

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**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Brenda Smith, Chair	Maple Ridge Historical Society
Lindsay Foreman, Vice Chair	Member at Large
Julie Koehn	Maple Ridge Historical Society
Len Pettit	Member at Large
Russell Irvine	Member at Large

**STAFF PRESENT**

Amelia Bowden	Staff Liaison, Planner 1
Amanda Allen	Committee Clerk

**ABSENT**

Councillor Craig Speirs	Council Liaison
Eric Phillips	Member at Large
Steven Ranta	Member at Large

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1. ***CALL TO ORDER***

2. ***APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA***

R/2018-042

It was moved and seconded

**That the agenda for the September 13, 2018 Community Heritage Commission meeting be approved as circulated.**

CARRIED

3. ***ADOPTION OF MINUTES***

R/2018-043

It was moved and seconded

**That the minutes of the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission meeting dated June 14, 2018 be adopted.**

CARRIED

4. ***DELEGATIONS*** - Nil

4. **FINANCE**

4.1. **Financial Update**

Russell Irvine provided a review of the 2018 financial accounting to date. There was a review and discussion on the line items and anticipated costs for the last quarter of 2018.

4.2. **Maple Ridge Library Microfilm Reader Support Request**

The Chair provided background on microfilm readers in the Lower Mainland and spoke to the software options in a new microfilm reader. The Chair advised on discussions with the Library Manager and on the potential of utilizing the microfilm as a draw for tourism. There was discussion on the budget and how existing Community Heritage Commission funds could be reallocated.

R/2018-044

It was moved and seconded

**That the Community Heritage Commission reallocate \$1000.00 from the Field Trip budget item to support the Maple Ridge Public Library request for a new microfilm reader.**

CARRIED

4.3. **Business Planning**

The Staff liaison reported on the timeline for Business Planning and that the 2019 Budget is set and any incremental requests would need to come from Planning Department funds. There was discussion on Found Milestones and a communications strategy for 2019 and the Business Plan was modified to reflect identified amendments.

R/2018-045

It was moved and seconded

**That the Community Heritage Commission adopt in principle the Community Heritage Commission Business Plan 2019-2023 as amended.**

CARRIED

4.4. **BC Museums Association Membership Dues**

The Staff liaison advised that membership with the BC Museums Association is up for renewal. The Chair reminded that Lindsay Foreman will be attending the 2018 BC Museums Association Conference and there was discussion on appointing Ms. Foreman as the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission delegate.

R/2018-046

It was moved and seconded

**That the Community Heritage Commission authorize the expenditure of \$100.00 to renew membership with the BC Museums Association.**

CARRIED

R/2018-047

It was moved and seconded

**That the Community Heritage Commission authorize Lindsay Foreman to serve as the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission delegate at BC Museums Association Annual General Meeting.**

CARRIED

5. **CORRESPONDENCE** - Nil

6. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6.1. **Heritage Resources Program**

The Staff liaison reported on two streams of work within the Heritage Resources Program, the Heritage Register update and the incentive review. Statement of Significances will be circulated early October and Mr. Luxton will be invited as a delegation at the October meeting. The Staff liaison outlined the next steps to take throughout the Fall to achieve completion of the Heritage Register update.

The Staff liaison presented a work outline for the Incentives Review project. There was discussion on hiring a consultant to complete the scope of work and how to proceed with the next steps of the project.

R/2018-048

It was moved and seconded

**That a maximum of \$10,000.00 be allocated to a Consultant to lead a Heritage Incentive Project involving the following work:**

- 1. Prepare a Research and Background Report on Incentives Best Practices and Opportunities;**
- 2. Host a Stakeholder Workshop for Heritage Inventory private property owners to discuss benefits of joining the Heritage Register. Present Incentives and receive feedback on what property owners need from the City of Maple Ridge;**
- 3. Host a Public Open House on Incentives Program;**
- 4. Report back to Council with a summary of engagement process and recommended incentive plan.**

CARRIED

Note: Item 7.6 was dealt with following Item 6.1.

6.2. **Environment Committee Report to Parliament**

Russell Irvine provided a history of the Environment Committee report and on the Commission's action to develop an Incentives Review project. The Federal Government is currently preparing the 2019 budget and an electronic petition has been initiated calling upon the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to work with Minister of Finance and create a multi-million dollar fund in the Budget 2019. Mr. Irvine will continue to monitor and report at the November meeting.

**6.3. Resignation of Commissioner**

The Chair advised that Kevin Bennett has resigned from the Commission. Appreciation and gratitude for Mr. Bennett's work and volunteerism was shared.

**7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**7.1. Communications**

**7.1.1. Fall Calendar**

The Chair reviewed upcoming events.

**7.2. Recognitions**

The Chair reminded of the October 19, 2018 deadline for Heritage Award nominations. The Staff liaison brought copies of the nomination brochure for members to distribute around the community. The Chair advised that the subcommittee will reconvene in November. The Staff liaison responded to queries on the Merkley Park utility wrap and advised the wrap is not yet complete.

**7.2.1. Stanchion Design - Nil**

**7.3. Education**

**7.3.1. Local Voices**

Lindsay Foreman advised that Local Voices begins October 1, 2018 and provided an update on meetings over the Summer with Library staff. Ms. Foreman noted that the November 5, 2018 Local Voices will tie in with media literacy week.

**7.4. Heritage Marker Inventory Information**

The Chair reported on the progress with the Heritage Marker Inventory database.

**7.5. Digitization**

The Chair provided a digitization report dated September 4, 2018. The Chair reported on the August 28, 2018 meeting with the Records Management Coordinator and on the discussions with regards to the Inventory, the Catalogue and digitization priorities. The Chair spoke to potentially developing partnerships with post-secondary institutions however Maple Ridge has no qualified archivist. The Chair reviewed a list of contacts that may provide student support and possible funding options. There was discussion on how to proceed with project. The Chair will circulate the report to subcommittee members.

**7.6. Heritage Conservation Master Plan**

The Staff liaison advised that RFP has not yet been issued. There was discussion on whether to proceed or delay the Heritage Conservation Master Plan. There was agreement to proceed with issuing the RFP.

8. **LIAISON UPDATES**

8.1. **BC Historical Federation**

The Chair advised of planning initiatives within the organization. A summit of leaders in the heritage world will be held in Maple Ridge at the end of October. The Chair noted help is required to host the event and invited interested members to contact her for further information.

8.2. **Heritage BC**

The Chair noted that members are not receiving Heritage BC newsletters. The Staff liaison will investigate.

8.3. **BC Museums Association**

Lindsay Foreman attended an Industrial Artefacts Conservation Workshop in Richmond on September 7, 2018 and reported on the lectures, tips, and hands on activities. Ms. Foreman advised that the workshop is part of the small museums workshops initiatives and a working group for the program is underway.

8.4. **Maple Ridge Historical Society**

Julie Koehn advised that the Haney House reopening was well attended. Ms. Koehn reported on the 2018 Music on Wharf concert series.

8.5. **Council Liaison - Nil**

8.6. **Staff Liaison**

The Staff liaison reported that Heritage Inventory is posted on City of Maple Ridge website and that payment for the project is completed. Nomination forms for the 2019 Heritage Award are available on the City website. The Grant de Patie plaque will be mounted adjacent to the bus shelter on Dewdney Trunk Road and 248 Street. The Staff liaison provided an update on the Robertson Cemetery progress and will bring a report to the next meeting.

9. **QUESTION PERIOD - Nil**

10. **ROUNDTABLE**

Lindsay Foreman shared opinions on a recent column in the September 11, 2018 online edition of the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows News titled "Looking Back: Asking the Right Questions".

