

CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2022 #22-06

For further information, contact: Danielle Pope at 604-467-7477 dapope@mapleridge.ca

Shaping Our Future: Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan

Maple Ridge, BC: The City of Maple Ridge is developing a new Parks, Recreation & Culture (PRC) Master Plan (Plan) to serve as a road map for services, programs, capital funding and infrastructure while providing Council and staff a point of reference to inform data-driven and transparent decisions. The Plan, intended to establish future priority projects and focus areas for the next 10+ years, will succeed the 2010 Plan created under the joint recreation model between the City of Maple Ridge and City of Pitt Meadows.

Maple Ridge is home to over 94,000 people and is expected to grow to 150,000 by 2050. The Plan will help manage the impact this growth will have on parks, recreation, services, infrastructure and arts/culture programs. The development of the Plan will also involve extensive community engagement using a variety of methods with most of the engagement occurring through the spring and summer of 2022. When a draft Plan is available, further community engagement will help to validate key content and directions.

Opportunities for engagement will include surveys, discussion sessions, online crowdsourcing, inperson sounding boards and more. The engagement strategy will also take into consideration demographic groups that may require unique methods of engagement or who are traditionally at risk of exclusion. The City is committed to creating a PRC Master Plan that truly captures the needs of the entire community while working to remove barriers to participation.

"Access to parks, recreation and culture are an integral part of a vibrant and thriving community," said Mayor Morden. "We have seen significant increased use throughout the pandemic with many reporting valuable benefits. The PRC Master Plan seeks to take stock of what we have, what people enjoy the most, as well what gaps we have yet to fill. Council is committed to meeting the

needs of a complete community right here at home and would really appreciate your feedback so we might understand what we need to do to build best in class for all."

The first opportunity to provide feedback on the PRC Master Plan is through a Resident Survey. Postcards with a QR code and instructions have been mailed and residents should receive them soon. It is also accessible through our website and a printed copy is available at select City locations.

For access to the Resident Survey, information on the process and Plan updates, visit <u>mapleridge.ca/prcmasterplan</u>. To ask questions, contact Danielle Pope, Director of Recreation & Community Engagement at <u>dapope@mapleridge.ca</u>.