

***Corporation of the District of
Maple Ridge
1999
Annual Report***



Members of Council

Mayor Al Hogarth

Councillor Linda King
Councillor Kathy Morse

Councillor Jon Harris
Councillor Craig Speirs

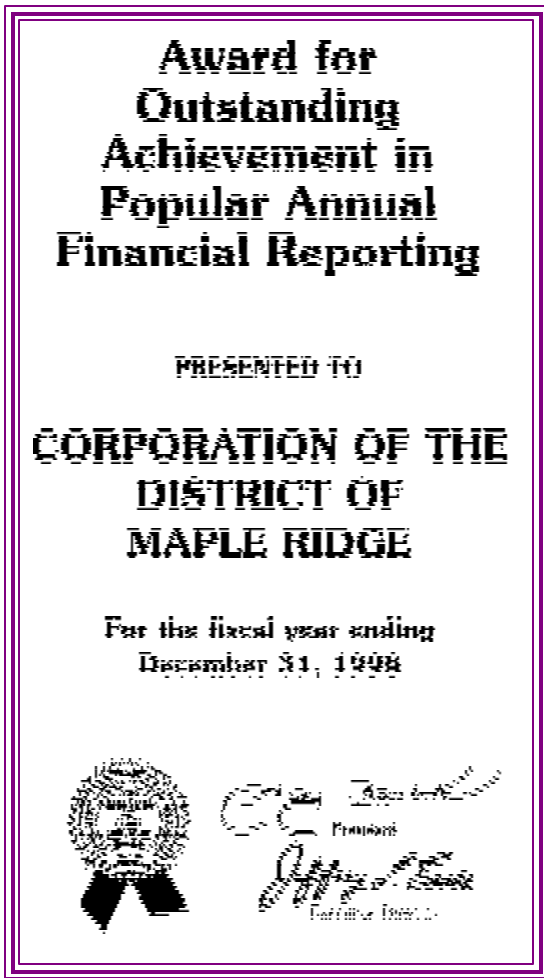
Councillor Candace Gordon
Councillor Faye Isaac

District of Maple Ridge Vision

*A safe and livable community
for our present and future citizens*

Value Statements

<i>Leadership</i>	To encourage innovation, creativity, and initiative
<i>Service</i>	To be fair, friendly, and helpful
<i>Reputation</i>	To stress excellence, integrity, accountability, and honesty
<i>Human Resources</i>	To recognize that our people are our most valuable resource
<i>Community</i>	To respect and promote our community



The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the District of Maple Ridge for its Popular Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1998. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious international award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state/provincial and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. The District of Maple Ridge has received a Popular Award for the third consecutive year and is very fortunate to be the only municipality in Canada awarded a PAFR for 1998. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.

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Reusz



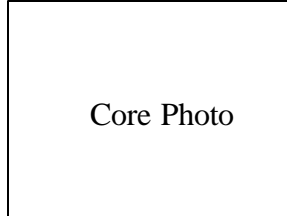
Mayor's Message



Al Hogarth

On behalf of my colleagues on Council, I am pleased to introduce our award-winning Annual Report for the 1999 fiscal year. This report is designed to provide the citizens of Maple Ridge with an overview of key issues, events and decisions during the year.

Of course, the proposed downtown core redevelopment project was the major event in the year – a fifty million dollar project designed to revitalize downtown Maple Ridge. In the spring of 1999, the District entered into partnership talks with Maple Ridge Town Centre Ltd. to complete this project. By the summer Council had approved the project and we signed a partnering and development agreement with Maple Ridge Town Centre Ltd. to help us achieve the vision we have for a vibrant downtown Maple Ridge.

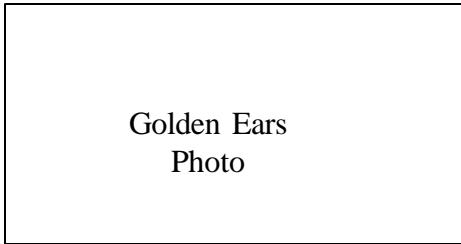


Core Photo

Phase I of this project includes a new, high technology public library and an office complex. Phase II will see an expanded Leisure Centre; a Youth Centre; and, a state-of-the-art Arts Centre. In Phase III a privately funded hotel will be built. At the end of this project, the District will have an expanded downtown park, lots of underground parking, and a vibrant centre to our downtown that will see significant economic spin-offs to our local businesses.

1999 started with the official opening of Planet Ice – our new ice arena on the Albion Fairgrounds. Planet Ice has two sheets of ice and lots of seats for spectators – a significant upgrade on the Cam Neely Arena that it replaced. The Cam Neely Arena was torn down in November 1999 to make room for the new downtown core redevelopment project.

In August, the District competed in the 1999 National Communities in Bloom Competition. Maple Ridge was awarded an impressive “Three Blooms” and received a special mention for “community involvement.”



Golden Ears
Photo

In September, Maple Ridge celebrated its 125th Birthday with a number of community activities and events over the Labour Day weekend. To coincide with this birthday celebration and mark this milestone, renowned international photographer Bob Herger – who lives in Maple Ridge – in partnership with the District published a book entitled “Maple Ridge Moments in Time, Celebrating 125 Years.” Many local writers, painters, and school children contributed to this beautiful commemorative hard cover book.

You will notice as you read through this report that many of our citizens have been recognized for outstanding service in this community – indeed, we have many talented people amongst us who are successful in sports, community activities, and the arts. In 1999, one of our more famous citizens unfortunately passed away in a very tragic accident – as a community we said our sad good byes to international race car driver Greg Moore last November. He will long be remembered as a generous Maple Ridge citizen and a positive role model.

As we enter the new century, Council looks forward to many exciting and new challenges - helping to shape change to meet the needs of the future.

Al Hogarth
Mayor



Chief Administrative Officer's Report



R.W. (Bob) Robertson

Welcome to our fourth annual report – provided to the citizens and customers of Maple Ridge. The Annual Report gives an overview of the important events during the past year. The 1998 version of this document was the recipient of the Government Finance Officers Association's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the third year in a row. In addition, it continues to be recognized as a valuable communication tool between municipal hall and the citizens we serve.

Maple Ridge currently has an estimated 65,000 citizens and we expect the population to double over the next twenty years. We are clearly a growing community and must upgrade our public facilities in anticipation of this growth. As such, in 1999 we entered into a very progressive public private partnership that will result in a number of new and expanded municipal facilities. Also, the project will include a significant private sector investment in the form of a new hotel and office/retail commercial space. Phase I (includes the library and office tower) is expected to be complete in early 2001. We are looking forward to the positive synergies this project will create in our community.

The District of Maple Ridge continues to work in partnership with the District of Pitt Meadows to ensure the economic viability of the Pitt Meadows Airport. There are future plans for industrial development on the airport lands that will result in new jobs for both municipalities.

The feedback on the first year of operation of our environmental affairs department has been very positive. We are committed to working with environmentally concerned citizens and other levels of government to preserve and enhance the natural assets of Maple Ridge. The District continues to work in cooperation with the development community to achieve the best quality of projects for Maple Ridge now and in the future.



Finally, the District of Maple Ridge remains dedicated to using a business plan framework for decision-making. Currently we are in our fourth year of using business plans during a time when many other governments, both local and provincial, are just starting to look at using a similar process. As such, we receive many requests for advice and we enjoy being able to share our model which helps put Maple Ridge on the map as a progressive, innovative organization. An overview of the financial status of the District is outlined in the following section of this report.

In summary, District staff look forward to the year 2000 and the opportunity to continue to serve our citizens and customers.

