



## Pitt Meadows City Council - A Year in Review

*Pitt Meadows City Council and staff have had a busy and productive first year to Council's four-year term. Below are the highlights of Council's first 365 days in office:*

### 2019-2022 Strategic Plan

- Approved a new Strategic Plan to serve as a guiding framework for policies, budgets and decision-making.
- Established Pitt Meadows Proud™ as the new vision for the City.

### Enhanced Public Safety

- Added two additional Fire Safety Technicians (FSTs) to the Pitt Meadows Fire & Rescue Service, allowing the City to better address community safety by offering extended coverage, 6 am – 6 pm, seven days per week, and increasing service levels by attending ambulance delays greater than 10 minutes and chest pain calls.
- Selected existing location for the re-building of the new Fire Hall and endorsed the fire hall conceptual designs to include an Emergency Operations Centre.
- Banned the use of unsafe clothing bins until clothing bins no longer pose a threat to public safety.
- Launched the RCMP Police Services Review with the City of Maple Ridge and the RCMP to examine service levels and policing models.
- Identified strategic priorities for policing services in Pitt Meadows including enhanced visibility, improved communication, and addressing excessive speeding.

### Diking and Flood Mitigation

- Secured \$420,000 in grant funding to complete a diking and flood mitigation report that will position the City to seek upwards of \$100 Million in further funding to improve dikes for Pitt Meadows and Katzie First Nation.

- Worked with the Fraser Basin Council to bring a motion before the Metro Vancouver Board of Directors, obtaining their support to consider the region's potential role in a centralized flood management and dike maintenance strategy.

#### Respectful Conduct

- Adopted a new Council Code of Conduct and Respectful Workplace Council Policy, articulating important principles and setting community expectations.

#### Enhanced Relationship with Katzie First Nation

- Attended two Council-to-Council meetings with Katzie First Nation to discuss issues of mutual interest, including collaboration on secondary access to Katzie lands, introduction of Bonson Road truck levies, and recognition of Katzie's traditional territory and important culture through City initiatives such as inclusive park signage.

#### Building Strong Relationships /Advocacy

- Advanced relationships with MP Dan Ruimy, Minister Lisa Beare, and other ministry leaders and staff.
- Attended joint meetings with both Maple Ridge City Council and SD42 Board of Education to discuss mutual interests and areas for collaboration.
- Met with regional partners to further relationships and advocate for the needs of Pitt Meadows, including Metro Vancouver Regional District, TransLink, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, Fraser Basin Council, and the Agricultural Land Commission.
- Advocated for Health Canada's consideration of the long-term health consequences of cell towers and wireless technology.
- Attended the 2019 Union of BC Municipalities Convention and met with the following ministries to advocate for the needs of Pitt Meadows: MOTI to request road and transit improvements; Ministry of Agriculture for funding to support local farmers and to review new Agriculture Land Commission regulations; Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General for British Columbia regarding the Ridge Meadows RCMP police review currently underway; Ministry of Environment regarding the new Fisheries Act and cannabis odour control and air quality; and Ministry of Education to discuss schools in Pitt Meadows.

#### North Lougheed Study Area

- Lifted the indefinite deferral of the development of the North Lougheed Study Area, consisting of approximately 125 acres of land on the north side of the Lougheed Highway between Harris Road and Meadows Gardens Golf Course.
- Completed the initial scoping report; confirmed exclusion from the Agricultural Land Reserve; began engaging the community around their thoughts on potential land uses; and presented initial land use concepts for consideration.

#### Governance & Committee Restructure

- Established a new governance and committee structure, including the launch of Council's Engagement & Priorities Committee, allowing for enhanced public engagement and renewed collaboration with City committees.

#### Golden Ears Business Park

- Adopted Design Guidelines for Golden Ears Business Park 3 and 4, which promotes innovative form and character designs including enhanced streetscapes, greenways, and pedestrian/cyclist paths and connections.

#### Community Service Awards Program

- Established a new citizen-led awards program to recognize the contributions of important community members and businesses to the quality of life in Pitt Meadows.
- Enhanced the 'Celebrate Pitt Meadows' aspect of Council Meetings with a new Civic Recognition program and newly designed Certificate of Recognition for individuals and groups recognized by Council for their contributions to the community.

#### CP Underpass/Overpass

- Provided initial endorsement of Pitt Meadows Road and Rail Project that includes an underpass at Harris Road and overpass at Kennedy Road, with design and construction costs being covered by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, Canadian Pacific (CP), and the Federal Government.
- Working closely with key project partners to address community concerns including noise mitigation for rail operations; relocation of heritage buildings; assurances for business continuity during construction; and project designs that the City can be proud of.

#### Updated Official Community Plan

- After nearly two years of consultation, a new draft OCP is nearing completion and will replace the current 2008 version.

#### Pitt Meadows Regional Airport (YPK)

- Achieved a dramatic rise in investor confidence with eight new development projects being approved by the Board, which is composed of three members each from Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge City Councils, as well as both City Managers. Transparency with the community is now part of the operational foundation of YPK.
- Invited Airport Manager Guy Miller to several regular Council meetings to provide community updates on proposed developments and upcoming initiatives.

#### Community Engagement

- Hosted a public round table to obtain feedback from the community on the proposed governance and committee restructure.

- Sought community feedback on the renaming of Council's committee of the whole, which is now the 'Engagement and Priorities Committee' or EPC.
- Hosted a public information session on Fire Services in Pitt Meadows, highlighting facts about the current department model, call volumes, major incidents and medical call responses along with current challenges and opportunities.
- Held an EPC meeting on farming, diking and sustainable watercourses in Pitt Meadows.
- Hosted a community roundtable with the Agricultural Advisory Committee on matters important to the farming community.

#### Daycare

- Voted unanimously to renew the lease for Discovery Playhouse Children's Society at the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre.
- Secured funding to study availability of daycare spaces in Pitt Meadows.

#### Community Connections

- Council members attended numerous events throughout the community connecting with residents and celebrating life together. Events attended include: Salvation Army Dignity Breakfast, Christmas in Pitt Meadows; CP Holiday Train; Pitt Meadows Day; Airport Day; Canada Day; Afro Gala; YPK Air Traffic Control Tower grand opening; Pitt Meadows Secondary Career Life Education Fair; Ridge Meadows Seniors Society Strawberry Tea; Girl Guides Achievement Awards; Continuing Education Adult Recognition Ceremony; Graduation Ceremony at Pitt Meadows Secondary; Summer Serenade series; MLA Beare's community BBQ; Pitt Meadows Art Gallery exhibition openings; Riverside Church grand opening; Terry Fox Run; and Culture Days.

#### Council Orientation and Education

- Attended several professional development and orientation sessions including: Elected Officials Seminar (hosted by local Government Leadership Academy); Lower Mainland Local Government Association Conference; UBCM Conference; governance training with George Cuff; Finance 101 & budget workshops; workshop with Lidstone & Co. on legal aspects of governance; tour of Justice Institute fire training campus in Maple Ridge; tour of City facilities; tour of local farms; live fire training; and Council of Councils meeting with Metro Vancouver Regional District.