



Press Release

POCOMAP NOW AVAILABLE TO MAC USERS, MORE USER-FRIENDLY

Port Coquitlam, BC – May 29, 2009... A recent upgrade has made PoCoMAP, the City of Port Coquitlam's interactive mapping tool, easier to use and more functional than ever. Notably, PoCoMAP is available to Mac users for the first time.

An online portal to a wide range of City and property information, PoCoMAP can help users find a location, track down the nearest school or park, view zoning and legal information, locate utilities and more. It has become increasingly popular since its launch in 2005; a recent City survey indicated that 50% of respondents had used PoCoMAP.

"The improvements to PoCoMAP will make it even easier for people to access information about the City," Mayor Greg Moore noted. "PoCoMAP is an excellent tool, and it goes hand-in-hand with our goal of bringing City Hall to the people, and making it easy and convenient for people to access City services on their schedule without having to come into City Hall."

While the information on PoCoMAP is constantly being updated, the upgrade completed on May 15 is the most significant to date. The improvements to PoCoMAP include:

- availability to Mac users for the first time, using the Mozilla Firefox browser (a free download),
- simplified use and navigation
- improved search and reporting functions,
- more available data, for surveying and other purposes,
- better and more customizable print products,
- dynamic text that adjusts as the map scale changes, and
- the addition of major features in the surrounding Metro Vancouver area, such as roads and rivers.

With these changes, PoCoMAP is more intuitive, user-friendly and customizable. Users also no longer have to download special software to use PoCoMAP. The new system requirements are simply:

- Microsoft Windows (minimum XP) or Mac OSX
- Internet Explorer (6.0 or above) for Windows, or Mozilla Firefox (a free download) for Windows or Mac
- Minimum screen resolution of 800 x 600

- more -

Residents, surveyors, developers and other public users can use PoCoMAP to access data that includes:

- Detailed property information, including: property lines; zoning; Official Community Plan designations; legal descriptions and plans; history of taxes, utility charges and assessments; aerial photographs (orthophotos); surveying benchmarks and more.
- Transportation information, such as street names, truck routes, rail lines and road closure restrictions.
- Placement of City services and infrastructure.
- Location of public facilities and amenities including schools, community centres, parks and trails.
- Garbage zones, contour maps, flood plain boundary and minimum floor elevation.
- Neighbouring communities and regional features.

PoCoMAP is also an important internal resource, helping the City map and maintain civic infrastructure.

To access PoCoMAP, for more information or to download the brochure *Learning to Navigate PoCoMap*, visit www.portcoquitlam.ca/pocomap or click the PoCoMAP link at www.portcoquitlam.ca. The brochure is also available at Port Coquitlam City Hall. For additional information, contact the Engineering and Operations Department at 604-927-5420 or engineering@portcoquitlam.ca.

- 30 -

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