

CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maple Ridge to Extend Temporary Patio Program and Allow for Winterization

Maple Ridge, BC: On October 13, Council approved the introduction of a patio winterization program and the extension of the City's expedited patio permitting process until October 31, 2021.

"Restaurants, cafes and craft breweries are significant contributors to the local economy and play a crucial role in creating a dynamic, vibrant, social environment for residents and visitors alike in Maple Ridge," said Wendy Dupley, Director of Economic Development. "Maintaining expedited permitting for patios and allowing them to be winterized will help these businesses offset some of the seating capacity they've lost to comply with COVID-19 operating restrictions."

Winterizing a patio can include adding covers, lighting and space heating. Operators will be required to meet all applicable provincial health and safety standards for the construction and operation of these spaces.

The City will not charge permit fees on patio winterization applications and will continue to waive all permit fees for new, temporary outdoor patios. Thus far, the City has approved all applications received using the expedited permitting process.

This decision follows the provincial Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch's extension of Temporary Expanded Service Areas for patios until October 31, 2021.

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