11. **ADJOURNMENT – 9:29 pm.**

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B. Smith, Chair

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## Community Heritage Commission - Remaining funds not allocated to major projects

Program/Project	Remaining Funds 2018	Notes
Fundraising Income	\$ 138.00	
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
Delegate Fees	\$ 500.00	
<b>MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM</b>		
Membership Annual Fees	\$ 690.00	
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH</b>		
Newsletter	\$ 1,600.00	
Marketing Package	\$ 500.00	
<b>HERITAGE RECOGNITIONS PROGRAMS</b>		
Heritage Awards	\$ 498.22	
Heritage Conversation	\$ 500.00	
Partnered Event	\$ 200.00	
Plaque Program	\$ 400.00	
Heritage Marker Replacement	\$ 400.00	
Canada 150 - Reminisce Kits	\$ 2,285.55	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,711.77</b>	





## Interoffice Memorandum

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To: Community Heritage Commission  
From: Amelia Bowden, Planner 1  
Date: October 11, 2018  
Subject: Robertson Cemetery History & Update

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This memo provides a summarized timeline of the Robertson Cemetery protection and acquisition initiatives of the CHC and the City, and outlines the next steps subject to funding. Long-term protection of the Robertson Cemetery was initiated by the CHC in 2007, which resulted in a land use re-designation, rezoning, and Heritage designation Bylaw. In 2015, the CHC acted on concerns that the cemetery was not in municipal ownership, and proceeded to work on achieving that end.

The timeline from 2007 to present is as follows:

### June 4, 2007

The CHC pursued the following resolution at a regular Committee meeting:

***That the property, Robertson's Land, be placed on the heritage registry with the goal to protect and acquire the site as a cemetery in perpetuity.***

### Fall 2008

The Robertson's cemetery land was re-designated to Institutional in the Official Community Plan and rezoned to P-6 Civic Commercial to reflect the cemetery use. The zoning and land use designation permit civic and assembly uses, therefore the uses are relatively limited for development purposes. A municipal heritage designation bylaw was also adopted, which provides legal protection for the site in perpetuity.

The heritage designation status combined with a rezoning and a land use designation amendment of the subject site, offers a three tiered approach to its conservation. For this reason, this option is the recommended approach.

The property is owned by Robert Robertson, who died in 1912. A Tax Sale Notice was filed by the City with the Land Title Office in 2000 due to unpaid taxes. The property could not be sold through a tax sale for various reasons that have been in the process of being rectified since the issue was first identified.

Through discussions with Fred Braches and the CHC, the goal has been to transfer the title into the City's name as a heritage site rather than selling it through a tax sale. Prior to obtaining ownership, the property needed to be surveyed because a portion of land is undetermined.

April 7, 2015

CHC resolution, following presentation a regular CHC meeting by Fred Braches:

***That it be recommended to Council that the Robertson Burial Site be established as a Place of Interment.***

June 15, 2015

Robertson Family Cemetery in Whonnock report to Council from Brenda (see attached).

Recommendations:

**That the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission be directed to research the process and related costs involved in establishing the Robertson Family Cemetery as a Place of Interment and provide a recommendation at a future Council meeting.**

October 3, 2016

2017 Community Heritage Commission Business Plan Incremental Package included \$3,500 Budget for survey, tax sale and provincial recognition of this heritage site.

Council approved this incremental package.

February 6, 2016

CHC obtained a quote to survey the Robertson Cemetery. Total charge in August 2017 was \$2,665 from Target Land Surveying.

June 12, 2018

Council approval for staff to execute the necessary paper work to transfer the Robertson Cemetery title to the City.

The Robertson Cemetery plans were filed at the LTO in the summer.

September 14, 2018

The City received a defect notice from the Land Title Office. The Land Title Office has informed the City that it has not been provided with sufficient records to confirm the absolute title of the land. The surveyor hired to undertake the survey work and the City's Conveyance Clerk have been in touch with the LTO to determine how this issue can be resolved. The LTO has indicated that additional information in a report format laying out each historical survey and the evolution of the cemetery survey records would be helpful. The surveyor has confirmed that he is able to prepare this report as they have all of the supporting information. We are waiting to hear back from LTO in writing that this course of action will be satisfactory to resolving the issue. We are also waiting to hear the exact price on the report cost. The surveyor indicated it will be less than \$5,000.

Next Steps:

1. Await LTO response
2. Determine budget re-allocation to fund this work.
3. Proceed based on CHC resolution on this matter.

Other Questions

*Is the recent survey of the cemetery flawed?*

No, the issue is that the survey records (ie subdivision and legal plans from early 1900s doesn't clearly show the land in question, as there were different surveying conventions at that time). The LTO can't confirm for certain 'where' the land came from.

They have also noted that a portion of Byrnes Road is not dedicated as a road, and they would like this corrected.

*Are there problems with surveys of adjacent properties?*

The issue is with the 1902 survey plan and the relation of the cemetery with the 1902 plan.

*What historical information was referred to? Can Whonnock historian Fred Braches help?*

The historical research relates to the survey records. It sounds like the surveyor has this well in hand, as he has been clarifying details for LTO.

## City of Maple Ridge

**TO:** Her Worship Mayor Nicole Read  
and Members of Council  
**FROM:** Chair, Community Heritage Commission  
**SUBJECT:** Robertson Family Cemetery in Whonnock

**MEETING DATE:** June 15, 2015  
**FILE NO:**  
**MEETING:** CoW

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A Municipal Heritage Designation Bylaw was adopted on December 9, 2008 for the Robertson Family Cemetery site (Appendix A). Under this bylaw, no alterations are permitted to the site without a Heritage Alteration Permit. Additionally, the site is currently designated for Institutional use and is zoned P-6 Civic Institutional.

The process undertaken to protect the site was initiated by local historian Fred Braches, who provided his research into the Robertson family to the City. A September 30, 2008 Council report discusses the site's history and Robert Robertson, a Whonnock pioneer who arrived in approximately 1860 (Appendix B). Historical records show that 10 Robertson family members are buried at the site, including Robert who died in 1912 and appears to be the last burial.

Fred Braches attended the April 7, 2015 Community Heritage Commission meeting and shared his knowledge of the site with the group. Discussion focused on adding an additional layer of protection to the site, through establishing the site as a Place of Interment, which would formalize the use of the site as a cemetery with the Province. At the April 7<sup>th</sup>, Community Heritage Commission meeting, the following resolution was passed (Appendix C):

***That it be recommended to Council that the Robertson Burial Site be established as a Place of Interment.***

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

**That the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission be directed to research the process and related costs involved in establishing the Robertson Family Cemetery as a Place of Interment and provide a recommendation at a future Council meeting.**

### DISCUSSION:

#### **a) Background Context:**

The subject site is currently protected through Municipal Heritage Designation Bylaw 6622-2008, which was adopted on December 9, 2008. A Council report, dated September 30, 2008, outlines some history of the Robertson family burial site and the options available to protect the site in perpetuity. Both the Municipal Heritage Designation and the Place of Interment options were presented and the Municipal Heritage Designation Bylaw option was recommended, along with an amendment to the Official Community Plan to re-designate the site for Institutional use and to rezone the site to P-6 Civic Institutional. Due to various challenges with the site, including a registered owner who has been deceased for many years, proceeding with a Place of Interment designation was

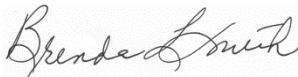
not recommended. The same challenges remain today. Note that a Place of Interment is a provincial designation that is legislated through the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act*. The report discussed challenges with the Place of Interment option as follows:

*This measure would formalize the use of the site as a cemetery, and offer the greatest protection. The difficulty with this approach is that proof of ownership or the intention to acquire the site is a requirement of this application process. The District does not own this site, but does have a charge registered against the site as being sold for taxes. For a few reasons, ownership has not been transferred to the District. Legal Counsel advises that such a transfer could be found invalid if legally challenged. As it stands, there are known descendants of Robert Robertson still living; however, their legal claim to this site would have to be established before a property transfer could take place for this purpose.*

It is further noted in the report that the Place of Interment process is fairly onerous, but that Council may wish to consider this option at some point.

