

## City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Mayor Read Thanks MP Dan Ruimy for Ottawa Meetings

Maple Ridge, BC: On Monday, October 24 and Tuesday, October 25, 2016 Mayor Nicole Read led a small delegation to Ottawa to meet with Cabinet Ministers and key staff from a number of Government Ministries to present a request for financial support and leadership to advance a proposed Civic and Cultural Facility in downtown Maple Ridge.

"I want to thank our Member of Parliament Dan Ruimy, and his wonderful staff, for getting face-to-face meetings with members of cabinet and key leaders in Ottawa. The warm reception that we were given, along with solid advice on how to move forward with our proposal is an important part of shaping the next steps as we take this proposal from the concept and develop a tight business plan," said Mayor Nicole Read. "It was gratifying to see the level of understanding that the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries had around the issues facing Maple Ridge. It was obvious that MP Ruimy has been advocating for our community and had paved the way for a very productive two days of meetings."

"Building a stronger federal-municipal relationship is essential for our community to tackle the issues we face together. I am extraordinarily proud of our community and was thrilled Mayor Read and her team could join me in Ottawa to advocate for Maple Ridge directly to my colleagues. Her presence here in Ottawa has made a significant impact in raising the profile of Maple Ridge and developing a meaningful relationship with our Government" said Dan Ruimy, Member of Parliament for Pitt Meadows – Maple Ridge.

Mayor Read and CAO Ted Swabey met with the following Ministers:

- Minister Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure & Communities
- Minister Duclos, Minister of Families, Children & Social Development
- Minister Bennett, Minter of Indigenous & Northern Affairs
- MP Adam Vaughan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Intergovernmental Affairs)
- Brittany Kerr, British Columbia Desk to the Prime Minister
- MP Terry Duguid, Parliamentary Secretary to Families, Children & Social Development
- Nicholas Kang from the Ministry of Sports & Persons with Disabilities

At the end of the two day visit Mayor Read had the opportunity to meet briefly with the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister noted that his Ministers had been speaking about the video presentation that was shown at each of the meetings and that he looked forward to viewing it himself in the coming days.

For more information about the proposed Civic and Cultural Facility and to view the video presentation that was shown in Ottawa please go to <u>mapleridge.ca/1564</u>. For more information about the meetings please contact Mayor Nicole Read by email at <u>nread@mapleridge.ca</u> or by phone at 604-463-5221.