

City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For further information, contact: Yvonne Chui at 604-467-7415 ychui@mapleridge.ca

Maple Ridge Council Supports Community Festivals With Over \$75,000 in Grants

Maple Ridge, BC: On February 13, Maple Ridge Council allocated \$76,620 in grants to support 14 civic events and community festivals that will run from May 1 through to October 31, 2018. A second round of grants, totalling just over \$14,000, will be awarded later in the year for festivals and events that run from November 1 through to the end of the year.

"On behalf of Council I would like to thank the volunteers who work tirelessly to create and run these amazing civic events and festivals in our community. These events bring people together to celebrate agriculture, our environment, our diversity, our history, the arts and our incredible spirit of volunteerism in Maple Ridge. We are proud to support these events through the Festival Grant program," said Mayor Nicole Read.

"I would like to thank Council for their support of the Festival Grants program. We are building on one of the strongest years we have had for event attendance, numbers of volunteers and volunteer hours invested by our citizens to run these events," said Yvonne Chui, Manager of Arts & Community Connections. "In addition to creating a sense of pride of community these festivals attract tourism from around the region and create economic opportunities for local businesses. All signs point to 2018 being another record year!"

The list of grant recipients includes (in alphabetical order):

AdStock

Bard on the Bandstand/Emerald Pig Theatrical Society

Canada Day

Caribbean Festival

Celebrate the Night

Children's Festival/Family Fest

Country Fest/Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows Agricultural Association

GETI Fest

Haney Farmers Market

Multiculturalism Day/ Family Education & Support Centre

Music on the Wharf/Maple Ridge Historical Society

National Indigenous People's Day (formerly known as Aboriginal Day)

Remembrance Day

Rivers Day/Alouette River Management Society

For more information about the 2018 festival grants allocations and how to apply for the second round of grants for events in the fall of 2018 please contact Yvonne Chui, Recreation Manager Arts & Community Connections, by email at <u>ychui@mapleridge.ca</u> or by phone at 604-467-7415.

Citizens who would like to volunteer their time to civic events and community festivals are encouraged to contact Kathryn Baird, Coordinator – Special Events & Volunteers at kbaird@mapleridge.ca or 604-467-7459. Maple Ridge's festivals and events are richer for the passion, skills and hours our volunteers invest in the community.