

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2020 #20-35

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Maple Ridge Council Endorses Expedited Outdoor Patio Approval Process

Maple Ridge, BC: On Tuesday, June 9, Maple Ridge Council voted to give staff the authority to expedite the approval of sidewalk cafes and outdoor patios. This expedited process will assist restaurants, coffee shops, pubs and craft breweries in accommodating social distancing requirements by increasing the number of seats available for their customers.

On June 10, Dr. Henry updated the health order to allow restaurants and pubs to offer seating based on physical distancing versus a set 50% of capacity. The updated Public Health Order can be found at gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-nightclubs-food-drink.pdf.

“We encourage owners and operators to reach out to us so we can provide them with the criteria to move these applications through the process quickly and efficiently. The speed with which the City can process applications will vary depending on whether the proposal is for a sidewalk café, if a patio is on private or public property and the location of each business. Our goal is to be flexible to get new outdoor seating in place to assist with the economic viability of our hospitality industry in Maple Ridge,” said Wendy Dupley, Director of Economic Development.

“Council is committed to do all we can to support the business restart given the obvious challenges,” said Mayor Morden. “The local hospitality industry is a vibrant part of Maple Ridge’s economy and a large employer for citizens.”

For further information or to submit an application, please contact Wendy Dupley at wdupley@mapleridge.ca.