

CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 24, 2020 #20-02

For further information, contact: Mayor Morden at 604-463-5221 <u>communications@mapleridge.ca</u>

Hometown Hero Larry Walker Inducted Into MLB Hall of Fame

Maple Ridge, BC: The City of Maple Ridge would like to congratulate Larry Walker Junior on his induction into the MLB Hall of Fame. Many across the community and the nation watched as Larry Jr. displayed humility and grace as he was interviewed to discuss the magnitude of his achievements as a professional baseball player.

A consummate athlete, Larry Jr.'s skill as a goaltender in his youth took him to the Junior Hockey level. Choosing baseball over hockey, Larry Jr. focused on a path less travelled for Canadian kids and began his assent in the ranks of baseball.

Larry was an early inductee to the Maple Ridge Home Town Heroes program. As part of the 2015 upgrade to the Larry Walker Field in Hammond, where the Walkers grew up, a public art piece was added that honours both Larry Sr. and Jr. for inspiring youth in our community to participate in baseball.

"It's always great to listen to proud parents talk about their kids achievements, it was a special moment hearing Larry Walker Sr.'s reaction to the announcement, said Mayor Morden. "This significant milestone of entering the ranks of Cooperstown is a well deserved recognition of a true baseball great.

Today the City celebrates an exemplary role model to sports players, one who is always ever so humble while attaining record breaking career achievements. Congratulations Larry Jr. and the Walker Family. This is truly a proud and historic moment for The City of Maple Ridge.