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

The Municipal Heritage Designation, Official Community Plan Institutional designation and the P-6 (Civic Institutional) zoning all contribute to ensuring protection of Robertson Family Cemetery in perpetuity. There is some concern that due to a lack of lasting visual evidence of the site's heritage value (i.e. no head stones, etc.) awareness may wane over time and the Robertson burial site may be at risk. It is the intent of the Community Heritage Commission and Mr. Fred Braches that all available options for heritage protection be enacted, so that all possible checks and balances are in place to help create awareness for future generations and ultimately the site's protection in perpetuity.



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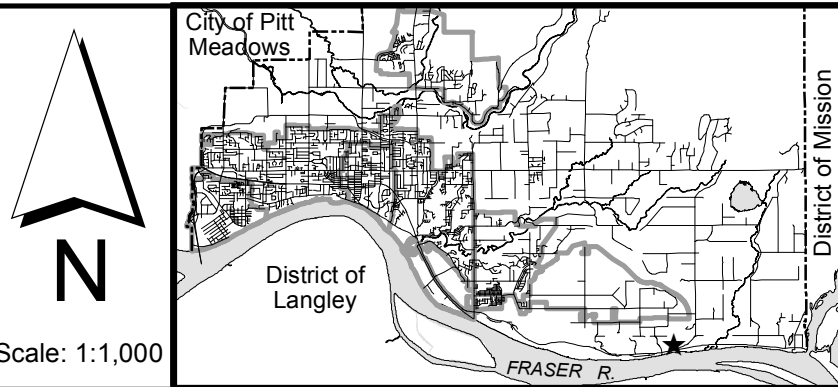
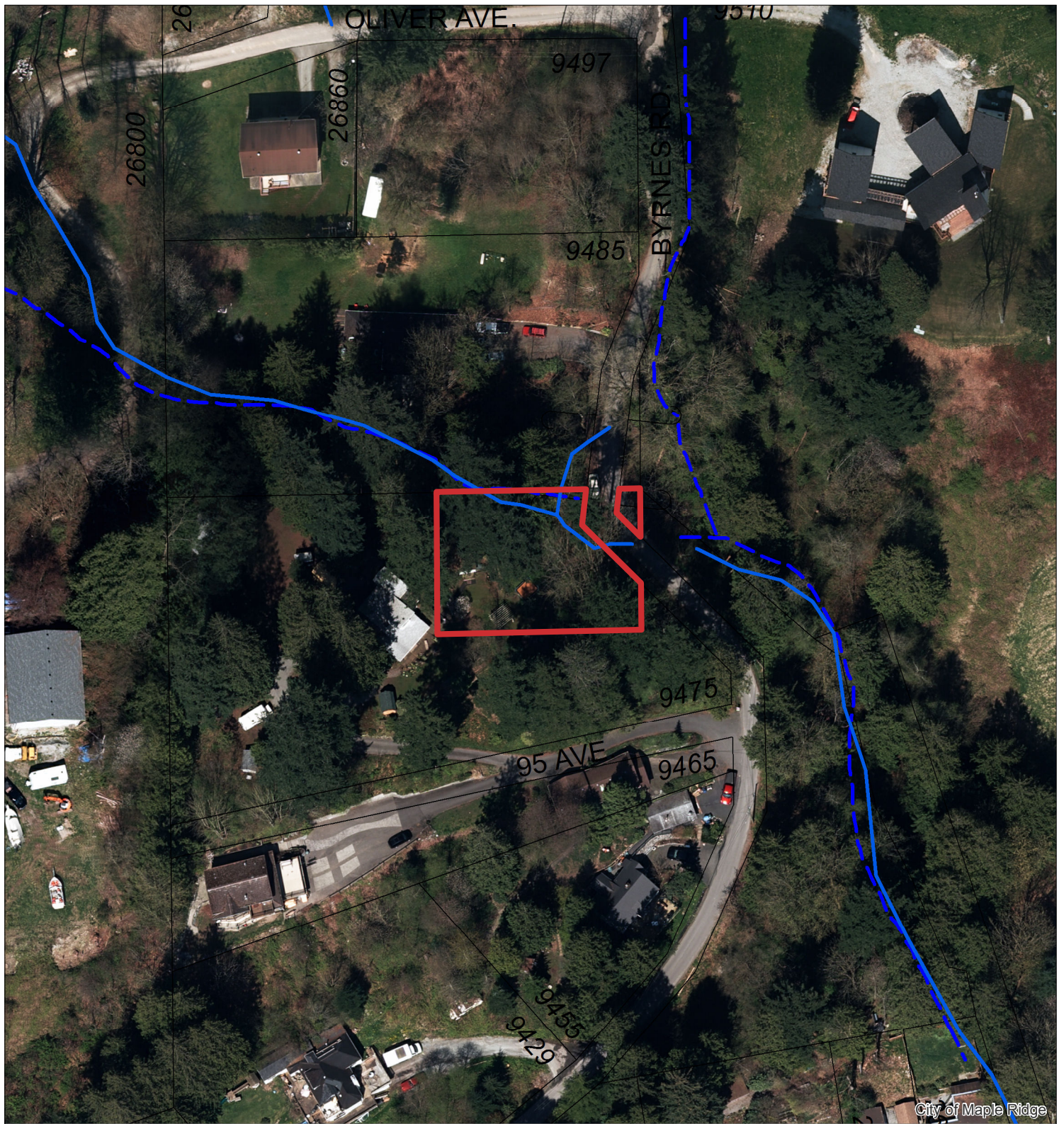
**Brenda Smith, Chair  
Community Heritage Commission**

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The following appendices are attached hereto:

- Appendix A: Aerial Photo showing subject site – Byrnes Road, Whonnock
- Appendix B: September 30, 2008 Council Report regarding protection of the Robertson Family Cemetery on Byrnes Road in Whonnock
- Appendix C: April 7, 2015 Resolution of the Community Heritage Commission





## ROBERTSON CEMETERY



**CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE**  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

DATE: Jun 4, 2015

FILE: Untitled

BY: PC





Deep Roots,  
Greater Heights

## DISTRICT OF MAPLE RIDGE

TO: His Worship Mayor Gordon Robson  
and Members of Council  
FROM: Chief Administrative Officer  
DATE: Sept. 30, 2008  
FILE NO: RZ/079/08  
ATTN: C of W  
SUBJECT: First Reading  
Maple Ridge Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008,  
Maple Ridge Zone Amending Bylaw No. 6607-2008, and Heritage  
Designation Bylaw 6622-2008  
Byrnes Road - Robertson Cemetery

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This application arises from community concerns about the long term protection of an historic burial site located within the Whonnock area of Maple Ridge. This application is to rezone the subject property from RS-3 One Family Rural Residential to P-6 Civic Commercial which reflects this use as a historic cemetery. An amendment to the Official Community Plan from Rural Residential to Institutional will also be required. Additional measures include designating the site as a heritage site.

