

## City land sales to fund future capital projects

The City of Port Coquitlam is pleased to announce land sale opportunities for prime sites within the City. Four sites are being released in 2006 and 2007, with six more coming available after 2008.

“The goal is to partner with experienced developers to create innovative and attractive developments that bring desired services and amenities to the community,” Mayor Scott Young said.

“It speaks directly to the City’s ‘open for business’ attitude that balances smart-growth principles with fiscal responsibility.”

The prime local properties have been acquired by the City over the years to fund future transportation, infrastructure and recreation facilities, as well as other capital projects. The sales come at a time when raw developable land is in short supply in Greater Vancouver.

On Wednesday, Mayor Young and Director of Development Services Kim Fowler introduced the Land Sale Strategy to Lower Mainland developers during a presentation to the Urban Development Institute.

A webpage has also been developed to help publicize the strategy ([www.portcoquitlam.ca/landsales](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/landsales)). The page can also be accessed through the City’s website ([www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca)).

“New development is essential to helping us achieve a complete community,” Fowler said.

“The land sales will provide an exciting opportunity to partner with the development community to showcase fiscally, socially and environmentally responsible development – the three pillars of our triple bottom line sustainability framework that will guide these projects.”

To provide certainty, the City will provide a development concept for each site as part of the Request for Proposal sales process. Triple bottom line accounting will be used to select the successful proponent.

The sites to be sold range in size from less than an acre to more than 27 acres. While most of the lands are for residential use – ranging from single family and townhouse to apartment and high-rise – there are also opportunities

1932-56 McLean Avenue



2170 Kelly Ave & 2380-90 Mary Hill Rd



2230-52 Kingsway Avenue



2560 Pitt River Road



**These four sites are the first of eight sites to be released for sale by the City of Port Coquitlam.**

for mixed use, comprehensive or innovative development concepts.

The first four sites to be released are:

- 2560 Pitt River Road: an approximately two-acre site for a compact townhouse development;
- 2170 Kelly Avenue and 2380-2390 Mary Hill Road: a 4.3-acre site for a comprehensive mixed-use development including high-rises, townhouses, at-grade commercial use and park space;

- 2230-2252 Kingsway Avenue: a 0.7-acre site near the new Leigh Square Arts Village planned for an “arts enterprise” concept with a mixed-use loft or live/work-style design; and
- 1932-1956 McLean Avenue: a 0.7-acre site for a single-family subdivision.

For more information about the Land Sale Strategy and the sites (including downloadable PDFs), please visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/landsales](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/landsales).

### Message from the Mayor

## This is *your* City – make sure you have your say

With the summer break now over, we can all face fall with renewed energy to tackle the jobs that await us.

As I see it, one of the “jobs” of citizens is to get involved in their community. There are many different ways to achieve this. In Port Coquitlam, for example, your City government works hard to provide a variety of ways for residents to have their say and stay informed about civic functions and activities.

For example, our Council and committee meetings are open to the public, and Council meetings are also televised regularly on Shaw Cable 4. We keep our website ([www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca)) updated with services, programs, events and other useful City information. As well, our quarterly Update newsletters are a



good way to stay informed about what’s happening in your community.

For those who want to take a more active role, the City offers many ways for our citizens to participate. Public input opportunities are frequently advertised to provide Council with our citizens’ perspective on matters that affect our community. Public consultation is an important part of our financial planning process, as you’ll read about in this edition of Update.

As well, each fall the City seeks new members for its various citizen advisory committees and special events task forces. These important bodies provide valuable input into Council decisions and ensure that our community festivals are enjoyed by one and all, year after year.

In addition, the City recruits volunteers for a wide variety of functions, from recreation programs to cultural activities to emergency preparedness. Please visit our website for more information about our many available volunteer positions.

Beyond City Hall, there are many other ways to make a difference in your community. Port Coquitlam is home to a variety of volunteer-based organizations whose dedicated work benefits us all. Consider helping them out with your special skills and talents.

Attending community events is another way to get involved. As mentioned above, Port Coquitlam hosts a number of festivals that help foster community pride and provide positive, healthy activities for our families.

All of us have a role to play in our City, from members of the municipal government to our citizens. I assure you, the more you take part, the more rewarding you will find your residence in Port Coquitlam to be.

Mayor Scott Young

# Opportunities for input into the City's finances

Port Coquitlam residents can have a say in where their taxes are going and how much they pay. In the coming months, there will be numerous opportunities for public input to help Council develop the 2007–2011 Financial Plan, which is the first step in setting the next year's tax rate.