Bob Robertson, CAO

*4 FT
Staff Positions
Budget \$851,028*



Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
As at December 31, 1999
(Unaudited)



	<u>1999</u>	Restated <u>1998</u>
Financial Assets		
Cash and Temporary Investments	\$ 27,187,872	\$ 48,665,808
Long Term Investments	26,857,206	—
Accounts Receivable	8,097,045	11,294,878
Mortgage Receivable	1,450,000	1,450,000
Deferred Charges and Other	2,267,116	793,470
Properties for Resale	<u>2,857,012</u>	<u>417,160</u>
	68,716,251	62,621,316
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 10,378,349	\$ 6,482,151
Deferred Revenues	3,065,581	3,569,350
Restricted Revenues	16,084,175	15,640,663
Refundable Performance Deposits and Other	1,859,388	1,449,759
Long Term Debt	<u>11,776,508</u>	<u>13,446,788</u>
	43,164,001	40,588,711
Net Financial Assets	25,552,250	22,032,605
Capital Assets	<u>316,706,515</u>	<u>291,990,511</u>
	<u>\$342,258,765</u>	<u>\$314,023,116</u>
Equity		
Fund Balances	37,328,758	35,479,393
Equity in Capital Assets	<u>304,930,007</u>	<u>278,543,723</u>
	<u>\$342,258,765</u>	<u>\$314,023,116</u>

Copies of the District's award-winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report are available at the Municipal Hall and the Public Library.



Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 1999

(Unaudited)



	<u>Actual</u> <u>1999</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>1999</u>	<u>Restated</u> <u>1998</u>
Revenue			
Taxes			
Real property, special assessments, grants in lieu	\$52,152,557		
Less: Collections for other governments	<u>24,632,077</u>		
Total taxes for municipal purposes	27,520,480	27,484,613	25,491,296
Sale of services	4,146,427	3,736,677	3,590,564
Other revenue from own sources	3,115,737	2,773,471	3,157,282
Senior government grants – Utilities	1,527,904	1,718,342	1,709,115
Senior government grants – Capital	65,993	2,069,710	275,877
Development revenue	10,894,005	13,275,858	3,520,876
Provincial transfers	1,178,075	912,458	1,780,106
Interest income	1,279,842		
Investment Income	1,552,322		
Less: Deferred amount	<u>(563,897)</u>		
Investment income	2,268,267	1,812,580	2,145,271
Utility user fees	6,700,917	6,531,187	5,967,346
Proceeds of disposal and other	216,230	11,375	573,364
Gain on sales of property	920,483	—	—
Contributed subdivision infrastructure	<u>6,363,458</u>	<u>6,363,458</u>	<u>12,923,171</u>
	<u>64,918,076</u>	<u>66,689,729</u>	<u>61,134,268</u>
 Expenditures			
Protective services	11,127,218	12,944,929	10,476,122
Transportation services	9,294,174	13,190,677	7,573,933
Recreation and cultural	14,001,456	15,999,084	12,647,228
Sewer and water facilities	10,438,946	13,329,457	9,573,265
General government	9,610,051	6,250,783	6,328,970
Planning, public health and other	1,667,695	2,560,205	1,550,153
Reallocation of internal equipment usage	1,104,567	(1,207,478)	(1,150,718)
Subdivision infrastructure	<u>6,363,458</u>	<u>6,363,458</u>	<u>12,923,171</u>
	<u>61,398,431</u>	<u>71,431,115</u>	<u>59,922,124</u>
 Excess Revenue Over Expenditures			
(Change in Net Financial Assets)	5	3,519,645	(4,741,386)
Principal Repaid	(1,897,366)	(1,848,713)	(1,763,370)



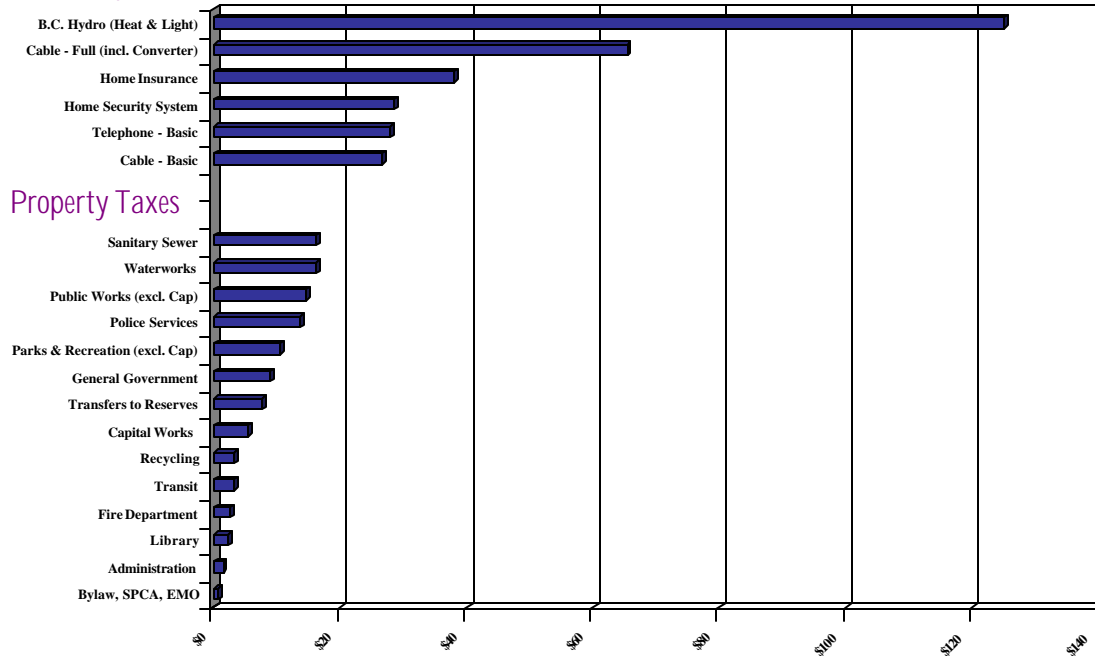
1999 Average Home Comparison



Municipal Property Taxes for Services and Other Standard Household Services

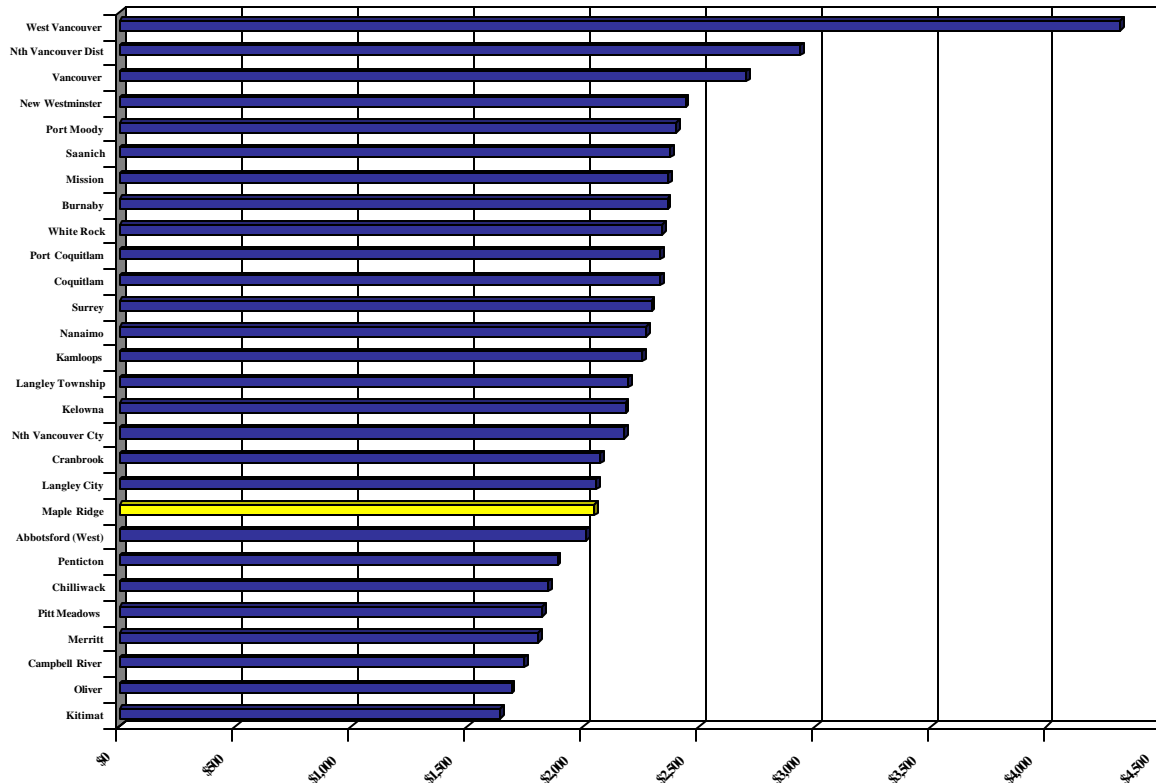
Household Expenditures

(Cost Per Month)



