

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR COMMUNITY GAMING CENTRE - JULY 23, 2008

7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 23rd, 2008 at Municipal Hall, 11995 Haney Place, Maple Ridge.

It is critical for all RMBA member charities to turn out in force to clearly show City Council and local citizens that we strongly support the CGC. Otherwise we risk missing our best opportunity to articulate the many positive benefits of responsible gaming in our community.

Just a reminder that our \$1 million sale to Great Canadian includes an additional \$1,250,000 to be paid out to all RMBA charities over 10 years once the CGC is built and slots become operational. That is on top of the money you will receive from your continued affiliation with the bingo component of the CGC. I hardly need to remind you how vital these charitable dollars are to each of our organizations.

However, the very future of our bingo hall is in jeopardy if the CGC is rejected, and with it the continuation of our Affiliation Grants, which are due for renewal April, 2009. It should be an issue of real concern to all of us and our local politicians!

Our 37 member charities, with their hundreds of volunteers, serve thousands of people in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows every year. Almost \$2 million in annual gaming dollars go directly back into helping local residents through our member service clubs, community groups, sports teams, arts council and fraternal organizations. In fact, close to \$40,000,000 has been raised via the Bingoplex since 1985. But all this is at risk if the proposed Community Gaming Centre is defeated.

The time to speak up and be counted is one week away. Your silence now will only allow any opponents a greater chance to influence city councillors against the proposal. Please plan to join your fellow RMBA members in a show of strength and unity at next Wednesday's public hearing. I look forward to seeing (and hearing) you there. Thank you.

Cathie Lemmen, President, RMBA

I encourage as many Rotarians as possible to attend the hearing for the new Gaming Centre as Meadowridge Rotary is one of the benefitting charities of the new centre. If the new gaming centre is not approved for Maple Ridge, it is possible that the bingo operations could be closed down, and the club would lose its annual bingo funding and also the portion of the \$1,250,000 that Great Canadian will kick back over the next 10 years.

Ken Paterson [Director Ridge Meadows Bingo Association]

HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL 2008

September 13, 2008 at Thomas Haney Centre

Every single member is asked to donate a "good" BOTTLE OF WINE with a minimum value of \$30.00 (Absolutely NO home-made wines!). If you are unable to do so, we would ask you to just donate \$30.00 and a Committee member will buy the bottle for you (discount available to our Club!).



We will then put together 2 exquisite "wine cellars" to be auctioned off at the event! As you can see, we really need **every** member to participate in this, otherwise we will not have enough bottles to make this exciting "wine cellar-auction" successful.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

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INVOCATION

July 22	Anil Bharwani	July 29	Ineke Boekhorst
Aug 5	Peter Boekhorst	Aug. 12	Robert Campbell

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
Aug. 21	Diane Kirkland	
Sept. 18	Mary Robson	Gordy Robson



Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or email peter.boekhorst@telus.net

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 23: Marina Marrocco

July 27: Vivian Hatiras

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Election of Vice President for 2008/09

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Roger Welch (President – Ridge Meadows Art Council)

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Aug. 2		Heritage Day	M.R.Peace Park
Aug. 9	3pm	Bee BBQ – Vlad's Apiary	The Bee Farm – 129 th Ave., Pitt Meadows
Sept. 13		WineFest	Thomas Haney Centre

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$131.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 48 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Today's meeting was a special presentation held in the Fraser Room at the Library. The meeting brought together our club members, some of the Haney Club members, some of the District's Parks & Rec. staff, BC Disability Sports' Executive Director Jane Samletzki, and two special guests. The presentation was on the upcoming BC Disability Games scheduled for July 22 - 26, 2009 in Maple Ridge.



Anita Perler, Chief Director of the Games, spoke of the honour of holding the games within our community. This event showcases the abilities of the disabled and builds a legacy for our community.

The last time the games were held in Maple Ridge was in 1992.

Anita advised that BC Disability Games were established in 1968. This multi-sport event gives athletes with a disability the opportunity to compete in a variety of sport and recreational activities. The Games offer the host community an opportunity to celebrate their cultural diversity while showcasing local facilities and services.

The BC Disability Games support athletes from disability groups through the participation of a number of member groups including:

SportAbility BC	BC Deaf Sports Federation
BC Blind Sports and Recreation Association	Disabled Sailing Association of BC
Canadian Amputee Sports Association – BC Division	BC Therapeutic Riding Association

The sports chosen for the BC Disability Games, ensure that the needs of athletes with a disability are met. The sports include Boccia, Archery, Sailing, Equestrian, and Goal ball to name a few. There are approximately 600 participants (athletes, officials, caregivers, etc.) with another 600 people volunteering for the event.

Anita introduced the Board of Directors, which includes John Mitchell, Rick Howard, Maggie Prince, Denise Gunn, Kathy Marshall, Mike Murray, Robert Campbell, Anita Perler, Derrick Keist, Chum Richardson, Trevor Randall, Clive and Marilyn. She then introduced Heather McCain.

Heather McCain, a local athlete and a co-organizer for the Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Games, gave us a bit of background on her involvement in Paralympics sports. She used to play power soccer utilizing a power wheelchair, and started a power soccer team in Maple Ridge.

Due to further health issues, Heather changed to the sport of Boccia. She borrowed a Boccia ball but had no gym for practice, so she painted a court in her driveway. With the help of a young friend who retrieved the ball for her, she practiced hard and became skilled in the sport. She received great support from her neighbours and friends during her training period.

In 2005, Heather went to Nanaimo to compete in the Games. She did not feel unique or out of place socially. She found that the Games were inclusive of all people with disabilities who want to play and have a passion for sports. In 2007, Heather attended the Games held in Powell River as

a Special Guest due to health issues that did not allow her to participate. She will co-organize the Maple Ridge Games.

Alison Kabush was then introduced along with her assistant, Shannon. Alison is Boccia participant who has won two bronze medals in the Summer Paralympics Games. She won in Sidney in 2000, and in Athens in 2004. She is now on her way to Beijing to participate in the 2008 Summer Games.

Hosting the 2009 Games in Maple Ridge will have a lasting effect on our Community. It will change our perception of people with disabilities and provide a better understanding of what can be accomplished by an individual's desire and passion to compete in sports. The Games will leave a legacy for our community and be a source of community pride.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence



Left: Alison; right: Heather

ESTEEM TEAM PRESENTATIONS 2008 REPORT

The Esteem Team Program is funded by the Rotary Club of Haney and the Rotary Club of MeadowRidge. Dates for the presentations were April 29, 2008 and May 6, 13, 20, 2008

Athletes making the presentations: Derek Winterman, Margaret Langford, Justin Abdou and Amber Zirnhelt

Schools involved with the presentations:

- Secondary Schools - Thomas Haney and Pitt Meadows
- Elementary Schools: Alexander Robinson, Edith McDermott, Eric Langdon, Glenwood, Golden Ears, Hammond, Harry Hooge, Laity View, Maple Ridge, Mount Crescent, Pitt Meadows, Riverside, Whonnock, Yennadon.

Students attending the presentations: 3,200

Rotarians who attended the presentations: Kevin Nosworthy, Marco Terwiel, Brian Bekar., Jim Boulder, Peter Boekhorst, Matt DeBruyn, Stan Wade, Deddie Geese, Dave Rempel.

A special thank you to the Rotarians who attended the presentations and Kevin who arranged for our members to be in attendance.

Submitted by Dave Rempel