Although the site has some protection under Provincial legislation, it has not been designated a heritage site or as a cemetery under Provincial legislation. A title search reveals that Robert Robertson is the owner of the property. Robert Robertson died in 1912, and is one of 10 people buried at the site. For a number of reasons, this site is difficult to bring into District ownership, where it could be offered greater protection under the Cremation, Internment and Funeral Services Act. This report will outline the history of the site, and the people buried there. An overview of the legal context will be provided, with a recommended approach to protect the site in perpetuity.

## RECOMMENDATIONS:

That this family burial site be recognized as a cemetery and designated as a historical site under the procedures established in Section 967 of the Local Government Act, and to further this purpose, that the site be redesignated Institutional and rezoned to P-6 Civic Institutional.

1. That Maple Ridge Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008 be given first reading and be forwarded to Public Hearing;
2. That in accordance with Section 879 of the Local Government Act opportunity for early and on-going consultation has been provided by way of posting Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008 on the municipal website, and Council considers it unnecessary to provide any further consultation opportunities, except by way of holding a public hearing on the bylaw;

3. That Maple Ridge Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008 be considered in conjunction with the Capital Expenditure Plan and Waste Management Plan;
4. That it be confirmed that Maple Ridge Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008 is consistent with the Capital Expenditure Plan and Waste Management Plan;
5. That Zone Amending Bylaw No. 6607-2008 be given first reading and be forwarded to Public Hearing; and
6. That heritage designation Bylaw No. 6622-2008 be forwarded to Public Hearing in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section 968 of the Local Government Act,
7. That the following be met prior to final reading.

- i. Amendment to Schedule "B" of the Official Community Plan.

#### DISCUSSION:

##### a) Background Context:

Applicant:	District Of Maple Ridge Planning Department
Owner:	Robert Robertson (deceased)
Legal Description:	Section: 4, Township: 15
OCP :	Section: 4, Township: 15
Existing:	Rural Residential
Proposed:	Institutional
Zoning:	
Existing:	RS-3 One Family Rural Residential
Proposed:	P-6 Civic Institutional
Surrounding Uses	
North:	Use: Rural residential
	Zone: RS-3 One Family Rural Residential
	Designation: Rural Residential.
South:	Use: Rural residential
	Zone: RS-3 One Family Rural Residential
	Designation: Rural Residential.
East:	Use: Rural residential
	Zone: RS-3 One Family Rural Residential
	Designation: Rural Residential.
West:	Use: Rural residential



Zone:	71% RS-3 One Family Rural Residential, 29% One Family Urban Residential
Designation	Rural Residential
Existing Use of Property:	Historic cemetery or family burial site.
Proposed Use of Property:	no change
Site Area:	902 m <sup>2</sup>
Access:	fronts on Byrnes Road
Servicing:	Site Servicing.
Site Area:	907 M <sup>2</sup>
Access:	Through adjacent property

**b) - Project Description:**

The purpose of this application is to protect the site and unmarked graves in perpetuity from disturbance. The subject property is located on Byrnes Road in Whonnock with a site area of approximately 900 square meters. The south and west sides of the property are bordering on a private lot. The northeast side is steeply sloped, which limits access to Byrnes Road. Due to this topography, in its current state, the site can only be accessed through adjacent privately owned lands. This application does not propose to improve access to the site.

**a) Historical Significance**

A remnant of the original Crown Grant for 153 acres (Lot 433), the property remains under the ownership of one of the first settlers of Maple Ridge, Robert Robertson. Robertson first came to the community in about 1860 from his native Scotland. He died in 1912 and was likely the last to be buried in this cemetery. The graves are unmarked, but burials there are known to date back to the 1880's. Records indicate that at least 10 people are buried there. Tuberculosis was the most prevalent cause of death.

Although precise records are not available, it is likely that the site was initially used for burials of Robertson babies and young children as early as the 1860's. The known names of the deceased include:

- Celestine Robertson (child), who likely died in the 1870's
- Mary Robertson (child), who likely died in the 1870's
- William Robert Robertson, death by hanging, was buried in 1884
- Tselatsetenate Robertson, Robert's Stö:lo wife died of tuberculosis around 1886
- Andrew Robertson, tuberculosis, who died in 1888
- Andrina Robertson, tuberculosis, who died in 1896
- Jennie Elizabeth Garner (child), tuberculosis, who died in 1900
- Pearle Garner (child), who died in 1900
- William Henry Garner, died after a brawl in 1910.

Probably the last to be buried in this family graveyard was Robert Robertson, who was put to rest on Friday, 3 May 1912.

The historical significance of this site has been emphasized by the Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission, who passed the following resolution at their June 4, 2007 meeting:

That the property, Robertson's Land, be placed on the heritage registry with the goal to protect and acquire the site as a cemetery in perpetuity.

Local Historian Fred Braches has published a newsletter on the lives of this pioneering family<sup>1</sup>. Pertinent sections are attached as Appendix B

### Planning Analysis

#### Official Community Plan:

An amendment to the Official Community Plan will be required in order to rezone the subject property to P-6 Civic Institutional. This measure is generally supported in the Official Community Plan under Policy 4 - 35 which states:

*An Institutional use may be considered in rural areas provided that the use, character, and related programs of the operation respects rural character, is sited to minimize conflicts with adjacent rural neighbours, and existing on - site services and infrastructure can support the use.*

This application will not change the existing use of the subject property and is therefore considered compatible within its Rural Context.

#### Subdivision and Servicing Bylaw:

Within the urban area, full urban services are required in the P-6 Civic Institutional Zone but these requirements may be exempted in rural areas. In this case, these exemptions are appropriate, as the property will continue to be used only passively and therefore will not generate significant demands on the existing infrastructure.

An amendment to the Official Community Plan requires the local government to consult with any affected parties and to adopt related bylaws in compliance with the procedures outlined in Section 882 of the Act. The amendment required for this application, (for institutional use), is considered to be minor in nature. It has been determined that no additional consultation beyond existing procedures is required, including referrals to the Board of the Regional District, the Council of an adjacent municipality, First Nations, the School District or agencies of the Federal and Provincial Governments.

The amendment has been reviewed with the Financial Plan/Capital Plan and the Waste Management Plan of the Metro Vancouver Regional District and determined to have no impact.

#### b) Legal Context

There are three potential courses of action that offer some protection to this site:

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<sup>1</sup> Fred Braches, Whonnock Notes "Robert Robertson & Tselatsetenat", No. 7, Winter 2000/2001, Whonnock B.C.

- 1.) Do nothing. The site will be given some protection under the Cremation, Internment and Funeral Services Act, Section 19 (2), which states:

*(2) A person must not disinter or remove human remains, or any part of human remains, from the place they are interred unless the disinterment or removal is in accordance with*

- (a) this Act, the Coroners Act and the regulations under those Acts, or*
- (b) a permit or an order under the Heritage Conservation Act.*

The disadvantage to this approach is that although protected legally, there is always a threat that the site could "fall through the cracks" without formal identification as a burial site. In the absence of visible grave markers, this site may be especially vulnerable to disturbance. In addition, without land dedication, the District of Maple Ridge will still be required to remit taxes on the subject property. For these reasons, this approach is not recommended.

- 2.) Establishing the site as a place of internment. This measure would formalize the use of the site as a cemetery, and offer the greatest protection. The difficulty with this approach is that proof of ownership or the intention to acquire the site is a requirement of this application process. The District does not own this site, but does have a charge registered against the site as being sold for taxes. For a few reasons, ownership has not been transferred to the District. Legal Counsel advises that such a transfer could be found invalid if legally challenged. As it stands, there are known descendants of Robert Robertson still living; however, their legal claim to this site would have to be established before a property transfer could take place for this purpose.

