

City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 2, 2016 #16-04

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Maple Ridge Becomes 111th Blue Dot Community

Maple Ridge, BC: On January 26, 2016 Maple Ridge Council passed a motion in support of the Blue Dot movement which seeks to enshrine the right of citizens to live in a healthy environment.

Maple Ridge has joined over 100 Canadian communities in passing a resolution consistent with the general aims of the campaign. The website <u>bluedot.ca</u> talks about the aspirational goals of the campaign and the work to raise awareness about environmental stewardship.

"Maple Ridge has a strong commitment to the environment. The aspirational goals of the Blue Dot movement are actually alive and well in our community," said Mayor Nicole Read. "Our Council, building on the courage and legacy of past Councils has recently endorsed a new Environmental Management Plan, enacted a new Tree Protection Bylaw and has established an Environmental Advisory Committee. It is great to translate our values into action."

The motion, brought forward by Councillor Corisa Bell, is aligned with the City's Mission Statement to provide "A safe, livable and sustainable community for our present and future citizens." Councillor Bell pointed out that the City is already recognized as an environmental steward, "and our citizens are continually telling us that this is what they love and value about living in Maple Ridge."

The full wording of the 'Blue Dot' resolution can be found on the City website as part of the minutes of the January 26, 2016 Council meeting. Details on the City's Environmental Management Strategy can be found at <u>mapleridge.ca/DocumentCenter/View/2947</u>.

For more information about the Blue Dot resolution please contact Laura Benson, Manager of Sustainability & Corporate Planning at 604-466-4338 or by email at <u>lbenson@mapleridge.ca</u>

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