Community feedback is an important part of Port Coquitlam's budget process and allows Council to confirm community priorities and understand what Port Coquitlam citizens value most when it comes to allocating their tax dollars.

As the City moves forward, continuing the tradition of prudent financial management will help ensure long-term financial stability for the community.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in the process by attending the sessions at City Hall outlined below.

For more information, or if you are unable to attend but would like to comment, contact Budget Officer Jason Rude at 604.927.5486 or email [budget@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:budget@portcoquitlam.ca).

## BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL PLAN

The public is invited to provide input at the meetings on Jan. 8, 9, 10, 15 and Feb. 12.

- Staff-proposed Financial Plan and Business Plan overview presentation (30 minutes): Jan. 8, 7 p.m. at the regular Council meeting.
- Business Plan presentations: Jan. 9 and 10, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at special Finance and Intergovernmental (FIG) committee meetings.
- Business Plan and Financial Plan finalization:
  - Jan. 15, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at a Council briefing session, and
  - Jan. 19, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at a special FIG committee meeting.
- Council-proposed budget presentation (maximum 30 minutes): Feb. 12, 7 p.m. at a regular Council meeting.

## SEWER AND WATER RATE

The public is invited to provide input at any of these meetings:

- Water and sewer rate bylaw report: Nov. 23, 5:30 p.m. at the Finance and Intergovernmental committee meeting.
- First, second and third readings of the bylaw: Dec. 11, 7 p.m. at a council meeting.
- Adoption of the bylaws: Jan. 8, 7 p.m. at a council meeting.

## CAPITAL PLAN

Council will also be providing a public input opportunity prior to adopting the 2007-2011 Capital Plan. This session will be held on Oct. 5, 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 2580 Shaughnessy Street.

To view the proposed 2007-2011 Capital Plan in PDF format, go to [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca) and follow the link on the home page to Capital Plan - Public Input.

## Plan for a disaster with free emergency preparedness courses

Families should be prepared to sustain themselves without aid for 72 hours in an emergency situation, including power failures, storms, floods or earthquakes.

To ensure its citizens are prepared, the City of Port Coquitlam's Emergency Preparedness Program offers free courses throughout the year.

The next set of courses is in November.

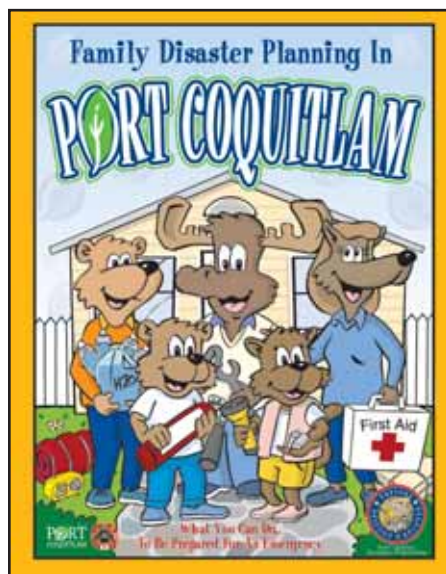
If registering for more than one, it is recommended that the courses be taken in the following order:

- Nov. 21: Personal Family Preparedness – how to help yourself and others after a disaster.
- Nov. 23: Rapid Damage Assessment – identify if your house is safe to occupy after an earthquake.
- Nov. 28: Basic Fire Suppression – includes hands-on fire extinguisher training.
- Nov. 29: First Aid Awareness – learn the first steps in how to assist until professionals arrive.
- Nov. 30: Basic Light Urban Search and Rescue – what to do if someone is trapped after a disaster.

All courses are offered from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Port Coquitlam Fire/Rescue No. 1 Hall, 1725 Broadway St.

Residents are also encouraged to participate in the Neighbourhood Preparedness Program, which teaches neighbourhoods how to plan and train to respond as a team in a disaster.

To register, volunteer or find out more, phone 604.927.5466 or visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).



For a copy of our free Family Disaster Planning Guide, please call 604.927.5466 or drop by No. 1 Hall, 1725 Broadway St.

## Re-using your leaves

Don't let your fallen leaves go to waste. Leaves offer a terrific composting opportunity – they're the greatest source of free soil enrichment around. Here are some ways to take advantage of them.

**Bury them:** Each fall, collect bags of leaves and use them to build new flower beds to increase the size of your garden. Dig deep trenches where the new beds will be, fill them with the loose leaves, cover them up with the soil and let the whole thing settle over winter. By summer, the worms and other creatures will have turned the leaves into a crumbly mass suitable for planting.