The application process for the establishment of a place of internment is fairly onerous, with a submission of information requirement that is comparable to a rezoning or subdivision application. Council may wish to consider this option at some point.

- 3.) Dedicate the site as a Heritage site. Section 968 of the Local Government Act establishes guidelines for local governments wishing to designate by bylaw property for the purposes of heritage protection. Before a heritage designation bylaw is adopted, the local government must hold a public hearing on the proposed bylaw for the purpose of allowing affected parties and the general public to make representations respecting matters contained in the proposed bylaw. The legislation establishes grounds for adequate notification to property owners, and the general public through newspaper advertisements. Both the Land Title Office and the Minister responsible must be notified after adoption of a heritage designation bylaw in accordance with section 977 of the Local Government Act.

Property owners are entitled to compensation should the designation cause a reduction in the market value of the property. Although a consideration, designating this subject property should make little difference in its market value, as the site is already protected from development under the Cremation, Internment, and Funeral Services Act.

Designating the subject property as a heritage site appears to offer the greatest amount of protection from disturbance without requiring an onerous legal process to establish rightful ownership of the site. The heritage designation status becomes registered on title, and this step, when combined with a rezoning and a land use designation amendment of the subject site, offers a three tiered approach to its conservation. For this reason, this option is the recommended approach.

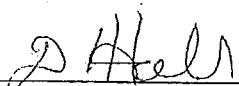
c) Interdepartmental Implications:

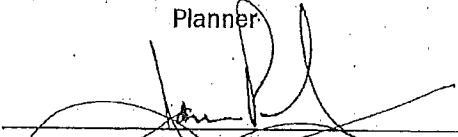
Finance Department The Finance Department notes a few problems with the subject property with its current status. Without an official heritage designation, the property still accrues taxes, the burden of which falls to the Municipality to cover, (as the owner is deceased). By designating the property as a municipal heritage site, this issue will be addressed.

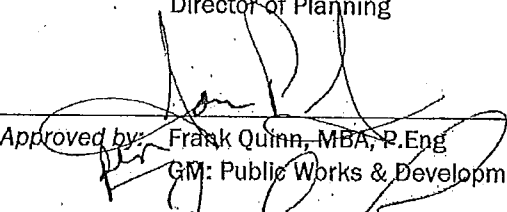
Parks and Leisure Services. The Department has investigated the best approach for protecting the site in perpetuity, and concurs with the recommended option as identified in this report.

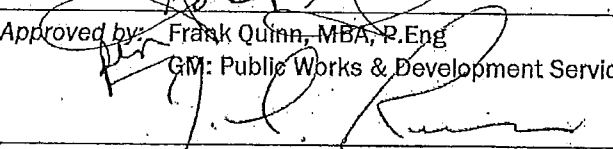
CONCLUSION:

The Robertson Family burial site has been identified as historically significant and vulnerable to disturbance, unless formally protected. A range of options have been provided, and it is recommended that a three pronged approach be approved, involving dedicating the property as a heritage site, redesignating the site as institutional, and rezoning the site to P-6 Civic Institutional. Council may in the future request to acquire the site as an additional measure to protect it in perpetuity.

  
Prepared by: Diana Hall  
Planner

  
Approved by: Jane Pickering, MCP, MCIP  
Director of Planning

  
Approved by: Frank Quinn, MBA, P.Eng  
GM: Public Works & Development Services

  
Concurrence: J. L. (Jim) Rule  
Chief Administrative Officer

The following appendices are attached hereto:

Appendix A – Subject Map

Appendix B – OCP Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008

Appendix C – Zone Amending Bylaw No. 6607-2008

Appendix D – Heritage Designation Bylaw 6622-2008

Appendix E – Newsletter Article



## Appendix B – OCP Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008

## CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF MAPLE RIDGE

BYLAW NO. 6606-2008.

## A Bylaw to amend the Official Community Plan

WHEREAS Section 882 of the Local Government Act provides that the Council may revise the Official Community Plan;

AND WHEREAS It is deemed desirable to amend Schedule "B" to the Official Community Plan;

NOW THEREFORE, the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the District of Maple Ridge, in open meeting assembled, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Maple Ridge Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw No. 6606-2008."
2. That parcel or tract of land and premises known and described as:  
  
Byrnes Road Roll # 94697-0100-0 (Robertson Family Cemetery.)  
  
and outlined in heavy black line on Map No.765, a copy of which is attached hereto and forms part of this Bylaw, is hereby redesignated to Institutional.
3. Maple Ridge Official Community Plan Bylaw No.6425-2006 is hereby amended accordingly.

READ A FIRST TIME the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. 200.

PUBLIC HEARING HELD the            day of            , A.D. 200 .

READ A SECOND TIME the      day of      , A.D. 200 .

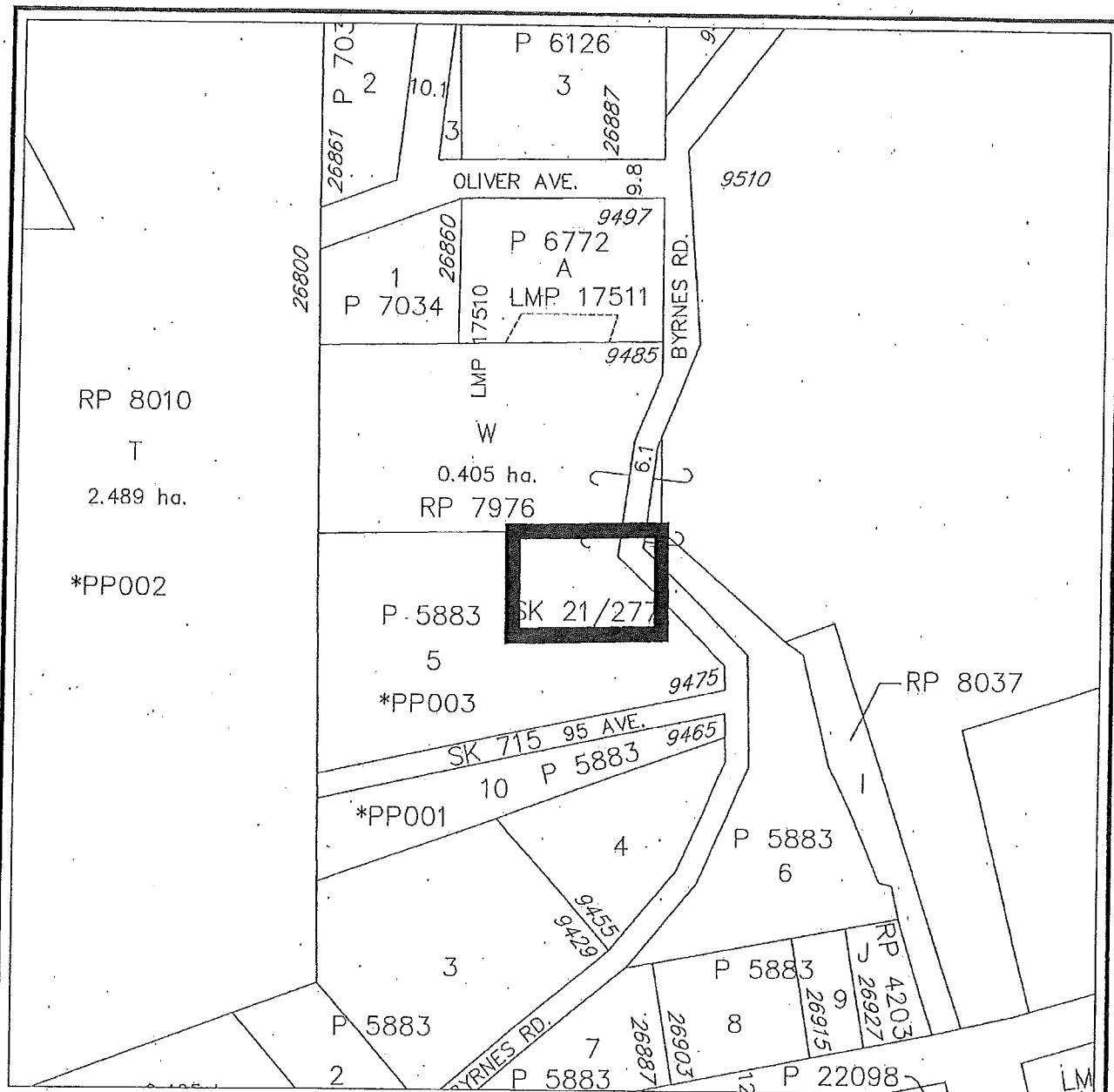
READ A THIRD TIME the      day of      , A.D. 200.

