

CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2021 #21-46

For further information, contact: communications@mapleridge.ca

Maple Ridge Council Renews Façade Improvement Partnership

Maple Ridge, BC: At their December 14 meeting, Council unanimously voted to extend the Façade Improvement Program with the Downtown Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association (DMRBIA) for an additional five years. Flori Chaykowski's, Executive Director of the DMRBIA, presentation to Council highlighted how the Program supports modernization of local business frontages.

"Since it's inception in 2010, this Program has assisted 108 business owners in revitalization of their store fronts with the addition of new lighting, murals and signage, resulting in a more inviting downtown core. We're pleased to support the very successful matching grants program with our DMRBIA. Our sincere thanks to those business owners that invest in our City's future every day. Council's top priority is to build a strong local economy that creates employment and diversifies our tax base, all of which facilitates a better quality of life for all in our City." said Mayor Mike Morden.

"We had 10 applications in 2021 all of which have been completed. The review panel looks for projects that have quality workmanship, unique designs and improve lighting and accessibility in our downtown," noted Ms. Chaykowski.

She continued, "The program has also created connections with our <u>LOCTED</u> (Lock Out Crime Through Environmental Design) program, a collaborative effort between the DMRBIA and the City's Bylaws Department to help businesses with security infrastructure. The integration of these partnership programs benefits the business community, our members and their customers."

Businesses owners looking to apply for funding can find further information on the DMRBIA website.

Background:

Here are some examples of program projects:





2020: Jim's Pizza located at 11952 224 Street

Project Description: Painting, signage, awning, tri-fold sliding front and planter boxes.





2018: Woking Dragon located at 22242 Dewdney Trunk Road Project Description: Residing of exterior building and new signage.





2017: Ridge Meadows Hospice Society Thrift Store located at 3 – 12011 224 Street Project Description: Pressure wash exterior, paint, replace ramp, new awning covers and sign