**Shred them:** Dead leaves compost much faster if you shred them into small pieces. Save time by using a chipper/shredder with a leaf attachment, or a special leaf shredder. You can also use a rotary-blade lawn mower: pile up a mower-width row of leaves about 30 cm high and run your mower slowly over it. Use the mulch function if you have it. Store the shredded leaves in a bag to use later as a layer in your compost pile.

**Pile them:** You can also make a compost pile out of leaves and let them decompose into leaf mould. This is a highly desirable type of compost – it's the light loamy soil often found on the floor of deciduous forests that helps feed the trees. You can make substantial amounts of leaf mould by putting large quantities of chopped leaves into cylinders made of chicken wire or netting (to let the air in) supported around the outside by stakes. Put in about 30 cm of leaves, then a two-cm layer of garden soil, which will provide the worms and micro-organisms needed to work on the leaves. Then add more leaves and soil, and continue layering until the cylinder is filled.

## Transportation projects help us get around

Each year, the City completes a number of road projects aimed to improve access for Port Coquitlam citizens.

Projects for 2006 include a road rehabilitation program that reconstructs approximately 27,400 square metres of local and arterial roads, including pavement resurfacing and drainage improvements.

This year's list included work on parts of Langan Avenue, Pitt River Road, Pooley Avenue, Lougheed Highway, Sefton Avenue and Prairie Avenue.

Other projects completed this year include:

- Maple Connector: Construction of new road completed by developer.
- Industrial Avenue: Construction of new road.
- Huber Drive Road reconstruction: Victoria Drive to Mars Street (developer/City joint project).
- Lane off Thames Crescent: Utility upgrade with repaving.

- Lane off Elbow Place: Utility upgrade and repaving.
- Lougheed Highway at Hasting Street: Intersection resurfacing.
- Dominion Avenue reconstruction: Lougheed Highway to Ottawa Street.
- McAllister Street at Shaughnessy Street: Traffic signal upgraded (Developer/City joint project).
- Coast Meridian Road (Lougheed Highway to Prairie Avenue): Traffic flow improvements.
- Fraser Health Authority: Parking lot pavement markings and signage upgrade.

The City's traffic volume database was also updated. Traffic and pedestrian counts took place at 21 intersections and 81 mid-block locations on 41 arterial, 34 collector and nine local roadways.

Still in progress are a city-wide signalized intersection systems inventory and a traffic signal installation at Dominion Avenue and Ottawa Street.

## Great place to live - great place to work

City of Port Coquitlam employees are a motivated, respected team of talented professionals who provide a wide range of quality programs and services to the residents of Port Coquitlam.

This City sets high standards for customer service and strives to continue to be a leader in municipal government.

The City of Port Coquitlam offers many rewarding career opportunities in a number of different fields.

Our organization offers a highly attractive total compensation package, including competitive salary, excellent benefits and a great work environment, which provides excellent opportunities for professional growth.

If you would like to be a part of a team with years of proven success, please view our current employment opportunities at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs).

## Retail opportunity in Leigh Square

Port Coquitlam's Parks and Recreation Department is seeking a commercial partner to join in the development of the exciting new Leigh Square Arts Village.

The City is interested in arts-compatible businesses such as an art school, bookstore, gallery/gift shop, funky café, artist studio/shop or an art supply store.

The available unit is approximately 925 square feet in size. It is located in the Outlet (former Post Office on McAllister Street beside City Hall) and will be available for occupancy in the beginning of 2007. The terms are to be negotiated.

The vision for the arts village is that of a little Granville Island in the heart of Port Coquitlam.

The City's downtown core is experiencing a period of significant development. Rental of this unit is an excellent opportunity to get in on the ground floor.

For information, call Susan Hull, Program Coordinator – Arts & Culture at 604.927.7906 or e-mail her at hulls@portcoquitlam.ca.



## Leigh Square Arts Village buildings on track to open in new year

When phase one of the Leigh Square Community Arts Village opens early in the new year, it will forever change the face of downtown Port Coquitlam.

Phase one of the construction focuses on the Outlet and the Gathering Place, two of the three buildings planned for the future arts and culture hub.

The Outlet will house a community arts workroom, art studio, public archives, a resource centre, mini-studios, retail space and offices. The Gathering Place will feature meeting and display space, a production studio, multi-purpose space, change rooms and the Parks and Recreation administration office on the second floor.

### Sustainable programming partners sought

Cultural groups or artists interested in partnering with the City to provide suitable programming for the Leigh Square Community Arts Village are asked to contact Susan Hull, Program Coordinator – Arts & Culture, at 604.927.7906 or hulls@portcoquitlam.ca.