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED, the                      day of                      , A.D. 200 .

MAYOR

CORPORATE

OFFICER



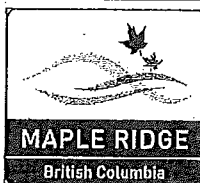
# MAPLE RIDGE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDING

Bylaw No. 6606-2008

Map No. 765

From: Rural Residential

To: Institutional



1:1500



Appendix C - Zone Amending Bylaw No. 6607-2008

CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF MAPLE RIDGE

BYLAW NO. 6607-2008

A Bylaw to amend Map "A" forming part  
of Zoning Bylaw No. 3510 - 1985 as amended.

WHEREAS, it is deemed expedient to amend Maple Ridge Zoning Bylaw No. 3510 - 1985 as amended;

NOW THEREFORE, the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the District of Maple Ridge, in open meeting assembled, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Bylaw may be cited as "Maple Ridge Zone Amending Bylaw No. 6607-2008."

2. That/Those parcel (s) or tract (s) of land and premises known and described as:

Byrnes Road Roll # 94697-0100-0 (Robertson Family Cemetery.)

and outlined in heavy black line on Map No. 1437, a copy of which is attached hereto and forms part of this Bylaw, is/are hereby rezoned to P-6 (Civic Institutional)

3. Maple Ridge Zoning Bylaw No. 3510 - 1985 as amended and Map "A" attached thereto are hereby amended accordingly.

READ a first time the       day of       , A.D. 200 .

PUBLIC HEARING held the       day of       , A.D. 200 .

READ a second time the       day of       , A.D. 200 .

READ a third time the       day of       , A.D. 200 .

APPROVED by the Minister of Transportation this       day of       , A.D. 200 .

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED, the       day of       , A.D. 200 .

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDING MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
CORPORATE OFFICER



CORPORATE OFFICER



## THE LITTLE CEMETERY ON THE HILL

...And a quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.<sup>1</sup>

THE SITE of the Robertson family cemetery was clearly marked on the older maps as a cemetery. It is a small plot of land only measuring some 87 by 125 feet. On the map of the Corporation of the District of Maple Ridge the land is marked SK 21/277 and it is identified at the Land Titles Office as 21/277 4455<sup>2</sup>. It needs again to be identified as a cemetery in the municipal records and shown as a cemetery on the municipal maps. The land is still registered to the Robertsons.<sup>3</sup>

Who was the first to be buried here? It is likely that Robertson babies and young children found their way here already in the 1860s. We know that two daughters of Robert and Tselatsetenate died in the 1870s. An infant CHELSTINE<sup>4</sup> was baptized in 1870, and an earlier child called Mary, was baptized in 1874. Both are not shown in the 1881 Census.

The *British Columbian* reported that WILLIAM ROBERT ROBERTSON was buried in New Westminster (see Figure 5, page 15), but Richard Whiting, who was postmaster in Whonnock as from 1907, thought that this Robertson was buried in Whonnock in 1884.<sup>5</sup>

TSELATSETENATE, Robert's 16:10 wife died of tuberculosis around 1886. Her son, ANDREW ROBERTSON also died of tuberculosis in 1888. ANDRINA ROBERTSON, the wife of Charles Garner, died of the terrible disease in 1896. They were buried here.

Little JENNIE ELIZABETH GARNER, the five-year old daughter of Barbara Christine, was another victim of tuberculosis. She died in 1900. Buried with her was another child of Barbara and Henry; PEARLE GARNER was born and died one day before her sister died in 1900.

The *Fraser Valley Record* mentioned "a burial of a baby in the private burial ground" in Whonnock in October 1909, but we don't know yet who it was.

WILLIAM HENRY GARNER, Barbara Christine's husband who died in a brawl in the Nikomen area, also rests here. He was buried in February 1910. "The widow and children and many relations were present at the grave."<sup>6</sup>

Probably the last to be buried in this family graveyard was ROBERT ROBERTSON himself. He was put to rest on Friday, 3 May 1912, and "there was a large attendance both of old-timers and new-comers, from some of whom he received, during his prolonged illness, many kindnesses."<sup>7</sup>

Today there are no gravestones or other signs showing that this is a cemetery. It is a small part of an ordinary garden, an extension of a well-kept lawn, covered with ivy. The Robertson family cemetery is a historic cemetery. It is therefore registered by the Municipality of Maple Ridge as a heritage resource. What else can be done to assure that future generations don't disturb the peace of these early pioneers?<sup>8</sup>



CHELSTINE ROBERTSON  
MARY ROBERTSON  
WILLIAM ROBERT ROBERTSON  
TSELATSETENATE ROBERTSON  
ANDREW ROBERTSON  
ANDRINA ROBERTSON  
JENNIE ELIZABETH GARNER  
PEARLE GARNER  
WILLIAM HENRY GARNER  
ROBERT ROBERTSON

<sup>1</sup>The last sentence of *Sea-Fever* by John Masefield, a poem Robert Robertson liked to recite.

<sup>2</sup>"I have confirmed with Land Titles that the land referred to is indeed still registered to the Robertsons." Letter from Cemetery and Funeral Services dated 13 November 1998.

<sup>3</sup>Whiting told Brian Byrnes that "there was one there with a knife in his back and another with a rope around his neck."

<sup>4</sup>*Fraser Valley Record*, Vol. 4, February 10, 1910. (see Whonnock Notes No. 1)

<sup>5</sup>*Experiences in Langley and Memoirs of Prominent Pioneers*, Rev. A. Dunn, 1913. See Appendix 2.

