# MAPLE RIDGE THIS MONTH

May 07, 2020

### SPOTLIGHT: Doing Council Meetings Differently



The City of Maple Ridge has been adapting to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by rolling out technology to help us all stay connected as we continue to stay separate to flatten the curve. In fact, your Council has not missed one meeting in their schedule and the City has shared advice and technical information with other communities in BC to help them ensure that local governments continue to be transparent and there to support our economy as we cautiously move to forward to the future. During April we've improved the look of the livestream broadcast and you can now see all of the members participating in the meeting on your home screen. In addition, the BC Government

has issued new orders to provide local governments with flexibility in how meetings are conducted through the pandemic.

The City of Maple Ridge has introduced an online meeting tool to allow the public to participate virtually since in person attendance is suspended until further notice. In order to participate virtually, public is required to register using the Webex participation link. Using Webex, guestions from the Public during Question Period of the Regular Council Meeting and/or Community Forum of the Committee of the Whole Meeting can be facilitated via email to clerks@mapleridge.ca and/or via the 'whisper to the host' function through the Webex meeting. The unique link to Webex is published at *mapleridge.ca/640/Council-Meetings* with the appropriate meeting date.

Your mayor and Council thank everyone for their hard work to flatten the curve and patience as we all adapt and innovate to get through this together.

#### Staying Healthy. Staying Connected.



We are reminded of the importance of exercise for our physical and mental health as we all do our part to flatten the curve. Our fitness instructors have been missing all the regulars and we set up the cameras at a safe physical distance and recorded some session to help everyone stay healthy from home.

The videos have bene launched on the City Facebook Page (@yourmapleridge) and you can access them at any time by using the links on the website at mapleridge.ca/2428/Online-Fitness.

## HAPPENING

#### **COUNCIL MEETINGS & AGENDAS**

The City of Maple Ridge is doing business a little bit differently during the COVID-19 health emergency. We will maintain the Council Meeting Schedule using digital tools so that our Mayor, Council members and staff are able to follow Dr. Henry's guidance on social distancing. Participation by the public is now done through virtual tools. The meeting will be live streamed on the City website. Look for more information in the feature article in this edition.

#### TUESDAY, MAY 12 COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

- BLANEY ROOM AT 11:00 AM
- COUNCIL MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 7:00 PM
- TUESDAY, MAY 19 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 1:30 PM
- PUBLIC HEARING COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 7:00 PM

#### TUESDAY, MAY 26

- COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING BLANEY ROOM AT 11:00 AM
- COUNCIL MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 7:00 PM

Look for other community events and meetings on the community calendar on the City's home page at mapleridge.ca.

From the calm Zen energy of restorative yoga to higher intensity power sculpt lessons, you and your family can work out at home to stay fit and stay connected with the instructors who are part of your personal wellness journey.

We've been talking about how we are doing business differently in the COVID -19 pandemic, and this is just one of the ways that we are adapting our work to ensure that we all stay active and engaged through this health emergency. Take a moment to leave a comment in the video threads or leave a suggestion on the types of content you're looking for. Stay safe and stay healthy neighbours.

#### Getting the Facts. Sharing the Facts.



The COVID-19 pandemic is a worldwide health emergency and the appetite for information has never been greater. Now, more than ever, people are on their smartphones scrolling through threads looking for information. The City of Maple Ridge community engagement team has taken the time to source links to connect you with the definitive sources of information to help you get the best information and updates from all levels of government and health authorities.

When you go to the city website, mapleridge.ca, you'll see a special COVID-19 graphic. Just click on that image and it will take you to a special landing page where we are consolidating information on the local response, and with the many Provincial and Federal programs that are being rolled out to help citizens get through the COVID-19 response. On the left side of the landing page is a tab title 'Getting the fact. Sharing the facts' which is a curated list of websites and social media channels where the expert information can be found. In addition to our responsibilities around social distancing and hand washing, we all have a responsibility to share the facts and stop sharing inaccurate or

false information in our social circles.

As the COVID-19 response continues, we will curate this list to add new resources that become available. Please take a moment to review the information and add the social media channels in this list to be your trusted sources of information and updates. Thank you for sharing the message and doing your part to flatten the COVID-19 curve. We got this Maple Ridge.

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