

## District of Maple Ridge News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 21, 2013 #13-03 For further information, call Paul Gill at 604-467-7398 pgill@mapleridge.ca

## 2013 Property Assessment Changes Modest with Some Variability

**Maple Ridge**, **BC**: In early January, property owners should have received their 2013 Property Assessment Notice. Today, at Council's Committee of the Whole meeting, Council saw two presentations on property assessments. The first presentation from BC Assessment staff was a high level look at property assessments in Maple Ridge. The second presentation from District of Maple Ridge staff was a more in-depth look at the property assessments. Mayor and Council also received a staff report reviewing the preliminary assessment information provided by BC Assessment.

In Maple Ridge, overall, there was an average decrease of about 1% in residential property assessments; this being an 'average' means that some property assessments decreased more than 1%, while some properties experienced value increases.

The District tracks assessed value changes for different geographic areas of the District. For 2013, the data shows that there is some variation from neighbourhood to neighbourhood within Maple Ridge.

In the discussion around these variations, Mayor and Council noted that it was market forces that drive the growth in assessments. Staff emphasized that the information received by Council was preliminary and subject to change based on appeals of assessments by property owners, and that this report provides Council with a 'snapshot' of what the final assessment roll will look like in the Spring.

Both BC Assessment and District staff reminded Council that property owners need to look carefully at their assessments, and if they disagree with the figures, they need to contact BC Assessment before January 31, and launch an appeal of their assessment, if necessary. It was noted that assessments were based on property sales occurring between July 2011 and July 2012, and that appeals would be based on transactions in that period.

If you own property in Maple Ridge and have not received your 2013 Property Assessment Notice, contact BC Assessment at:

Fraser Valley BC Assessment 240 - 31935 South Fraser Way Abbotsford, BC V2T 5N7

Telephone: 604-850-5900 Toll Free: 1-800-393-1332

Fax: 604-850-1394

Email: fraservalley@bcassessment.ca

For more information on the work of BC Assessment, please visit their website at: www.bcassessment.ca.