Property Taxes

General Taxes for Municipal Services

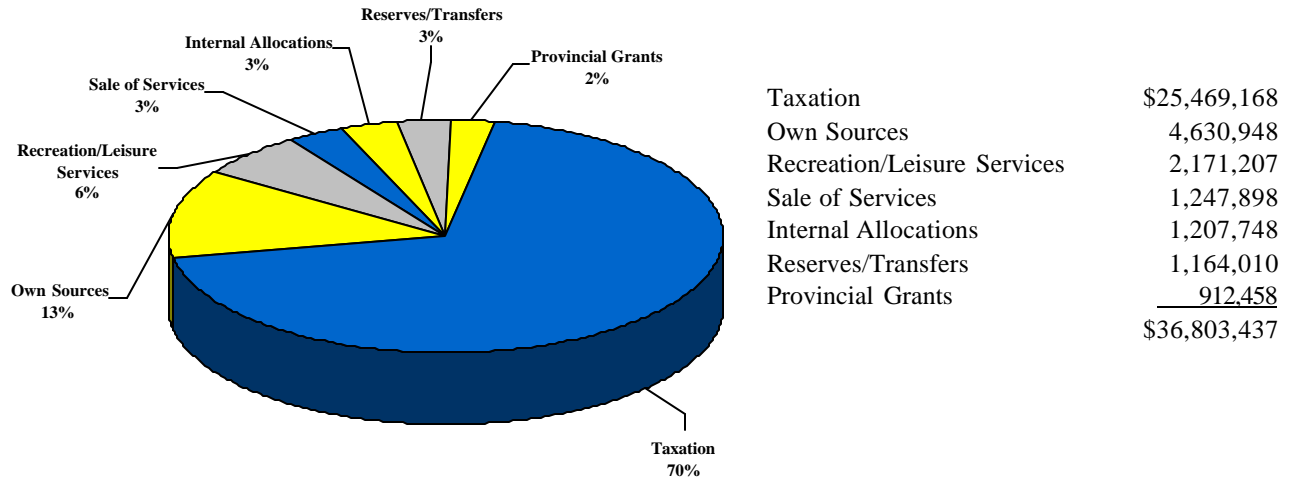




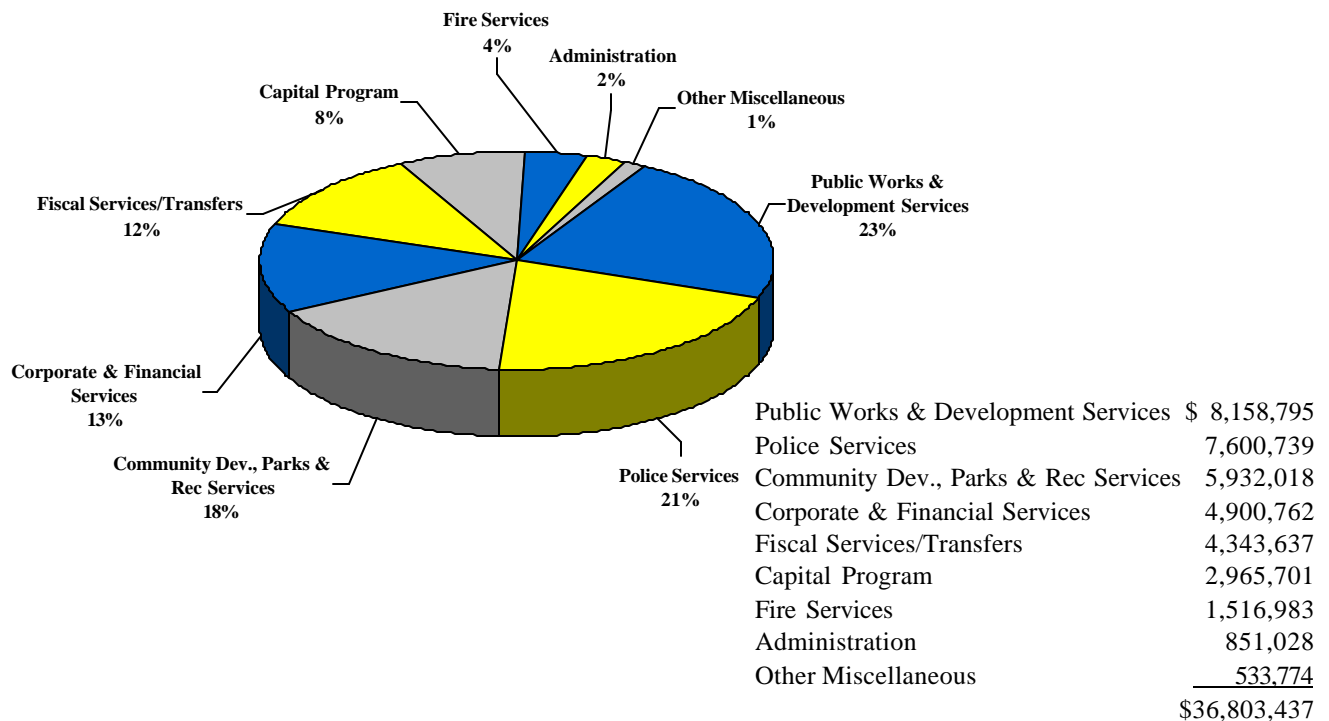
Financial Highlights General Revenue Fund



Summary of 1999 Budget Revenues (Council Controlled)



Summary of 1999 Budget Expenditures (Council Controlled)

