

City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Maple Ridge Named NAIOP 'Most Business Friendly Municipality' For Third Year

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On Thursday, November 23, 2017 the Metro Vancouver Chapter of the Commercial Real Estate Development Association (NAIOP) will present Maple Ridge Mayor Nicole Read with a NAIOP Award for Municipal Excellence recognizing Maple Ridge as the 'Most Business Friendly Municipality' in the region for the third consecutive year.

NAIOP has recognized the City due to two bylaws underway that, if implemented, will grow potential employment-designated land by 368 total acres, and continues the Employment Lands Investment Incentive program (ELIIP) recognized in the 2015 survey. The NAIOP Awards have been given out for the last six years by the Commercial Real Estate Development Association.

"Last year at the awards ceremony I shared that our Council has a strong focus on identifying and zoning lands for continued commercial and employment generating projects," said Mayor Read. "It is gratifying to see that the development industry is paying close attention to this important work. We are very proud to have the chance to showcase the opportunities for investment in Maple Ridge at the annual NAIOP Awards program.

"We are truly honoured to be recognized for the work that the City has done to enact Council's vision around creating greater employment opportunities in Maple Ridge. The identification of lands suitable for employment coupled with the Employment Land Incentive Program is a key part of attracting new jobs to our community," said Christine Carter, Director of Planning.

For more information about the award please contact Lino Siracusa, Manager of Economic Development for the City of Maple Ridge, via email to <u>Isiracusa@mapleridge.ca</u> or by phone at 604-467-7319.