

CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE NEWS RELEASE

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Maple Ridge Economic Development Summit Set for October 11

Maple Ridge, BC: The City of Maple Ridge will hear from business, economic, government and community leaders at the City's first Economic Development Summit on Wednesday, October 11 at the ACT Arts Centre located downtown next to City Hall.

Mayor Dan Ruimy and Council will engage with key economic partners and community members to build valuable connections, identify economic opportunities for the city and discuss practical action plans to ensure growth and retention of business investment as Maple Ridge expands.

The Honourable Brenda Bailey, BC Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation will open the summit as the keynote speaker.

"With the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley population expected to rapidly grow in the next decade, our central location in the region makes Maple Ridge a prime, competitive location for business opportunities and new investment," said Mayor Ruimy. "Maple Ridge is a critical thoroughfare to move people and goods throughout the region. This summit is part of a proactive effort to act now and ensure our community is well-positioned to manage population growth, nurture a strong economy and diversify our tax base, while still preserving the quality of life that our residents cherish."

Two panel discussions in the morning will be followed by a business showcase and an innovation awards presentation. A detailed event program will be announced soon.

The Economic Development Summit is the third in a series of Leadership Summits organized this year by the Mayor and Council. A Climate Action Summit was held in April, followed by a Housing Affordability Summit in May.

For more information or registration details for the one-day Economic Development Summit on October 11, visit <u>www.mapleridge.ca/summit</u>