## New newsletter targets local businesses

The City is introducing a new newsletter for businesses this fall.

Business Update is a spin-off of the City's regular Update newsletters to its citizens. It will be mailed out to businesses with their business licence renewal notices in November and will also be available at City Hall.

In addition to business licence information, Business Update will provide details on high-profile local development projects, City statistics, and information about local programs and resources that benefit businesses.

"One of our primary goals is to enhance customer service by providing our business citizens with information and resources targeted to their needs and interests," explained Dan Scoones, Manager of Bylaw and Licencing.

"We've tailored the newsletter to address many of the inquiries that we regularly receive from local businesses here at City Hall."

Business Update is one of a number of services to

businesses that are funded through the collection of the annual licence fees.

Another pending service improvement is on-line business licence renewal. Implementation of the new on-line service is expected by Dec. 1 – in time for the 2007 renewals, which are due by the end of December.

"Business owners are busy people, and it's much more convenient for them to be able to log in and pay on-line by credit card," Scoones said. "Many people are used to paying their bills on-line, so we expect the service to be very popular when it becomes available."

Similarly, the City strives to ensure its website is an up-to-date and comprehensive source of information so that businesses can quickly find what they need without having to make a phone call.

But Scoones pointed out that although many people prefer to use on-line self-help-style services, "There will always be a live person here if people have questions. Essentially, on-line services are a convenience for people who want them."

## Projects improve local parks and sports fields

As part of its capital program, Port Coquitlam's Parks and Recreation Department is undertaking a variety of upgrades to parks and fields in the community for this year.

A number of this year's capital improvements have already been completed.

Here is what was on the list for 2006:

### Gates Park Baseball Field and Washroom/Changerooms

The newly constructed Pee Wee level baseball field at Gates Park was available for play in April 2006. This field integrates into the larger context of the park. Construction of the new fieldhouse was completed this summer. The fieldhouse amenities include new changerrooms, public washrooms, concession space, a public meeting room and maintenance areas. There is also an on-site caretaker residence to assist in the supervision of the complex.

### Playground, Park and Field Upgrades

The Parks and Recreation long-term capital replacement program earmarked new playground equipment this year for Evergreen and Eastern Drive Parks and Hyde Creek. The chosen playground equipment is vandal resistant, colourful, meets all CSA safety standards and is low maintenance with a high "fun" value!

Other 2006 upgrade projects include:

- Washroom upgrade in Lions Park
- Security lighting, artwork and a new sign for RailSide in Lions Park
- A new trail for Brown Creek
- Cedar Park soccer field upgrade
- Soccer field renovation design for Evergreen Park
- Baseball field drainage improvements at Thompson Park

## Coming soon: 2007 community calendar

The 2007 Waste Collection Schedule and Calendar of Community Events is scheduled to hit the doorsteps of Port Coquitlam residents in early December.

This full-sized calendar includes garbage and recycling pickup zone information, important phone numbers for homeowners, and a handy pull-out garbage schedule.

Each month features zone pickup information as well as beautiful images of the community, important dates and a variety of information about City services, programs and events.

If you do not receive your calendar or require an extra copy for a secondary suite, contact 604.927.5420 or engineering@portcoquitlam.ca.

# City's top gardens recognized

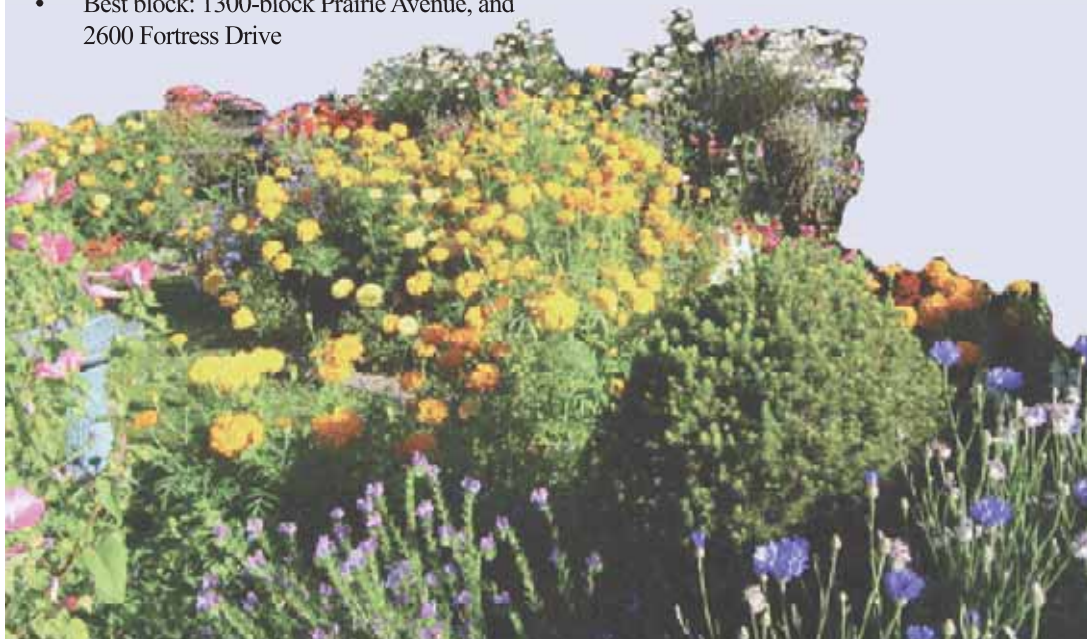
Presentation of the tenth annual PoCo Pride Residential Garden Awards took place during the Sept. 11 Council meeting. Recipients of the garden awards were also honoured at a reception hosted by the Port Coquitlam Business Improvement Association. This year's winners:

