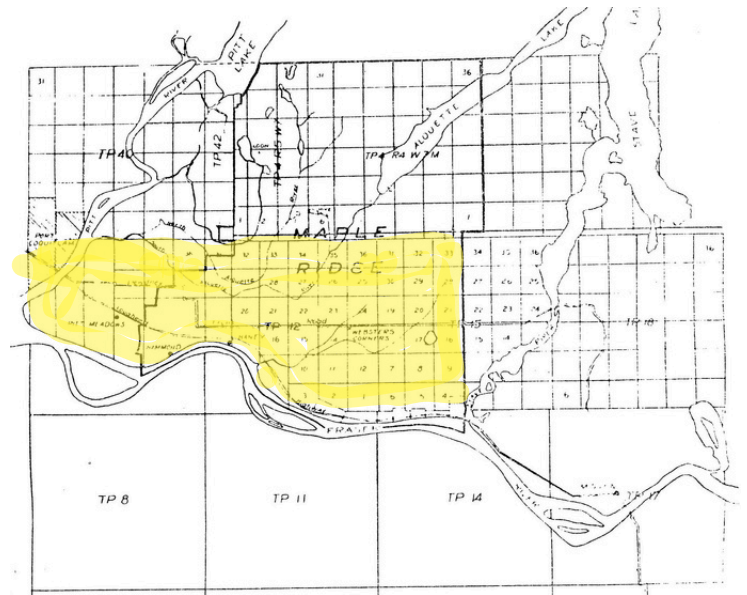


MAPLE RIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Maple Ridge 150

Maple Ridge 150 series, our story part 5 of 6.

Our story continues with the incorporation of Maple Ridge as a municipality. On September 12th, 1874 a group of men who were early settlers to the Maple Ridge area gathered on the farm of John McIver to sign the letters patent to form a municipality. Letters patent is a type of legal document that confers rights and status, and contains a description of the new municipalities borders. At the time, local approval for incorporation considered only the opinions of "at least two-thirds of the male freeholders, householders, free miners, pre-emptors, and leaseholders, for the term of



Incorporation map of Maple Ridge. Highlighted section is the incorporated territory of 1874.

not less than two years. This explicitly excluded the Indigenous peoples whose land this is, women, renters, and all non-white ethnic groups whose ability to own property was restricted under the law.

The letters patent were quickly published in the British Columbia gazette, a public record for government matters, printed in Victoria. The new municipality was described in the BC Gazette as "all that piece of land including within the lines commencing at a point on the right bank of the Fraser River at its junction with Pitt River; thence running Eastwardly following the bank of the Fraser River for the distance of fourteen and three-quarter miles; thence Northerly for a distance of six and three-quarter miles; thence Westerly a distance of fourteen and three-quarter miles; thence Southwardly to point of commencement..." This includes what is today Pitt Meadows, who would split off in 1896, and then incorporate in 1914. It also notably includes a small portion of today's Port Coquitlam. This initial boundary marking would be settled when Coquitlam (1891) and then Port Coquitlam (1913) became their own municipalities. This description also does not include (or exclude) the Katzie Reserve lands which were defined in the 1860's.

Maple Ridge was the sixth municipality incorporated in British Columbia and was beaten by New Westminster in 1860, Victoria in 1862, Chilliwack and the Township of Langley on the same day in April 1873 and North Cowichan in June 1873. With the municipality incorporated the newly elected councillors could appeal to the government in Victoria for funds to build roads and bridges which were desperately desired from the settlers to get their goods to and from their farms away from the river. Our next installment will conclude our early history series with how the municipality moved forward over the next 150 years.

Maple Ridge 150 Celebrations

The Museum is partnering with the City of Maple Ridge in their sponsored MR 150 programming throughout the summer.

The City of Maple Ridge has taken on the celebrations of our 150 years in a number of community events. Earlier in the year the city worked with Kwantlen artist Joshua Carr and his partner Amber Oliver to create street banners to mark the 150 of being a Municipality and Katzie and Kwantlen being here since time immemorial. These street banners went up in April of 2024.

The City of Maple Ridge is further celebrating the 150th birthday by putting on a series of events throughout the city as block parties and one large birthday celebration at Memorial Peace Park on September 14th.

