

## **RIDGE MEADOWS SENIORS SOCIETY**

Open Board Meeting held Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 09:30 am  
Pitt Meadows Seniors Activity Centre,  
19065 119b Ave., Pitt Meadows, B.C. V3Y 0E6

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**PRESENT:** Karen Hjort-Olsen, Bobbi Duncan, Patricia Gordon, Margaret Attwell, Deborah Jamieson, Leslie Carnie

**STAFF:** Maria Perretta (Executive Director)

**LIAISONS:** Councillor Bob Meachen, City of Pitt Meadows

**REGRETS:** Kathy Baxter (on leave)

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### **1.0 Land Acknowledgment**

### **2.0 Call to order**

- Meeting was called to order at 9:31 am.

### **3.0 Approval of the agenda**

- **MOTION:** Leslie Carnie moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Deborah Jamieson. **CARRIED.**

### **4.0 Approval of the minutes of March 20, 2025**

- **MOTION:** Leslie Carnie moved to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Deborah Jamieson. **CARRIED.**

### **5.0 Reports**

#### **5.1 Liaisons**

##### **Councillor Meachen**

- Discussion about interest from seniors if the city held an Engagement and Priorities Committee (EPC) meeting in the future
- Government funds for the free farmers markets coupons (Nutrition Coupon Program) are not yet available this year. Last year, \$3081 in coupons were redeemed at the Pitt Meadows Farmers Market.

#### **5.2 Maria Perretta, Executive Director**

- Bus Banter
  - Sessions were held at both centres last week with total of 22 in attendance to discuss the need and ideas about running a community bus between both RMSS centres with strategic stops along the route.
  - Service would be available to all seniors, not just RMSS members
  - A survey will be coming out to get more feedback

- McLean Developer Donation
  - MOU is being drafted
- All three United Way grant applications were successful for a total of **\$359,920**
  - **TAPS (Therapeutic Recreation Activity Program) through United Way- \$199, 920** This program will run alongside of our Caregivers Support Program to offer a day program for seniors with mild to moderate cognitive or mobility impairments. Group activities will be lead by a Recreation Therapist. This will be a free program.
  - **United Way Caregivers Support Program-\$ 110,000** This will help us to expand our current Caregiver Support Program into satellite locations to assist more people looking after seniors who live at home.
  - **United Way Social Meals Program- \$50,000-** to support our breakfast & lunch buddies programs which is an opportunity for seniors to have a free nutritious meal in a congregate organized setting in an effort to reduce isolation and promote socialization.
- Two other grant applications were successful
  - **Community Prosperity Fund through the Maple Ridge Community Foundation- \$92,500** The goal of this funding is to make a significant impact addressing social isolation while easing food costs for RMSS volunteers.
  - **Petro Canada Caremakers- \$7000** to provide free meals to ease the burden of caregivers looking after seniors living at home.
  - **Grand total of all five successful grants is \$507,420**
- Mrs. Ropers Romp held at Pitt Meadows Activity Centre on April 10 was a success and was reported in the Maple Ridge News
- April 30 is the 'Accessibility Exploration Event' held at Pitt Meadows City Hall in the Meadows Room from 1-3 pm
- May 3 is 'Volunteer Appreciation Day' held at the Maple Ridge Activity Centre; the theme is 'Magical'
- Oct 1 is 'National Senior Day' with an event to be held at Maple Ridge Activity Centre; call out for any seniors who are entertainers
- Oct 25 is the Wellness Fair held by the Seniors Network at Maple Ridge Activity Centre

### 5.3 Finance

- Karen reported that Kathy Baxter is working on finances; update to follow

**5.4 Maple Ridge Strata**

- BC Hydro did a lighting assessment at Maple Ridge Activity Centre
- All lights will be changed to LED at a cost of \$59,000 to the City; the projected annual cost savings to the City will be \$7000

**6.0 New Business**

**6.1 Fundraising**

- Patricia reported that the **Coffee Fundraiser** was officially open online to accept sales from April 14 to May 12. Emphasis on shop local and support seniors in our community. Nine orders already received.
- **Second Annual Shred-a-thon** booked for Sat. June 14, 2025 in the Maple Ridge Activity Centre parking lot. Cash donations of minimum \$25 for a 'bankers box' or \$10 for a plastic grocery bag.
  - Three sponsors have been secured to cover the cost of the onsite secure shredding truck supplied by RecordXPress.
  - Sponsors are Johnston Meier Insurance, Absolute Hearing and Janet Helms, realtor; all have established relationships with RMSS

**7.0 Old Business**

**7.1 MR Parking Lot**

- RMSS in negotiations with the City of Maple Ridge; update to follow

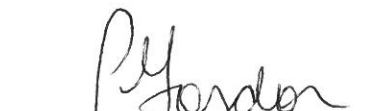
**8.0 Adjournment**

- **MOTION:** Deborah Jamieson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Bobbi Duncan. **CARRIED.**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.

  
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President – Karen Hjort-Olsen

MAY 15/25  
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Date

  
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Secretary – Patricia Gordon