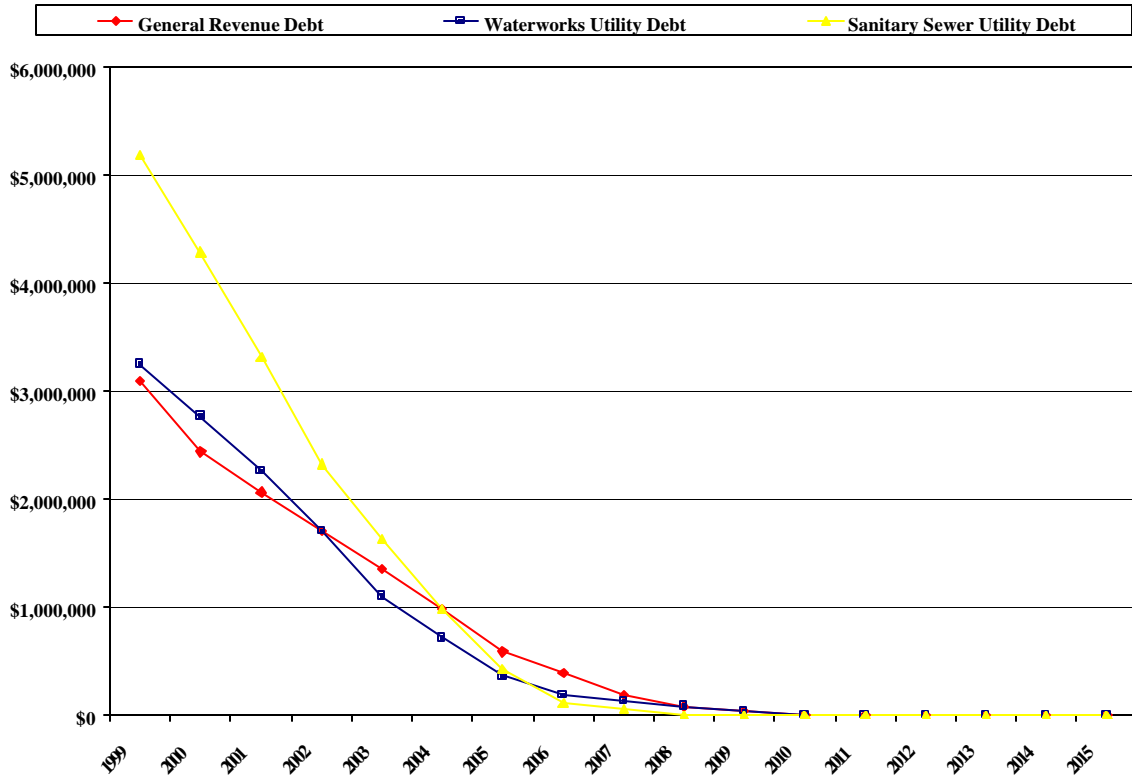




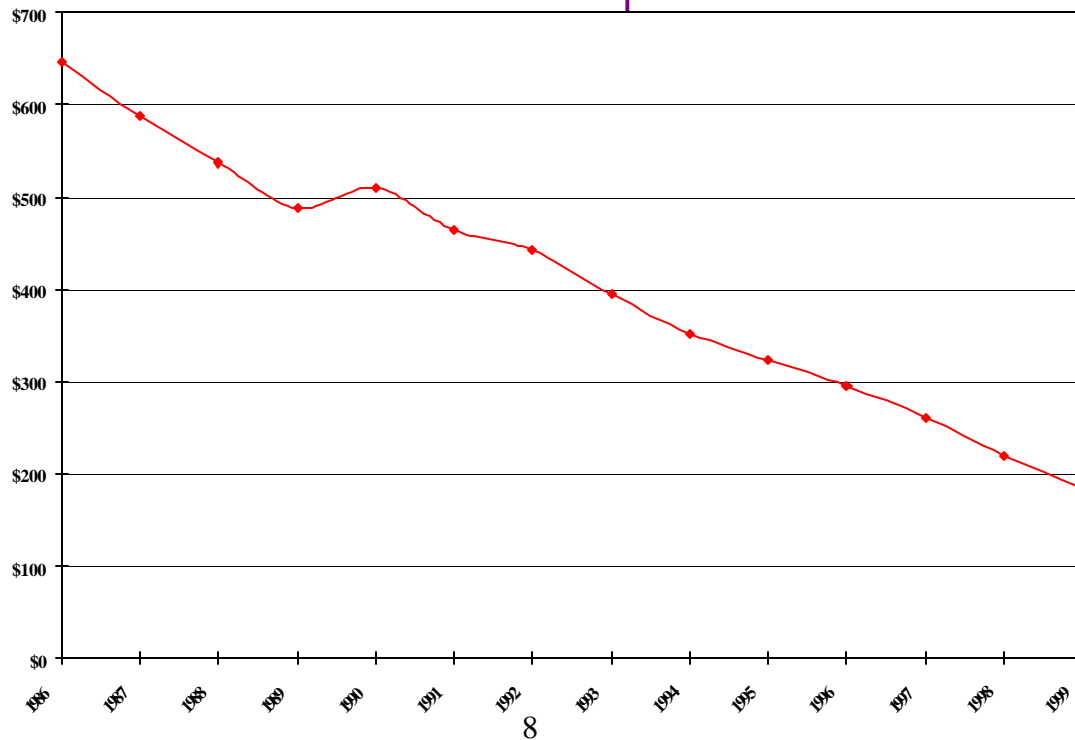
Debt Graphs



Debt Retirement



Debt Per Capita





Symbolism of the Coat of Arms, Flag and Badge



Arms (shield):

The line forms a “ridge” of peaks with the nearby Golden Ears mountain in the centre. The Fraser River is symbolized at the base and the namesake maple at the centre using both a broad leaf maple and flowers from the vine maple.

Crest (above the shield):

The red coronet at the base of the crest has a double meaning, as the traditional heraldic symbol for municipal government and as a salute to Haney Brick and Tile, and by extension, pioneer industry. Haney House symbolizes the pioneer settlement and Victorian beginnings of the community.



Motto:

Created by the Coat of Arms Committee from a suggestion by Mr. Peter Mussallem, the motto combines a geographic statement with comments about the nature of the District’s prosperity and amenities. The phrase summarizes the core meaning of the coat of arms.

Compartment and Supports (at either side and at the base of the shield):

The grass represents the lands of the District with Kanaka Falls at the centre and the rivers below. The horse and deer were suggestions arising from the public consultation. They are coloured in pure heraldic colours to match the shield and can be taken to represent pioneer transport and current recreations (horse) and natural heritage (deer).

The strawberry flowers on the supporter’s collar honour the early berry industry, the dogwood salutes BC, the railway is represented via the wheel and forestry through the sawmill blade.



Flag:

In the classic manner of heraldry, the flag is composed of a banner divided in the same fashion as the shield but coloured opposite, gold above and blue below with a large shield of the District in the centre and a border of blue and gold at the edge reinforcing the central message of the symbolism of the shield.

Badge:

This takes one of the most important elements of the shield and adds a river symbol. The broad leaf maple leaf and vine maple flowers are shown. On the leaf are two narrow wavy bands of white. The whole is placed on a gold circle with a sawtooth edge. The symbolism is of Maple Ridge, by the river and near the golden peaks.



1999 i

Maple Ridge Moves Toward

January

- ◆ Zachery Francis Pelletier becomes the first new 1999 resident (baby) of Maple Ridge.
- ◆ Planet Ice officially opens at the Albion fairgrounds.
- ◆ District receives the Popular Annual Financial Report Award for the second consecutive year.
- ◆ Chamber of Commerce award for Customer Service Excellence presented to Dana and Ross Simmons of the Maple Ridge Butcher Shop.

February

- ◆ RCMP honours Robert Green, James Zdunich, Sarah Copeland and Sandra Gemmill for their attempts to save a local resident's life.
- ◆ Bob Thomson wins 1999 Citizen of the Year Award from the Maple Ridge Community Foundation.
- ◆ East Maple Ridge Pony Club riders excel at Regional Pony Club Quiz competition.

March

- ◆ Larry Walker wins Sport BC's Best of BC Award for the second year in a row.
- ◆ Masters curler, Dale Longmuir inducted into the Haney Master Curling Club Hall of Fame.
- ◆ Vicki Bentzen wins first place in the Ridge Meadows Arts Council community poetry contest.
- ◆ Royal Canadian Legion donates funds to outfit the local hospital with chemotherapy treatment equipment.

April

- ◆ Students from Meadow Ridge Independent School head to Tennessee to compete against 59 other teams in the Odyssey of the Mind World Championships.
- ◆ Claudia Harper and Kim Hofmarks make the Canadian Endurance Team for the 1999 Pan-Am Championships.
- ◆ Meadow Ridge Barracudas win the second largest women's hockey tournament in Canada.

May

- ◆ Governor General Romeo LeBlanc awards new Coat of Arms, badge, and flag to the District.
- ◆ Maple Ridge on flood alert for two months.
- ◆ A record crowd attends the annual Mountain Festival Home show.
- ◆ Picket Fence project earns a 1999 Program Excellence Award from the BC Recreation and Parks Association.

*Capital Program & Other
Budget \$3,419,675*



June

- ◆ Quantum Gymnastics awarded Western Canadian Trampoline and Tumbling Championship.
- ◆ Haney Builders and local RCMP hold a buzz-a-thon and raise over \$10,000 for Children's Hospital.
- ◆ Glen Schwalb and Vaughan Nelson inducted into the Ridge Meadows Minor Baseball Association Hall of Fame.
- ◆ Stu Harvey and Grant Goodall given Life Saving Awards.

Review

s A Vibrant Downtown



July

- ◆ Communities in Bloom winners were S. and J. Rothmund, L. and A. Lunderberg, Selkirk Medical and McDonald's.
- ◆ Travis Gillespie along with his team wins silver at the world junior lacrosse championships in Australia.
- ◆ Ridge Canoeists win most medals in club's history at the Western Canada Summer Games.
- ◆ Shooter Kim Eagles wins a gold medal and earns Canada a spot at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Australia.