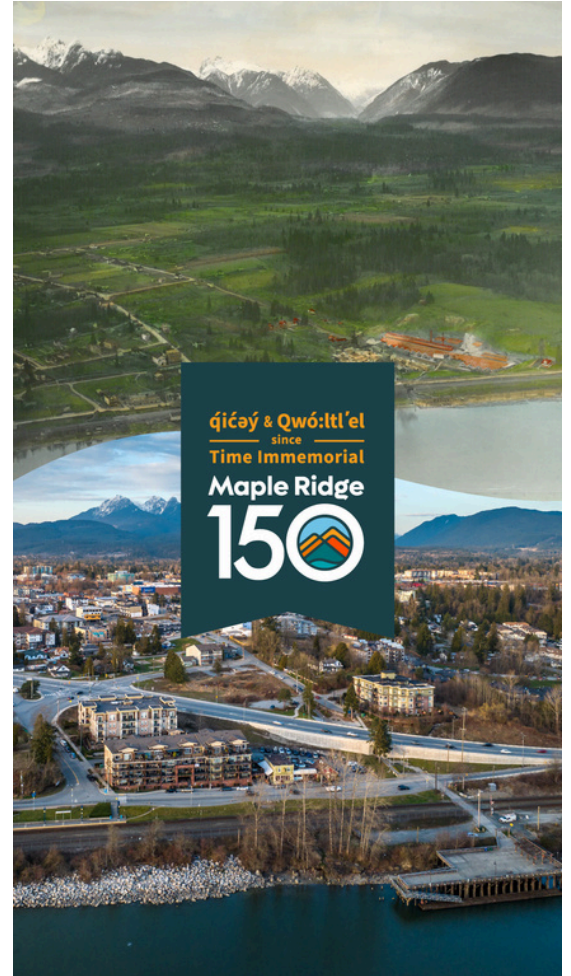
This bash will include a farmers market, community groups, entertainment, food trucks, three stages, a beer garden, and car free event. The details for the event are below and a link to the city website with details on enjoying this huge event! The Maple Ridge Museum tent will be featured at the event and we will have displays on our history, candy, and give away prizes!

September 14, 2024 | 12:00 pm-10:00 pm

Memorial Peace Park & the Downtown Core

Admission is Free

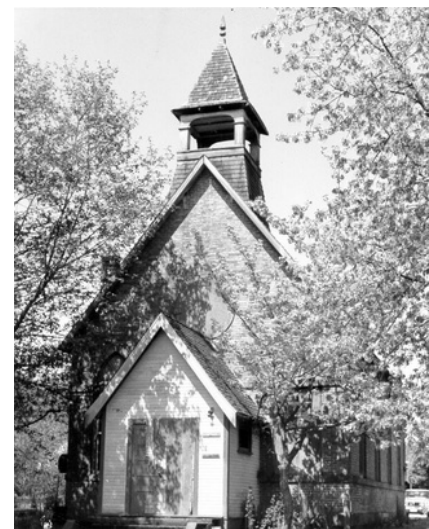
[Click here to visit the City Website](#)



St Andrews Church Hall Rental

Are you looking for a rental space to hold a small gathering of up to 60 people? Don't forget that the Maple Ridge Historical Society rents out the St Andrews Heritage Church and Hall for group meetings, small gatherings, weddings, celebrations of life, baby showers etc.

Visit our website for rental rates and to see a copy of the rental contract. If you are interested in renting the church for your group our event please contact our Buildings Manager at samantha@maplevalleylandservices.ca



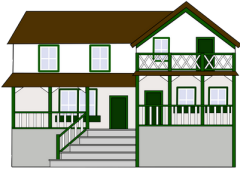
Upcoming Events

Headstone Preservation Project

We are once again looking for locals who value historical preservation to help with the important task of cleaning and maintaining the headstones in our cemeteries. Join us for the last Headstone Preservation session of 2024!

Saturday, Sept 7 9am-12pm (Whonnock Cemetery)

mapleridgemuseum.org/headstone-preservation-project



Apple Harvest Festival

Celebrate Culture Days and visit Haney House to enjoy all things apples to celebrate the harvest and Maple Ridge's apple-growing history!

