

NEWS RELEASE



Maple Ridge

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information, contact:
Michelle Adams - Director, Bylaw, Licensing & Community Safety
T 604 467 7370 E madams@mapleridge.ca

MAPLE RIDGE OPENS WARMING CENTRE

MAPLE RIDGE, January 12, 2024 ... Due to extreme cold temperatures forecast across the region for the weekend, the City of Maple Ridge is opening a daytime warming centre at the Greg Moore Youth Centre for anyone seeking relief from the cold.

This provides a warm location for those who have no place to go in the hours that emergency overnight shelters are not available. The City's Community Safety Officers are working with local agencies to ensure that residents who are vulnerable can access the warming centre.

Location and Operating Hours

The warming centre is located at the Greg Moore Youth Centre (11925 Haney Place) in Maple Ridge. The entrance to the Greg Moore Youth Centre is located on the south side of the Maple Ridge Leisure centre adjacent to Haney Place Mall.

The warming centre will be open to all residents who need a warm place to spend the day from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. from January 12 to 15 based on the current weather forecast. If the forecast changes, the warming centre operation may be extended.

This location is accessible by transit and located within 200 metres of the Maple Ridge Transit loop on Edge Street. Parking is available underground. Staff will provide water, warm drinks, washroom access and seating.

The City's recreation facilities and the Maple Ridge Public Library are also open for anyone to come into during normal operating hours.

Additional Resources Available to Residents

For anyone needing a warm shelter during the day and overnight, the Salvation Army is operating a Temporary Winter Shelter in partnership with Ridge Church - open 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. until April 30. They can accommodate guests with pets, carts and bikes and are welcoming people during the day through

this weather event. Heaters have also been set up at the Community Resources Hub during operating hours (Monday to Friday 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) for people to stay warm.

Outreach Services - The City's Community Safety Officers and Bylaw Officers along with community partners are also reaching out to people who are unhoused to let them know of available resources in the community.

Residents are also being reminded to take the following safety measures:

- Stay at home unless you absolutely need to travel when weather conditions are bad.
- Dress warmly and protect exposed skin by wearing a hat, scarf, mittens or gloves.
- Choose well-insulated and waterproof footwear with good traction to prevent falls.
- Check in on neighbours, family and friends that may need support.

Tips and information on how to stay safe during winter weather are available at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/preparedbc/know-your-hazards/severe-weather/storms>.

For more emergency prepared tips, visit mapleridge.ca/459.