

Welcome to our online Newsletter



Inspector Jim Wakely Passes Away

Memorial services were held Friday, February 20, 2009 to mourn the loss of a community steward and one of our finest leaders, Inspector Jim Wakely, Officer in Charge of Ridge Meadows RCMP Detachment.

With his family at his side, Inspector Wakely passed away on Friday, February 13, 2009. He had been battling cancer since the early summer of 2008.

Inspector Wakely joined the RCMP in 1974, and served in Prince Rupert, Nanaimo, Richmond, Surrey, and Coquitlam communities, in addition to Ridge Meadows Detachment. He was originally posted to Ridge Meadows in

1995 as the Corporal in charge of the local drug squad. He left the detachment in 1999 when he was promoted to Sergeant, returning in 2001 as a General Duty Watch Commander, and later moved into being in charge of the General Investigation Section, which investigates serious crimes. He was promoted to Staff Sergeant in 2002, again leaving Ridge Meadows. He returned in January 2006 when he was promoted to Inspector, and became the Officer in Charge.

Inspector Wakely had many accomplishments in his 34 plus years of policing, and was never afraid to face community issues head on. His formation of the Crime Reduction Unit, and his guidance, and vision, has reduced the number of victims in our community. Placing more resources back into the Traffic Services Section has dramatically reduced the number of injury crashes. Inspector Wakely had a keen sense of community involvement, and was always available for citizens of the two communities. Volunteering his own time to participate in different functions, and his organization of a community forum on concerns surrounding Fraser Street, North Avenue, and 224 Street in the Maple Ridge downtown core are just two examples.

He leaves behind his wife and three adult children.

Spirit Square

Work has commenced on 224 Street which includes widening of sidewalks, new street lighting, floral displays, water fountains and upgraded storm sewer and watermains with completion of construction scheduled by this June.

The Spirit of Sport in Our Communities

The spirit of sport shone brightly at the first workshop of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows new Sport & Outdoor Recreation Council. This workshop was part of a one year pilot project between Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Parks and Leisure Services and 2010 Legacies Now. This community networking event saw over 50 different stakeholders in different sports, businesses and service organizations connecting together about events, sponsorship, marketing and service opportunities.

This Council will act as a vehicle to capture and mobilize the positive energy and commitment to sport, outdoor recreation, active living and sport tourism opportunities in our communities. Look out for Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Sport & Outdoor Recreation Council initiatives coming soon! For more information contact Pauline Vandermoor, Sport & Fitness/ Active Communities Coordinator for Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Parks & Leisure Services at 604-467-7466 or pvandermoor@mapleridge.ca

A Wave of New Programs for Every Level of Fitness

Hit the water for new pre-registered aquafit programs to suit a variety of fitness levels and interests. We are proud to introduce several new programs including Healing Aquacise, Aqua Bootcamp and Fit for Two Prenatal Aquafit. Aquafit is an effective alternative for those who need a lower impact option of exercise or those looking for an excellent and challenging cardio workout to mix up their routine!

Find your inner yogi and Zen out in our new yoga programs; Flow Yoga, New to Yoga- Gentle Yoga, Tribal Yoga Dance, Prenatal Yoga, Hatha Yoga and Guided Meditation.

Moms and babies can now get active together! Also new to our catalogue of programs is Mom & Baby Aquafit, Mom & Baby Yoga and Parent & Toddler Yoga. Swim or stretch with your little one and keep active post partum.

We are now registering for Spring sessions so make sure to pick up the new Spring Arts & Recreation guide! To register visit www.recreg4u.ca call 604-465-2470, or see the front desk at the Maple Ridge Leisure Centre or Pitt Meadows Family Rec Centre.

St. Patrick's Day



Trivia of the Month

The Lougheed Highway was built by the Provincial Government, who still maintains it to this day. What year was it built?

Brush Chipping

The District of Maple Ridge will be accepting phone calls at 604-467-7363 between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm weekdays for the chipping and disposal of tree and shrub branches up to 150mm (6 in) in diameter.

- Calls will be taken for west of 224 Street from March 30–April 3.
- Calls will be taken for east of 224 Street from April 14–17.
- Pick-up for west of 224 Street runs from April 6–17.
- Pick up for east of 224 Street runs from April 20–24.

Note the Chipping Program coincides with [Backyard Burning](#) - allowed from April 15 to May 15 to give people an alternative.

In an effort to stay on schedule and in fairness to the majority of participants no late calls will be accepted, and oversized loads will not be picked up. If you require more information please call the Operations Centre at 604-467-7363.



The 2010 Vancouver Mascots came to play at the Leisure Centre on February 15 for the Spirit Bash, one of the highlights of Spirit Week. Sumi, Quatchi and Miga are seen here with the Rhythmic Gymnastics Club.

Special Events

Daylight Saving Time

Sunday, March 8

Following the new North American standard for Daylight Saving Time, clocks are to be turned forward by one hour on the second Sunday in March and turned back on the first Sunday of November.

Spring Programs are Here!

Register online at www.recreg4u.ca or call 604-465-2470. You can also view the Spring Arts & Recreation Guide [online](#).

For further information or to view other events throughout the year visit our [Website](#)

BC Disability Games

Wednesday, July 22–Sunday, July 26

"Hundreds of participants (athletes with disabilities, coaches, officials, and assistants) from all over British Columbia, will come together to participate in a multi-sport competitive event promoting and encouraging physical activity, individual achievement and awareness of abilities. This is our opportunity as a community to come together and celebrate the spirit, the courage, the determination and the achievement of these extraordinary athletes. It is these attributes which make the BC Disability Games such a remarkable event."

For a complete listing of events and games news or ways that citizens and corporate sponsors can get involved in the BC Disability Games visit the [website](#) or contact the Games office 604-465-0663.

GFOA Awards

The Canadian Award for Financial Reporting (CANFR) has been awarded to the District of Maple Ridge by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its latest annual financial report. The District has also received the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR) for its Citizens Report.

The District has been granted the CANFR 18 years in a row and for the past 12 years it has received the PAFR. For more information visit our [website](#).