August

- ◆ Local machinist Don Richards designs three identical aluminium trailheads for the Trans Canada Trail.
- ◆ Neal Hurtubise earns two gold medals at the National Juvenile Track And Field Championships.
- ◆ Maple Ridge officially signed the Town Centre Development Agreement to revitalize the District's downtown core.

September

- ◆ Maple Ridge celebrates 125th Birthday as thousands enjoy the warm, sunny weather.
- ◆ Thomas Haney amateur wrestling coach Shaun Thiessen recognized for his outstanding contribution to the sport.
- ◆ Katzie First Nation builds longhouse on the shores of Alouette Lake.

October

- ◆ Local auto racing champion, Greg Moore dies in a crash during a race in California. Thousands of mourners turn out to remember him at a memorial service.
- ◆ Charlene Wallbank named by BC Athletics as the top female athlete born in 1988.
- ◆ Ridge Meadows Seniors Activity Centre opened in the Elderly Citizens Recreation Association building.
- ◆ The District wins a Silver Georgie Award recognizing "Excellence by Local Government in Cooperation/Leadership with Industry."

November

- ◆ Mayor A. Hogarth and Councillors L. King, C. Speirs, F. Isaac, K. Morse, C. Gordon and J. Harris elected to Maple Ridge Council.
- ◆ Scott Robinson named to Columbia Football Association's all-conference team for the second year in a row.
- ◆ Michelle McKay sets four provincial speed-skating records at the Prince George Central Interior Challenge.

December

- ◆ Haney Builders delivers 12,000 pounds of food to the Maple Ridge Food Bank.
- ◆ Local lawyer Bart Findlay elected President of Maple Ridge Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ Aliyak Rahemtullah appears in MacLean's Magazine as one of 100 Canadians under the age of 30 whose future shines with promise.

*Fiscal Services/Transfers
Budget \$4,343,637*



Community Development, Parks & Recreation Services

Mike Murray
General Manager



Office of the General Manager

In 1999 our Department received over \$700,000 in capital and project funding from senior governments. Of these funds \$76,353 helped to fund Summer Career Placement for Youth; \$21,300 went towards integrated recreation for Mental Health Services; and, \$26,000 from the Ministry of Children and Families went towards integrated day camp support for special needs children. A BC 2000 grant of \$150,000 went towards the Pitt Meadows Recreation Complex and another for \$137,000 will go towards the Trans Canada Trail.

Recreation

We are responsible for providing recreational opportunities for Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows citizens; therefore, our programs and facilities offer aquatic, fitness, youth, arts, health and community development services. These include drop-in programs, youth outreach initiatives and special events. In 1999 we provided 2,533 registered programs to 13,836 participants over 118,770 user hours.

Parks and Facilities

1999 was a busy year for parks and facilities. The new Planet Ice complex was officially opened in January and user groups helped to ensure a smooth transition from the old Cam Neely arena to the new facility. Several more community groups found space and have been temporarily relocated during the revitalization of the Maple Ridge Downtown Core project. This project includes a new youth centre, arts centre, library and expanded leisure centre.



The Ridge Meadows Seniors Society Activity Centre opened in October. This new facility provides a comfortable, friendly meeting place for our seniors and offers 25,000 square feet of space for services, programs, and recreational opportunities.

In addition to participating in the 125th Anniversary Celebration, Home Show, Communities in Bloom competition, and a number of other community events, we are responsible for displaying 6,000 bulbs and 6,000 annuals in 18 floral areas; and, landscaping and maintaining 22 boulevard sites, 51 parksites, 37 playgrounds, 23 grass soccer pitches, 38 ball diamonds, 7 major trail systems, 65 kilometres of equestrian trails, 30 tennis courts, 9 sports courts, 1 golf course, 6 picnic shelters and 10 washroom sites.

Emergency Preparedness

With a mission to plan for and respond to emergencies and disasters effectively, Emergency Preparedness readied itself for the threatened spring flooding of the Fraser River. We participated in a flood evacuation exercise with the RCMP and Search & Rescue. We also continued to update our manuals and provide public education.

Community Building

The innovative “Picket Fence” neighbourhood planning and consultation project was the recipient of an award from the BC Recreation and Parks Association and earned an honourable mention from the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators. The program brought 600 children and parents from Yennadon together with representatives of several neighbourhood agencies to identify places and issues of importance to them. The award recognizes “creative, successful, and innovative programs that may serve as models” for other agencies in enhancing service to their communities.

43 FT - 79 PT
Staff Positions
Budget \$5,932,018

Did You Know?

Sixty Youth Services and Community Events including dances, festivals, parades and concerts were held in various venues throughout the community.



Corporate & Financial Services

Paul Gill
General Manager



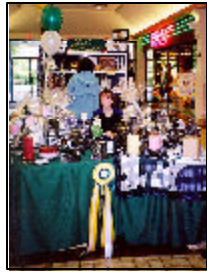
Office of the General Manager

The municipal website underwent a major revision this year and in October we launched the newly designed site into cyberspace. Visitors to the site will appreciate the quicker and easier access to information that this service provides. In November, the site provided virtually live coverage of the municipal elections.



Community and Business Relations

We produced a variety of materials profiling business and investment opportunities in the community in our efforts to promote and support economic development. We published an Economic Development magazine; updated a comprehensive Community Profile document; and, produced an outstanding corporate video. All these materials are available to the public and will be used in marketing our community world-wide. We hosted a number of foreign visitors, including a 30-person business delegation from the Cangzhou, Hebei Province in China who visited for one day.



In our effort to support the growing home business sector, our office coordinated the annual Home Based Business Showcase, in which 25 home-based businesses participated. In October, we won an award from the Home Based Business Association of Canada recognizing Maple Ridge as one of three communities in Canada considered most “home-based business friendly.”

We issued 3,028 business licenses including 1,165 home-based business licences. We continued to support the movie industry, assisting five productions with filming in Maple Ridge.

Corporate Support

The Information Services department continues to ensure that all municipal departments are able to use technology effectively and efficiently to serve our citizens. They conducted Y2K testing; installed a new telephone system; and, implemented a new financial system. The Clerks department had a busier than normal year because of the municipal elections in November. They also helped to organize a School Board Trustee by-election in January and organized a visit by Canada’s Governor General to unveil Maple Ridge’s new Municipal Coat of Arms, Badge, and Municipal Flag.

Finance

In 1999 Maple Ridge was once again the recipient of two prestigious awards from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for reports produced for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1998. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting was received for the third consecutive year and recognizes “conformance with the highest standards” in its preparation. For the ninth time we were recipients of the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting, which requires a government unit to publish an easy-to-read and efficiently organized annual report.

The installation of new financial and budgetary software will help our department to be more efficient and effective. Initiatives for new revenue generated an additional \$400,000 in 1999. We continue to strive to find ways of improving revenue, reducing costs and becoming more “customer friendly.”

Personnel

To facilitate the earliest possible return to work of employees after an injury or illness, we implemented an attendance management program. In addition, we reassessed the corporate employee appraisal system and revised the document to better align with the business plans and to encourage meaningful conversation between supervisors and employees.

Did You Know?

13 GEM awards were presented to municipal employees who “Go the Extra Mile” in their work and 3 VIP awards went to “Very Innovative People.”

40 FT - 18 PT
Staff Positions
Budget \$4,900,762



Public Works & Development Services

Jake Rudolph
General Manager



Office of the General Manager

In 1999 the Division prepared its first annual report with detailed statistics on development activity in the District. A strategic plan was also prepared as a framework for integrated service delivery and changes were made in our organizational structure to provide greater effectiveness on environmental matters, project engineering and inspection services. Permit approvals were streamlined for business licenses, single family building permits, and secondary suites registration.

We have placed particular emphasis on transportation issues and we achieved significant success for TransLink funding on major roads. Our staff was extensively involved with the new regional TransLink and GVRD committees.