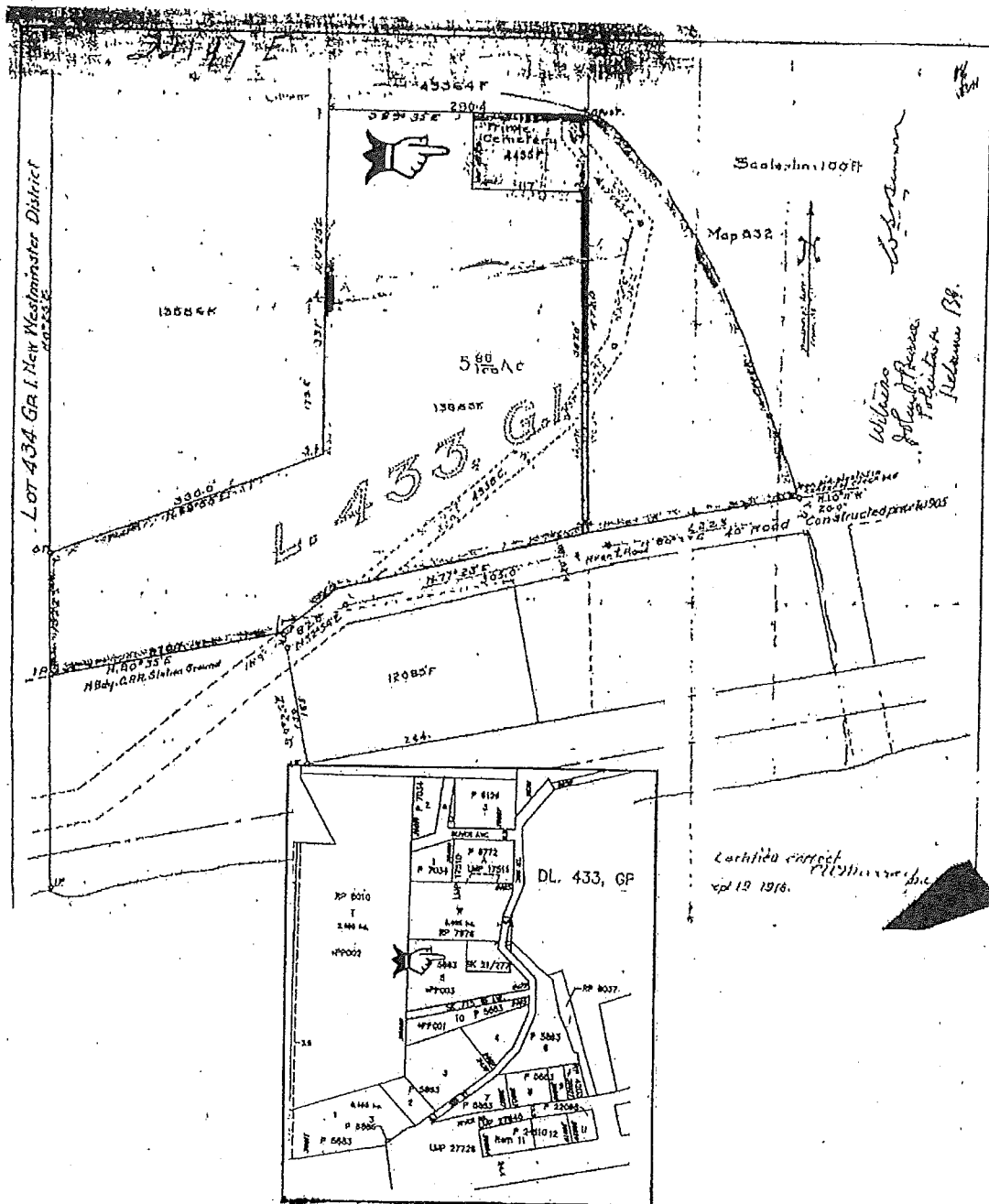


Figure 13. The map dated September 1916 shows the future 269th Street, ending at the Robertson family cemetery. In 1937, the right-of-way—still shown on this map—leading from the former Robertson property on River Road to the cemetery, was sold by Barbara (Robertson) Garner to the owners of the land through which it leads. The insert is a detail of a recent cadastral map of the Municipality of Maple Ridge. The cemetery is the lot numbered SK 21/277. Today the graveyard is no longer marked as a cemetery, as it should. There is no direct access to the cemetery. Permission for access by the owners of the adjacent land is required.

*Community Heritage Commission - Tuesday, April 7, 2015*

#### 4. DELEGATIONS

##### 4.1 Fred Braches – Robertson Family Cemetery

Mr. Braches made a presentation on the Robertson Family Cemetery located on private property in Whonnock. Robert Robertson came to Canada from Scotland and worked for the Hudson's Bay Company in northern BC before settling in Whonnock. Mr. Braches gave an overview of the history of the property and of the Robertson family members buried in the cemetery. Mr. Braches expressed his hope that additional protection can be obtained for the site (currently protected under a municipal heritage designation bylaw). The Staff Liaison provided information on the steps to apply for provincial "place of interment" status.

*Cyndy Johnson-McCormick entered the meeting at 7:07 pm.*

#### 5. FINANCE

##### 5.1 March 18 Meeting with Finance Dept.

On March 18<sup>th</sup> the Chair, the Staff Liaison, Councillor Speirs and Jim Charlebois, Manager of Community Planning met with Catherine Nolan, Manager of Accounting. The Chair provided a summary of the meeting to the Commission, including a discussion on the timing of budget approvals. The Commission reviewed the current budget.

R15-015 It was moved and seconded  
That the Budget be approved as presented.

CARRIED

#### 6. CORRESPONDENCE - Nil

#### 7. NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

It was decided to deal with Item 7.3 Robertson Family Cemetery as the first item of New & Unfinished Business.

##### 7.3 Robertson Family Cemetery

R15-016 It was moved and seconded  
That it be recommended to Council that the Robertson Burial Site be established as a place of interment.

CARRIED

##### 7.1 Membership

###### 7.1.1 Calendar

The Chair reviewed the information contained in the Commission calendar. The Membership list was reviewed. The Committee Clerk will update and redistribute the membership list.

##### 7.2 CHC Update to Council – March 24, 2015

The presentation went well. Format ideas for future presentations were discussed. A request was made to have the electronic presentation made available on the CHC website at <http://www.mapleridge.ca/128/Community-Heritage-Commission>

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## City of Maple Ridge

### *Public Works & Development Services - Community Heritage Commission* Business Plan 2019 – 2023

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#### **Committee Purpose**

- The Community Heritage Commission (CHC) is appointed for the purpose of advising the Council on heritage conservation matters for the advancement of heritage conservation in the City.
- The CHC, as a Committee of Council, serves as interface between Council, City staff and the larger community, bringing diverse skills and heritage interests to the implementation of the CHC mandate.
- The CHC implements the Community Heritage Plan 2013 – 2020 with the mandate to:
  - Align the vision and work-plan of the CHC with the heritage policies in the Official Community Plan;
  - Define a clear pathway for the CHC to achieve a heritage vision;
  - Inspire community engagement in local heritage conservation;
  - Increase public awareness of the community benefits of heritage conservation and infrastructure;
  - Promote the development of heritage infrastructure; and
  - Identify the gaps in the existing heritage management program and using this to inform the CHC work plan.

#### **Committee Structure and Members**

- The CHC is made up of one member from Council, two members from the Maple Ridge Historical Society and members from the community-at-large (appointed by Council).

#### **Business Perspective/Environmental Scan**

- The CHC uses the Heritage Plan document, endorsed by Council in 2013, to help guide the work program for each year. While striving to achieve the community's goals for heritage, the plan does recognize that flexibility is important in order to take advantage of new opportunities that arise in any given year.
- The Plan continues to support the CHC's use of the strong framework that Maple Ridge has built for education and conservation. This year, the CHC Business Plan includes a provision to formally review the Heritage Plan in 2019. Meanwhile, the current Business Plan aligns with the Heritage Plan.
- CHC continues to advocate for the security of and access to the re-housed municipal historic archives. The CHC celebrates the successful move of the collection to interim housing.
- The CHC continues to develop an improved response to financial planning and constraints.
- The CHC intends to continue working towards an effective heritage communication strategy that will include providing City staff and the community with digital access to historic records of the CMR, such as early Council meeting minutes and municipal bylaws, and the updated Heritage Inventory.

