



CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE
NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 5, 2023 #23-17

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Climate Action Summit to shape Maple Ridge's strategy

Maple Ridge, BC: Trailblazers who have led the way in developing municipal climate change strategies will join BC's Environment Minister and the head of SFU's Action on Climate Team (ACT) at the City of Maple Ridge Climate Action Summit on Thursday, April 13 at the Albion Community Centre.

The City of Maple Ridge is creating a climate action strategy, and the summit is part of its process to gather input from local, regional and provincial elected officials, Indigenous partners, experts and academics, community leaders, stakeholders and members of the public.

"Climate leadership and environmental stewardship is one of Council's strategic priorities as we know how important our natural environment is to our community," said Mayor Ruimy. "We also committed to work collaboratively to bring people together deal with these big issues. We are looking forward to learning from our speakers and panelists as well as hearing ideas from community leaders and partners on how we can do our part to address the impacts of climate change. Our current and future generations are counting on us."

The Honourable George Heyman, BC's Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy will open the summit as its keynote speaker, followed by remarks from Dr. Alison Shaw, Executive Director of the Action on Climate Team (ACT) at Simon Fraser University.

Both will also join a panel session with former City of Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson, Town of Gibsons Natural Asset Technician Michelle Lewis, FortisBC's Director of Renewable Gas & Low Carbon Fuels Dave Bennet, and Maple Ridge Mayor Dan Ruimy.

Two years ago, Edmonton City Council voted to implement its Community Energy Transition Strategy, which outlines how Edmonton will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Iveson was also behind the Edmonton Declaration that grew out of a climate change summit that the former Mayor had with international mayors in 2018.

The Town of Gibsons has demonstrated leadership in how it manages its natural assets and delivery of core municipal services by creating the world's first-ever Natural Asset Technician position.

The summit's afternoon session features smaller breakout sessions for community groups and stakeholders.

The Climate Action Summit is the first of three Leadership Summits being planned by the Mayor and Council for 2023. Affordable Housing and Economic Development will be the topics at the centre of the next two summits, which are currently in the planning stage.

For the agenda, registration details and more information about the one-day Climate Action Summit on April 13 visit the city website at www.mapleridge.ca/summit