Planning and Environmental Management

Current and Long Range Planning and Environmental Management practices ensure that growth and change in Maple Ridge are in line with both the vision identified in the District's Corporate Strategic Plan and the community's goals as set out in the Official Community Plan.

Long Range Planning projects in 1999 included a commercial zoning review; submission to Council of Albion and Cottonwood Guide Plans; adoption of secondary suite bylaws; and, ongoing Rural Plan policy development. Population and employment studies were also carried out. Significant zoning success in 1999 included the Town Centre project and large residential development proposals in the Silver Valley and Albion growth areas.

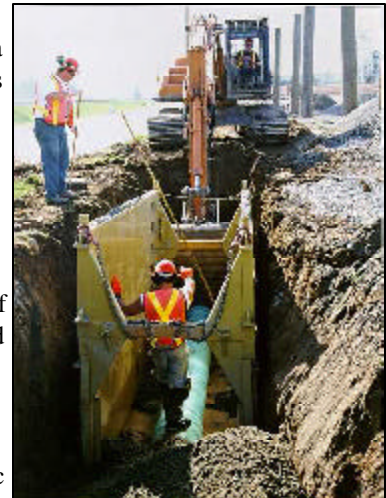
The new Environmental Affairs unit began its first full year of operation. This unit is responsible for soil deposit permits; acting as the liaison with government and local environmental interest groups; daily field inspections; and, participation in zoning and development approvals. Accomplishments this year included the adoption of the newly amended Development Permit XXX and new soil deposit regulation and fee bylaws.

Engineering

The Engineering Department provides project management to complete infrastructure capital work projects and other programs. In 1999 a number of projects were successfully completed including:

- Laity Street drainage and road construction
- 116th Avenue to Brunette road construction
- Rothsay Heights Municipal water connection
- Dover Street Pedestrian Signal
- 203rd/Dewdney Trunk Road intersection improvements

Other programs successfully completed by Engineering included placement of large speed signs in school zones, and the development of a greenwaste strategy and flood preparedness mapping.



Operations

Responsible for the management and maintenance of the municipal infrastructure, the Operations Department provides services fundamental to the health, safety and convenience of our rapidly growing population, in a manner that is responsive and both economically and environmentally responsible. This includes the capability to provide 24-hour a day emergency response to the needs of residents. In 1999 Operations maintained:

411 km of paved roadways	130 crosswalks
212 km of sanitary sewer	11,785 sewer connections
321 km of water main	13,787 service connections
186 km of storm sewer	1,493 fire hydrants
219 km of traffic markings	6,200 traffic signs
500 km of drainage ditch	1,844 ornamental street lights
8,219 tonnes hot – mix asphalt pavement	1,350 overhead street lights
	214 km of traffic lane marked

109 FT
Staff Positions
Budget \$8,158,795



Public Works & Development Services

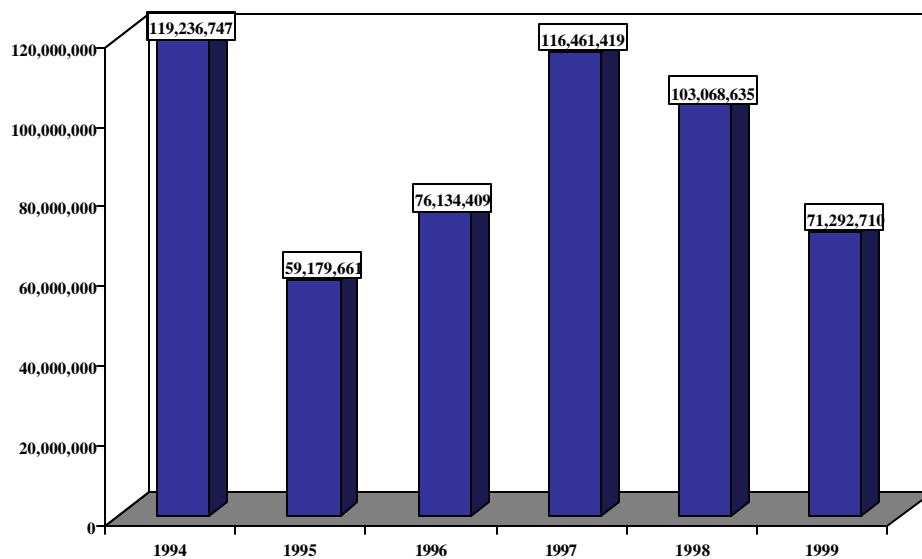
Jake Rudolph
General Manager



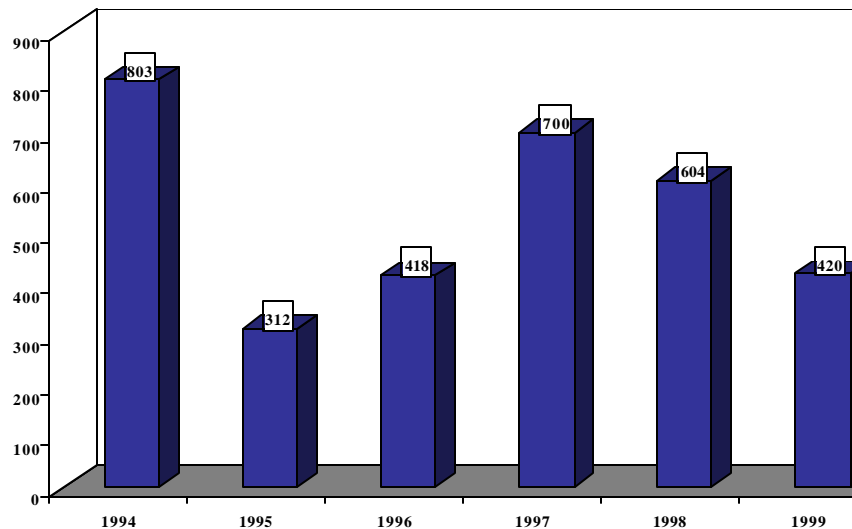
Inspections

The Inspections Services Department is responsible for accepting and approving plans and permit applications on all construction of residential, commercial, industrial and institutional buildings within the District. In 1999 we set up and implemented a new system for registration, bookings, and inspection of suites. We trained two new full-time Building Inspectors; one on-call Electrical Inspector; and, one Clerk/Plan-Check Assistant. The department conducted 14,055 inspections and issued 3,521 permits.

Total Construction Values (\$)



Number of Residential Housing Starts



Did You Know?

In 1999 we purchased 10.31 million m³ of water from the Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD) and we installed or replaced 3264 l/m of ductile watermain.



*Peter Grootendorst
Deputy Chief, Manager
Operations*

Fire Services

*Dane Spence
Deputy Chief, Manager
Community Fire Safety*



Maple Ridge Volunteer Fire Department

The goal of the Maple Ridge Fire Department is to protect life, property and the environment to ensure a safe and livable community for our present and future citizens. In our on-going efforts to provide the residents of Maple Ridge a level of excellence in our service, we continue to upgrade equipment and facilities, provide public education, and deliver efficient emergency response capabilities.

In 1999 an emergency diesel generator was installed at Fire Hall #1 and a cement block storage room was built as a centralized depot for tools and equipment. Hall #2 was expanded to provide a dedicated training area and truck bays to house a Tanker truck. All three Fire Halls received diesel exhaust removal systems to ensure removal of carcinogenic fumes from the truck bays and buildings when truck engines start. A traffic pre-emption device was installed in September, on a trial basis, at 224th Street and Dewdney Trunk Road. The department believes these signal light pre-emption devices - activated by sirens - will contribute to overall safety in our community.

In June we appointed an Assistant Chief/Community Safety Officer so we could expand our inspection program into evenings and Saturdays and enable us to respond to burning and bylaw complaints after business hours.

In July, a Federal/Municipal partnership agreement allowed the department to start a year-long comprehensive project to identify need-to-know information about commercial, industrial and multi-residential buildings. This is of vital importance in emergency situations. This year we also upgraded our map books and converted them to a digital format to enable us to continually reflect new development. This information is automatically dispatched to firefighters when they receive an emergency call.



