

**District of Maple Ridge  
Economic Advisory Commission  
Regular Minutes**

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The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Economic Advisory Commission, held in the Blaney Room at Maple Ridge Municipal Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, British Columbia, on **Thursday, March 19, 2009** at 7:30 AM.

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**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Commissioner Ernie Daykin	Mayor, District of Maple Ridge
Commissioner Al Hogarth	Councillor, District of Maple Ridge
Commissioner Michael Morden	Councillor, District of Maple Ridge
Commissioner Claus Andrup	Economic Advisory Commission
Commissioner Steve Pelton	Economic Advisory Commission
Commissioner Racine Barbour	Downtown MR BIA Liaison
Cheryl Johnson	Tourism MR PM

**STAFF PRESENT**

Sandy Blue	Manager Economic Development
Darrell Denton	Business Retention and Expansion Officer
Erin Mark	Admin. Assistant, Economic Development
John Bastaja	Chief Information Officer
Jane Pickering	Director of Planning

**DELEGATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS:**

**REGRETS**

Commissioner Nicole Breuls	Economic Advisory Commission
Commissioner Oliver Perez	Chamber of Commerce Liaison
Commissioner Pat Kramer	Tourism MR PM Liaison
Commissioner Bruce West	Economic Advisory Commission
Commissioner Mike Shardlow	Economic Advisory Commission
Jim Rule	Chief Administrative Officer

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

E. Daykin

There being a quorum and as no chair had yet been appointed, Mayor Ernie Daykin served as chair, and called the meeting to order at 7:35 AM.

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - Motion to adopt the February 19, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

MOVED BY: Racine B.

SECONDED BY: Steve P.

CARRIED

**3. AGENDA APPROVAL - Motion to approve March 19, 2009 Agenda**

MOVED BY: Racine B.

SECONDED BY: Steve P.

CARRIED

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**4. NEW BUSINESS**

- 4.1 Asia Pacific Twinning Update S. Blue  
Sandy presented an update on the Asia Pacific Twinning grant. It was noted that the focus on High Tech and India compliment each other well.
- 4.2 Business Welcome Letters E. Daykin  
Business welcome letters have been established and will be distributed to new businesses after a business license is issued. The BIA, Chamber of Commerce and Tourism will be cc'd on the letters.
- 4.3 "Our Spirit. Our Town." E. Daykin  
"Our Spirit. Our Town." is a joint venture between the District, the DMRBIA and the Chamber of Commerce. A variety of initiatives will target residents and businesses to assist in improving the town centre.  
Action: Additional information regarding the "Our Spirit. Our Town." initiative to be presented to the EAC at a later date.
- 4.4 Golden Ears Bridge (GEB) Opening C. Johnson  
The official Golden Ears Bridge opening is on June 14<sup>th</sup> but details are sketchy at this point.  
Action: Additional information regarding the GEB opening to be presented to the EAC at a later date.
- 4.4 Citizens Survey  
Action: Laura B. to present results from the Citizens Survey at a later date.

**5. CURRENT PROJECTS**

- 5.1 High Tech – Municipal Infrastructure John B.  
John B. presented information about the District's strategy for fibre. The five phases of conduit installation are underway. The five areas include: Municipal Hall, Fire Hall No. 1 to the District of Maple Ridge Operations Yard, Downtown, District of Maple Ridge Operations Yard to Fire Hall No. 4 (down 240<sup>th</sup> St.), and down the Loughheed Hwy to Fire Hall No. 3. Conduit is being installed/prepared as other roadwork is being completed. A non-dominant carrier is interested in providing fibre to the areas at a lower cost than the existing dominant carriers.
- 5.2 High Tech – Verbal update from Committee meeting Sandy B.  
A letter was sent to all High Tech Report participants, and other businesses that might be interested in the report, communicating the availability of the High Tech Report. The issuance of the High Tech Report was announced via press release and is available on [www.investmapleridge.ca](http://www.investmapleridge.ca).

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The High Tech Summit is scheduled for June 25, 2009 at the ACT. The Economic Development department is currently preparing the agenda and arranging for speakers. The overall goal is for business to consider Maple Ridge for High Tech.

The Film Appreciation event (to be scheduled) will showcase how business and the general public can capitalize on the film industry.

**6. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 7.1 2009 Event Schedule
- 7.2 REIN Top BC Investment Town Report
- 7.3 BIV "How To" Article
- 7.4 Canadian Contractor Article - "The Cities That Love Us"
- 7.5 Email from Geoffrey Mantel dated March 16, 2009 re: Smart Work Centres and High Tech Summit
- 7.2 Tourism MRPM Committee Report dated March 13, 2009

**8. NEXT MEETING** -Thursday April 16, 2009 at 7:30 AM

Commissioners are reminded to email Committee reports (Agriculture, Tourism, DMRBIA and Chamber) to [invest@mapleridge.ca](mailto:invest@mapleridge.ca) by Wednesday April 8, 2009 so that they can be provided to Commissioners with the agenda.

**9. ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting adjourned at 9:05 AM.

MOVED BY: Steve P.

SECONDED BY: Claus A.

  
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Chairperson