#### **Ongoing Deliverables**

- Annual Heritage Week Celebration and Education (with community partners), third week in February, includes Heritage Awards event, workshop, walking tours, History Is...Conversation.
- Heritage Marker Inventory (with Parks, Recreation and Culture Department) database maintenance and promotion.
- Open Archives Digitization Project (with Clerks Department and community partners): Phase I - Inventory, and Phase II - Cataloguing



- Updates to Heritage documentation such as the Heritage Register.
- Communications including: heritage brochures and advertising, Heritage Here newsletter, participation in community events and projects.
- Local Voices - Neighbours Talking with Neighbours Program (in partnership with Maple Ridge Public Library).
- Liaison with Heritage organizations including: British Columbia Historical Federation, British Columbia Museums Association, and Heritage BC.

#### Found Milestones

- Collaboration with the Public Art Steering Committee provided funds to install a power box wrap outlining the Merkley family history.
- Participated in Family Literacy Day in partnership with Historical Society and Family History Group.
- Financial support to the Maple Ridge Library for the purchase of a new microfilm machine.
- Promotion of heritage through participation in local events including the History Goes to Market at the Haney Farmer's Market, Haney House restoration, Maple Ridge Park Play Box launch and Culture Days.

#### Prior Years' Deliverables

Action Item	Status or Outcome	% Complete (and ETA if not 100%)
Update the Heritage Inventory	Final updated Heritage Inventory document submitted by consultant.	100% Q3 2018
Encourage the production of Statements of Significance to support the maintenance of the Heritage Inventory and facilitate promotion of tangible and intangible heritage features to the Heritage Register	A consultant has been hired to prepare 10 new Statements of Significance that will be added to the Heritage Register.	75% Q4 2018
Having the updated Heritage Inventory available for use by interested parties and to restore its value as a community resource	The 2018 Heritage Inventory is available electronically on the City website.	100% Q3 2018
To partner with other community groups and agencies in the community to plan celebrations of Canada's 150 Anniversary in 2017.	Geocaches will be maintained by CHC for three years. Materials for restocking are in store.	90% Q4 2019
Heritage Marker Inventory Update	ACCESS database has been updated. Transfer to GIS for online mapping is ongoing.	80% Q4 2018
Open Access Digitization Project Phase I	Phase I is substantially completed. As archives have been moved, some double checking is still required.	80% Q2 2018

Action Item	Status or Outcome	% Complete (and ETA if not 100%)
Host CHC Networking Conference with Heritage BC	On hold pending Heritage BC Intentions.	2017- Q4 2019
Field Trip:  Each year the CHC strives to sponsor and organize a field trip for CHC members, City Council and staff, Maple Ridge Historical Society, and community at large to broaden understanding and appreciation of heritage.	Cancelled	Q4 2018
Communications Strategy Task Force  CHC is mandated in Year 1 (2013) of The Heritage Plan to develop and implement a Communications Strategy. CHC has yet to achieve this goal and will contact other committees of Council to see if they have similar needs and want to enter a partnership on this project.	To be included in 2019 Deliverables.	0%  Q4 2018
British Columbia 160  CHC will identify opportunities to participate in provincial celebration of the declaration of the Colony of British Columbia in 1858 at Fort Langley.	On hold pending provincial plans.	0%  Q4 2018
Maple Ridge 150 Celebration Planning  Maple Ridge was incorporated as a municipality in 1874 and became a city in 2014. Both occasions are worthy of celebration and the CHC will start discussions on planning for community events.	On Hold pending civic plans.	0%  Q4 2018
Heritage Incentives Review  Supports for heritage property owners, including the City of Maple Ridge, will be reviewed and publicized to encourage tangible recognition and conservation of local heritage assets.	Scope of project and detailed work plan has been determined.	20% Q2 2019
Heritage Conservation Master Plan  The Master Plan will provide a coherent management and development tool for municipally and privately owned heritage assets.	RFP drafted and planned for Fall 2018 release.	10% Q2 2019

**New Deliverables for 2019** (*highlights only*) – Any incomplete items from prior years may also form part of the 2019 workplan.

Action Item	Lead	ETA
Review Heritage Plan	CHC	Q3 2019



## Interoffice Memorandum

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To: Community Heritage Commission  
From: Amelia Bowden, Planner 1  
Date: October 11, 2018  
Subject: Digitization Update – Internal Staff Discussion Summary

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Total Budget Allocation: \$8,000.00  
Spent to Date: \$4,412.50 (2016 contract hours)  
Current Budget Allocation: \$6,000.00

### Meetings:

September 17, 2018 Present: Amelia Bowden, Brent Elliott, Stephanie Nichols  
October 3, 2018 Present: Amelia Bowden, Brent Elliott, Stephanie Nichols, Lisa Zosiak

### Email Correspondence:

Emily Lonie, City of Coquitlam Archives City Archivist  
Anna Jubilo, Arts Co-op Program Graduate Programs Coordinator (includes UBC iSchool – Library, Archival and Information Studies)

Purpose: Determine next steps for digitization project

### Summary:

- The City of Maple Ridge has been in discussion with the UBC Library & Archives Masters Program and the City of Coquitlam Archivist to seek guidance on CHC's Digitization Project.
- Emily Lonie, Coquitlam Archivist, recommends that a professional complete this work, as these are the City's most important historical records. Alternatively, a UBC student under supervision of a professional could complete this work.
- The Digitization Project is a good fit with the UBC Library, Archival and Information Studies Masters co-op program, however the employment term is 13 weeks and \$6,000 would not be sufficient.
- Co-op terms start in January, May and September
- UBC does not require an Archivist to oversee the work.
- Co-op work placements have funding opportunities through Young Canada Works, deadline is annually in January. Funds 50% of staff costs up to \$8,000.
- Local government is not eligible for Library & Archives Canada grants

Options for CHC Consideration:

1. Planning Department to apply for Young Canada Works grant to secure up to 50% of staff costs (max \$8,000). If successful, post a co-op position for May 2019 with UBC Library, Archival and Information Studies Student.

Pros	Cons
Student has knowledge of Archives Profession	City does not have an Archivist to supervise, which is recommended by Emily
Funding Opportunities Exist	Not professional Archivist
Scope fits with Co-op Program	Subject to funding
Provides student work experience	Timing of work start
	Disruption of already fragile/damaged records could result in declining condition
	Archives would remain in an un-controlled environment

2. Re-allocate \$6,000 budget to a different CHC project, such as the Robertson's Cemetery.

Pros	Cons
CHC has identified other projects of importance	Does not achieve CHC's digitization goals

3. Pool \$6,000 budget with Clerks Department budget to have a portion of the archives (ex: Collector Rolls) scanned and stored off-site, with digital copies uploaded to the City's website.

Pros	Cons
Would ensure preservation, as records are stored in a secured and controlled environment	Smaller scope of work due to budget
Provide public access to digital records in a short time frame	
Professional standards ensure health and safety guidelines are followed	
No requirement for staff supervision as work is done off-site	

4. Hire a contractor to review and update the inventory prepared by Kelsey.

Pros	Cons
Lowest staff cost	Would not have knowledge of Archives, therefore errors could be made for future work.
	Disruption of already fragile/damaged records could result in declining condition
	May cause issues with HR and Union Hiring Practice
	May need additional staff supervision
	Not recommended in conversation with Coquitlam Archivist
	Archives would remain in an un-controlled environment