Starting in September, volunteers delivered a newly formatted fire safety program to nine elementary schools. Over 1,200 adults and children received the Fire Safety Program at the Fire Halls and 1,785 children received fire safety education through our School Safety Program.

We are working to continually improve public access to Fire Department information via the municipal website.

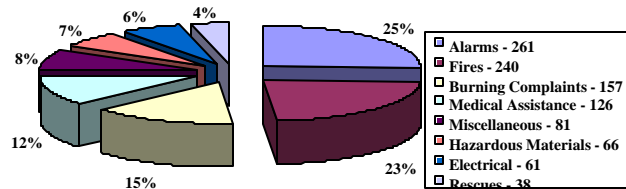


Volunteer Recognition

This year nine past and present members received a 25-year British Columbia Long Service Medal. The Governor General presented one of these members with a Fire Services Exemplary Service Bar in recognition of 30 years service. In addition, twenty-one Departmental Long-Term Service Awards were awarded to current and retired members for five, ten, fifteen or twenty years of service. We held two Recruit Fire Fighter Training classes in 1999 and welcomed 22 new recruits who completed their training and probation periods.

Flood Contingency Plan

In response to the dangers of spring flooding by the Fraser River, the department actively participated in the municipal emergency-planning program and spent considerable time and effort reviewing and improving our state of readiness to respond in the event flooding occurred in Maple Ridge.



7 FT
Staff Positions
Budget \$1,516,983

Did You Know?

One hundred and ten Maple Ridge Volunteer Firefighters responded to 1,030 emergency call-outs in 1999 and 30,220 volunteer-hours were devoted to community services.



Police Services

Bill Dingwall
Officer in Charge



Policing in Ridge-Meadows

The Ridge-Meadows Detachment of the RCMP, in partnership with the community, is dedicated to the preservation of quality of life and safety of the public we serve. We are dedicated to the principle of community policing and

working with the public to provide long term solutions to identified problems. Therefore, our focus is on the prevention and detection of crime; the prosecution of criminals; community involved problem solving; and, response to criminal activity and traffic safety. The department encourages positive community relations; a professional police image; public education; and, the ability to respond to the needs of our community.



Policing into the New Millennium

Technology was a major focus for the Ridge-Meadows RCMP Detachment in 1999. We purchased mobile work stations and portable computers for the police cars and trained all members and dispatchers on how to use them. This investment in technology has significantly enhanced efficiency for the members when they are on patrol. In addition, we installed crime analysis software, enabling officers to determine trouble spots in the community and focus on problem solving. Acquiring this new computer equipment will ease the transition into the new millennium.

Planning for the Future

In July 1999 the Officer in Charge completed a five year strategic plan to assist municipal Councils and the Detachment plan for the future. The plan identifies past practices; highlights the environmental pressures impacting policing; and,



identifies action plans and recommendations. Early in 1999 work began on a contingency plan to curtail possible Y2K problems, everything from equipment failure to policing challenges associated with millennium celebrations was addressed. As a result, we entered the year 2000 safely and with very few problems. Along with several other community partners, we participated in a Flood Contingency Plan in the Spring of 1999 because of the possibility of extensive flooding. The plan is now in place should the high water threat return.

The Community Policing Team continued to take a lead role in the Detachment's community policing focus. A fourth community policing committee was formed this year in East Maple Ridge (for residents of Silver Valley, Albion, Thornhill, and Whonnock). Planning is underway for police sub-offices in the new Pitt Meadows Recreation Centre and the new Albion Fire Hall to further enhance police/community interaction.

Successes

During 1999 the Detachment maintained the level of police service expected by our residents despite severe staff shortages. Successes include high profile cases such as: the solving of a double homicide in May resulting in the apprehension and charging of two prison escapees; approximately \$300,000 worth of stolen property/drugs recovered; an estimated \$200,000 shoplifting ring disbanded; and, \$12,500 raised for the Sunshine Foundation at the Fourth Annual Ridge-Meadows RCMP Charity Golf Tournament.

Did You Know?

This year Cst. Carrier of Ridge-Meadows Detachment spearheaded the first co-ed RCMP Hockey Camp for youth from Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Coquitlam & Port Coquitlam (aged 5 - 14 years). This is the first initiative of this type by the RCMP, and in its first year involved 62 local youth.

24 FT - 56 PT
Staff Positions
Budget \$7,600,739

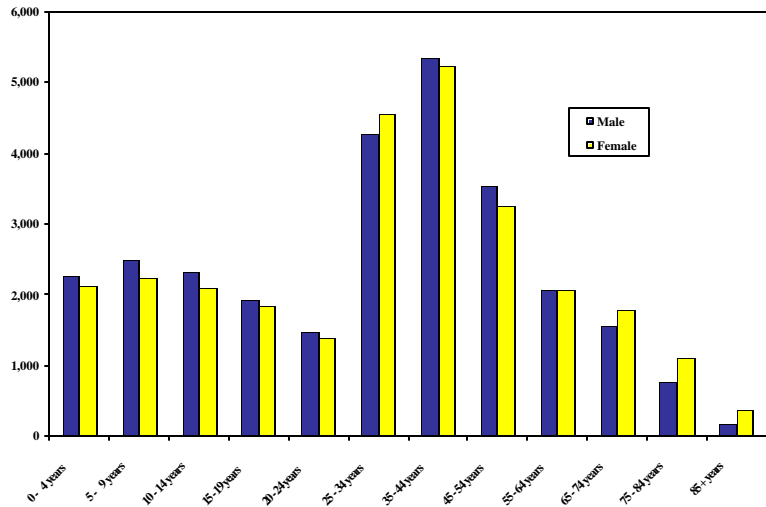


Demographics



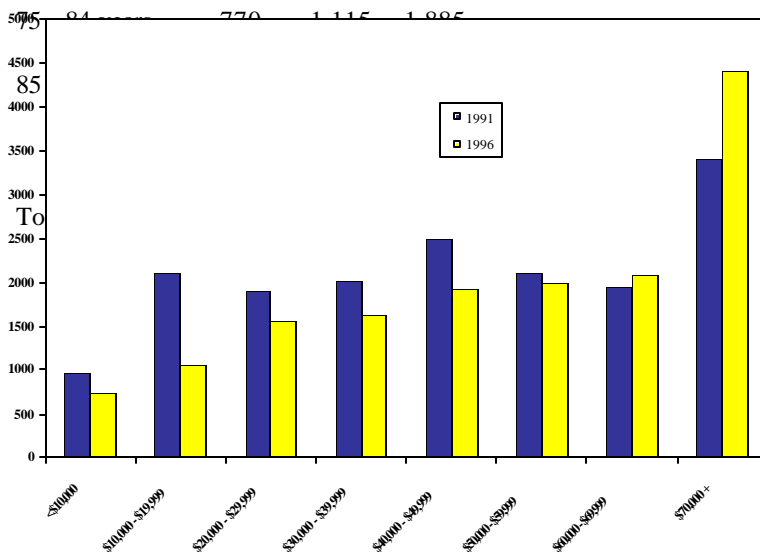
Population Composition

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 - 4 years	2,250	2,125	4,375
5 - 9 years	2,495	2,235	4,730
10 - 14 years	2,305	2,090	4,395
15 - 19 years	1,935	1,825	3,760
20 - 24 years	1,465	1,390	2,855
25 - 34 years	4,260	4,545	8,805
35 - 44 years	5,340	5,235	10,575
45 - 54 years	3,385	3,255	6,790
55 - 64 years	2,070	2,075	4,145
65 - 74 years	1,560	1,790	3,350



Source: Statistics Canada
1996 Census

Household Income



	<u>1991</u>	<u>1996</u>
<\$10,000	965	730
\$10,000 - \$19,999	2,095	1,050
\$20,000 - \$29,999	1,910	1,565
\$30,000 - \$39,999	2,020	1,630
\$40,000 - \$49,999	2,480	1,925
\$50,000 - \$59,999	2,095	1,995
\$60,000 - \$69,999	1,945	2,080
\$70,000 +	3,390	~1,415
Average	\$49,151	\$56,338
Median	\$46,295	\$53,606

