

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Work to Commence on New Neighbourhood Park in Port Haney  
St. Anne Camp Comes to an End**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** Work on a new neighbourhood park in Port Haney will begin on the land which was the site of the St. Anne encampment since May of 2017. The remaining residents of the camp were provided with priority access to the new Garibaldi Ridge temporary modular housing facility, located on Burnett Street, resulting in the closure of the camp.

“It has been a long road and I would like to thank residents for their patience and understanding as our City followed the required legal process to close the camp permanently,” said Mayor Morden. “I want to extend a special note of thanks to our Police, Firefighters, Bylaws and Parks departments and the many other City staff for their dedication, professionalism and hard work far and beyond the call of duty to conclude what has been three long, difficult years for all concerned”.

A security presence will remain in the area while the on-site amenities, provided by BC Housing, are removed and a safe construction zone is put in place. Work will commence immediately to remove any remaining structures and debris. The City has also engaged an environmental consultant to do soil testing on the site to determine the extent of remediation required to ensure the site is ready for park development.

“Our Parks, Recreation & Culture department will be reaching out to the community members who were involved in the development of the park concept back in 2017, as well as new residents from the area, to finalize the park design,” said Mayor Morden. “Council looks forward to following through with our commitment to deliver a new family park to this historic neighbourhood in late spring of 2020.”