

## City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For further information, contact: Frank Quinn at 604-467-7359 <u>fquinn@mapleridge.ca</u>

## City of Maple Ridge to Name Street in Honour of Home Town Hero Jim Robson

Maple Ridge, BC: On Tuesday, December 5 Maple Ridge Council will begin the formal process to rename the section of 105 Avenue from Lougheed Highway to the traffic circle at Tamarack Lane to 'Jim Robson Way.'

"This is a project that we have had in the works since 2016, and the opportunity to do the dedication ceremony with BC broadcasting legend Jim Robson as part of the celebration of the Ridge Meadows Minor Hockey Association's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on January 27, 2018 seems like the perfect fit," said Mayor Nicole Read. "We are so proud to be able to formally announce this tribute. Jim Robson is an incredible ambassador for our community and was one of the first Maple Ridge citizens inducted as part of the 'Home Town Hero' program. Beyond that, he was the voice of hockey for British Columbia and every broadcaster working today cites Mr. Robson as a role model. Planet Ice is the home of hockey in Maple Ridge and it seems fitting that the way to our arenas will soon be known as Jim Robson Way."

"I'm humbled by this news," said Jim Robson. "I have such fond memories of growing up in this community. I was concerned that they were naming a street after me when there were so many incredible athletes that have come from Maple Ridge that surely I shouldn't be a priority. I was reminded that the City has the Greg Moore Youth Centre, Cam Neely Arena at Planet Ice, Larry Walker Park in Hammond and has recently dedicated the Karina LeBlanc Field at Merkely Park. My wife told me to shut up and say thank you, so that's what I'm doing."

He added, "I'm thrilled that this will be part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ridge Meadows Minor Hockey Association. I remember when the Centennial Arena was built 50 years ago and I am

proud of the Association that has produced eight NHL players and of the fact that the Stanley Cup has come to Maple Ridge three times, twice with Andrew Ladd and once with Cam Neely as President of the Boston Bruins. Maple Ridge should be very proud of its hockey history."

"We are thrilled that the street naming ceremony for Jim Robson Way will be part of the Ridge Meadows Minor Hockey Association 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Saturday, January 27, 2018. After the dedication ceremony event Mr. Robson has agreed to be part of the on-ice celebration and puck drop at the beginning of the Ridge Meadows Flames game that will cap off a full day of games and activities. We want to pack the house to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and BC broadcasting legend Jim Robson," said Derek Gullmes, Vice President of the RMMHA. "We will announce the full day's events and schedules right after Christmas. It will be a very special day."

For more information about the Jim Robson Way Street naming please contact Frank Quinn, General Manager: Public Works & Development Services by email at <u>fquinn@mapleridge.ca</u> or by phone at 604-467-7359.