Source: Statistics Canada
1996 Census



Telephone List



General Information & Enquiries (11995 Haney Place)	463-5221
General Fax Line	467-7329
Cemetery (21404 Dewdney Trunk)	467-7307
Clerks Department	463-5221
Community & Business Relation	
Business Enquiries & Licences	467-7305
Bylaws & Parking Enforcement	467-7305
Economic Development	467-7305
Fax Line	467-7330
Engineering Department	
Engineering Enquiries	467-7339
Administration	467-7340
Fax Line	467-7425
Operations Centre (23925 Dewdney Trunk)	467-7363
Emergency - Nights & Weekends	463-9581
Fax Line	467-7360
Recycling-Ridge Meadows Recycling Society (10092-236th St.)	463-5545
Finance Department	
Purchasing	467-7478
Property Taxation (Information Line)	467-7336
Fax Line	467-7331
Fire Department	
Emergency Calls Only	911
Administration Only - Non-Emergency Calls	463-5880
Fax Line	467-7332
Garbage (GVRD Transfer Station)	466-9277
Inspection Services	467-7311
Building	467-7312
Electrical	467-7313
Gas-Plumbing & On-Site Servicing	467-7314
Suite Line	467-7427
After Hours Inspection Line	467-7380
Fax Line	467-7461
Library (22420 Dewdney Trunk)	466-2601
Mayor	463-5221
Municipal Emergency Program	463-5221
Nights & Weekends	463-9581
Parks & Leisure Services	
Administration & General Information (1-11996 Edge St.)	467-7346
Fax Line	467-7393
General Manager's Office (11995 Haney Place)	467-7347
Facility & Sportfield Reservations	467-7438
or	465-2452
Sportfield Conditions & Closures	467-7321
Leisure Centre (11925 Haney Place)	
General Programs	467-7322
Touch Tone Info (Swimming, Skating, Aerobics, Community Events)	467-7321
Fax Line	467-7373
Maple Ridge Campground Reservations	467-7357
Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council Office (22520-116th Ave.)	467-3825
Fax Line	467-1498
Ridge-Meadows Seniors Society (12150-224th St.)	
Seniors Program & Information Office	467-4993
Personnel Enquiries/Job Line	467-7350
Planning & Environment	467-7341
Development Applications	467-7342
Administration	467-7343
Police-RCMP (11990 Haney Place)	
Emergency Calls Only	911
Non-Emergency Calls	463-6251
Records Section	467-7635
Volunteer Services Coordinator	467-7644
Fax Line	467-7633
Pitt Meadows Community Policing	465-2402
SPCA Animal Shelter (10235 Industrial)	463-9511

The Legend of the Beast

In the valley of the Golden Ears Mountains in Maple Ridge, 'The Beast' ran and frolicked from the beginning of time in perfect harmony with the environment.

Mother Nature took many hours of pleasure just watching the beauty of the 'Beast's' movement and the sheer joy of living the 'Beast' projected as it ran and jumped in play with the other animals in the valley, without a mean bone in its body. Mother Nature found perfect solitude in the mountains and a place to rest from her ever increasing workload throughout the world when time would allow.

Sadly, it came to pass one day that man became extremely proficient in the destruction of the earth. Man's technology in the production of toxic chemicals, nuclear waste, sewage and larger machines to cut down the forests quicker had a devastating effect on the earth. The oceans were used as dumping grounds, drift nets, miles long, were set to kill anything living without regard, and oil was spilled as if to make sure everything else was destroyed.

Mother Nature worked so hard trying to repair the damage that she was just about finished. Man in his greed was ready to put his final touch to the end of nature, but he had not reckoned on the appearance of 'The Beast' who came thundering out of the Valley of the Golden Ears to help Mother Nature.



The battle was fierce, but 'The Beast' was not like Mother Nature who would not hurt anyone or anything. 'The Beast' ran over people that were causing this destruction and gave battle in any way that was possible, and in the battle, man used chemicals, nuclear waste, fire and pollution of every sort to try and stop this thing from the Valley of the Golden Ears.

When the battle was over and Mother Nature had a chance to regain her strength, she found 'The Beast' was just about done in with man's pollution of nuclear waste, chemicals, acid rain, smog, sewage and smoke from what was left of the forests. There was no way she could save 'The Beast' and restore it to what it was when it ran free in the valleys and mountains around Maple Ridge. The damage was too great. This was a sad day. A few tears fell from Mother Nature and anger started to swell up in her until she was mad. In her anger, this was what she decreed:

"While 'The Beast' cannot be as before, I can make it in another form and I will make 'The Beast' into a statue for all the world to see. I will not let man or the sum of all mankind go without punishment. They who try to destroy by pollution and technology shall have their souls imprisoned and shall wake up with nightmares of 'The Beast' as he captures them and does what he will.

Furthermore, I, Mother Nature, make this decree that I will give mankind another chance to change his ways and use his intelligence to help the environment.

Because of past performance, I am starting the Clock of Time, and how much time is left to the world depends on what is done. For now, the clock is running with the souls and spirits of those who would not heed my warning. Trapped, their pain and anguish can be seen in their eyes. 'The Beast' would give no mercy if it could get at them and they would be destroyed, but their destruction would not be enough punishment. Instead, they will have to look over the world every hour and see what they have done for an eternity and every hour 'The Beast' shall have its vengeance as it tramples upon those inside the clock who have done damage to the earth."

D.R. Brayford (Copyright 1989)

Youth Enjoying One of the Many
Activities at the Leisure Centre



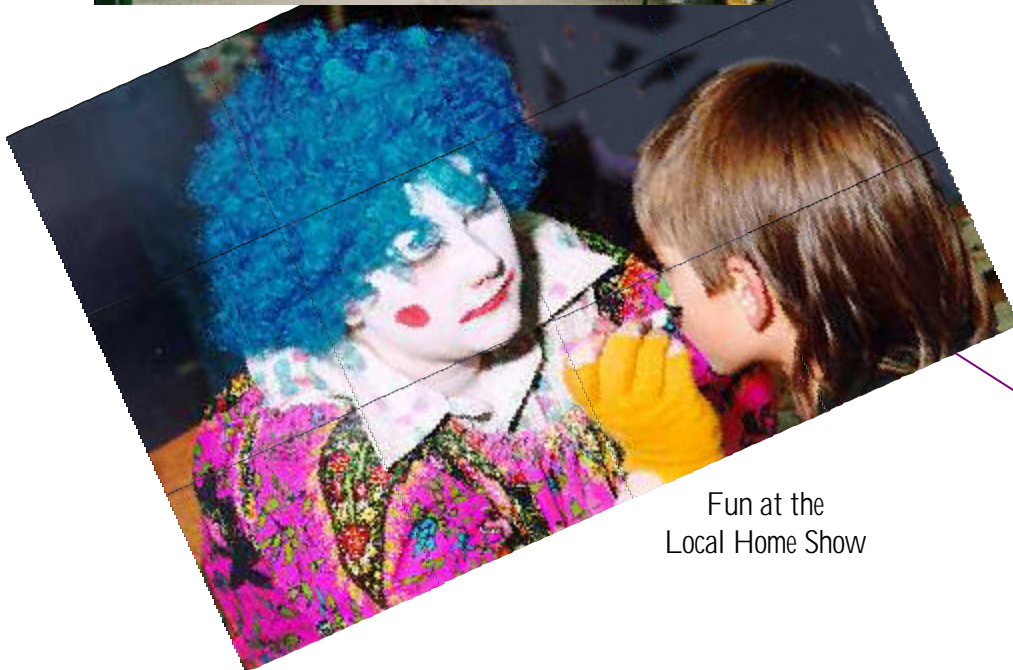
Municipal Staff Raises Over \$12,000
for the United Way

Canada Day Celebration



Equestrian Entry in the Mountain
Festival Parade

Construction Begins on the
Exciting New Town Core



Fun at the
Local Home Show

Town Core Photo