Tours · Samples · Crafts · Lawn Games

**October 6 11am-2pm
Haney House Museum**

mapleridgemuseum.org/apple-fest

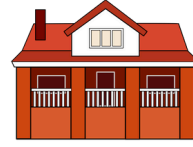
The Dead of Night

Just in time for Halloween, Cornerstone Supernatural and Maple Ridge Museum bring you an eerie evening of fun at Haney House. On this 1.5 hour long tour, you will explore the darker side of Haney House's history with a professional paranormal investigation team.

Learn about their tools and techniques, and even try them for yourself, while discovering which spirits are lurking within the walls of this old building.

**October 11 & 12, Tours starting at 6pm
Haney House Museum
Registration Required
\$30 per person**

mapleridgemuseum.org/ghosthunting



Halloween Family Fun

Halloween Family Fun is back at Maple Ridge Museum! Join us for a scavenger hunt, crafts, and candy! The Dewdney Alouette Railway Society will also have the trains running on the afternoon of October 27! All ages. No registration required.

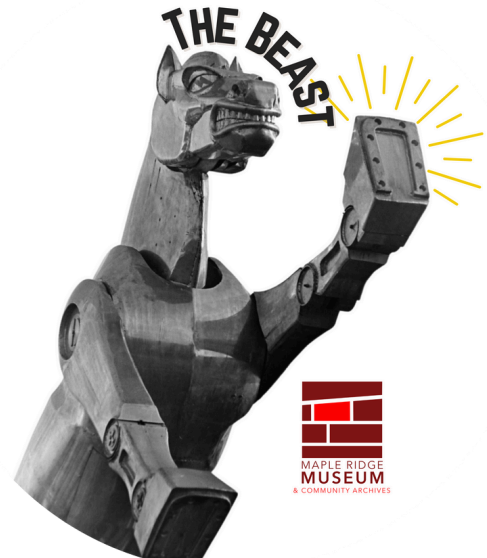
**October 26 & 27 10am-4pm
Maple Ridge Museum**

mapleridgemuseum.org/halloween-family-fun

Maple Ridge Museum: We have Merch Now!

Show your love for Maple Ridge Museum with some fun merchandise options! This is your chance to get historical Maple Ridge icons like The Beast or one of the dinosaurs from Dyck's Dino Park on a t-shirt, tote bag, sticker, or notebook. Best of all, you can choose the style, size, and colour of your shirt and have it shipped directly to you through RedBubble!

redbubble.com/people/mapleridgemus/shop



July & August Events Review

We had a busier than average summer. We started off July with our usual 20x20 Remax tent at **Canada Day**. We held two **Music on the Wharf** concerts. We celebrated **Historic Places Days** with drop-in lawn games at the museum. We had four **Headstone Preservation** sessions, where 39 volunteers cleaned almost 300 stones at Maple Ridge Cemetery and Whonnock Cemetery. We went to **Country Fest** for one day and enjoyed trading trivia answers for candy.

In August we had a tent at the **Haney Farmer's Market** for the second time this year, bringing a display about chicken farming made by Summer Student Charlize. We were honoured to attend the inaugural **Katzie First Nation Pride** event. We attended two **Rock the Block** events in Hammond and Silver Valley. We participated in the inaugural **Bon Odori** event with staff at the actual event, and a talk at the Maple Ridge Cemetery. We hosted Karen LeSage of Baobab Kids Yoga for a **Family Yoga** session that we adapted and moved indoors when the weather refused to cooperate. Lastly, we held our third **Music on the Wharf** concert, but unfortunately had to cancel the fourth due to weather.



Family Yoga at Maple Ridge Museum on a rainy August 18.

Upcoming Museum on the Move Appearances



MUSEUM ON THE MOVE

September 14 - Memorial Peace Park
Event: Our Neck of the Woods

September 21 - Memorial Peace Park
Event: GETI Fest

September 29 - Memorial Peace Park
Event: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

November 23: Repair Cafe

More appearances are being added all the time! For an up-to-date list, visit:
mapleridgemuseum.org/motm

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum. On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Published and printed by the Maple Ridge Historical Society

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A digital version of this and previous newsletters can be found on the Web site under the tab "About Us"