- First – Juliana Yung, 1340 Prairie Ave.
- Second – Luigi and Rosemarie Visocchi, 2677 Fortress Drive
- Third – Eleanor Herron & Marilyn Yap, 1990 Grant Ave.
- Fourth – Lois Wade, 1562 Chelsea Ave.
- Fifth – Angie Hall, 1377 Prairie Ave.
- Top balcony garden – Diana Smidt, #102-2357 Whyte Ave.
- Top multi-family/townhome – Nita Powers and Barney Happner, 1131 Bennet Drive
- Best block: 1300-block Prairie Avenue, and 2600 Fortress Drive

Winners received either a gift certificate donated by Art Knapp Plantland or Meadows Landscape Supply, the book *Our Sylvan Heritage* donated by Manager of Parks and Services Todd Gross, and the Port Coquitlam history book *Where Rails Meet Rivers*; or a civic memorabilia package and a framed certificate from the City. The first-place winner also received a membership to the PoCo Garden Club.

As part of the 10-year celebration of the awards, the past first-place winners were judged for their fall, winter and spring garden displays. Shirley Keski-Hynnala of 1450 Apel Drive was named overall winner and presented with a plaque donated by the Trophy Centre.

For information about next year's awards, please visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).



This year's Hyde Creek Salmon Festival takes place Sunday, Nov. 12.

## Community celebrations

Port Coquitlam loves to celebrate. A number of free public events are hosted throughout the year by the City and local community organizations. These events are a good way to learn more about your City, meet your neighbours and feel some PoCo Pride.

Please mark your calendar with these dates:

- **Harvest Festival** – Oct. 7, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Leigh Square area in downtown Port Coquitlam: The 10th annual Harvest Festival, hosted by the Business Improvement Association, features live entertainment, food, arts and crafts, amusement rides for the children and more.
- **Hyde Creek Salmon Festival** – Nov. 12, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hyde Creek Recreation Centre (1379 Laurier Ave.): This event, hosted by the City and Hyde Creek Watershed Society, celebrates the salmon as they return to their spawning grounds. Enjoy activities for all ages, including nature walks, educational displays, hatchery information, site tours, children's activities and a first-hand look at the salmon in Hyde Creek.
- **Christmas in Leigh Square** – Dec. 2, 4 to 5 p.m. at Leigh Square (next to City Hall off Shaughnessy Street): Hosted by the City, this fun family event includes music, hot chocolate and treats, kids crafts and the annual lighting of City Hall.

## Register on-line for programs

The Parks and Recreation Department is committed to providing services that build the healthy, vibrant and caring community we all value. To that end, our on-line program registration provides you with a convenient and easy way to register for recreation programs seven days a week.

All you need is your family PIN (personal identification number) and personal barcode number.

To sign up, email us at [parksrec@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:parksrec@portcoquitlam.ca), or call or visit your nearest recreation facility:

- Hyde Creek Recreation Centre (1379 Laurier Avenue, 604.927.7946)
- Port Coquitlam Recreation Complex (2150 Wilson Avenue, 604.927.7970)
- Parks & Recreation's Administration Office (#200-2564 Shaughnessy Street, 604.927.7900)



## Give the gift of health with Parks and Recreation gift certificates

Looking for a great gift idea? Our gift certificates can be redeemed for recreation admissions, leisure programs, memberships or facility rentals.

Gift certificates can be purchased for any dollar amount at:

- Hyde Creek Recreation Centre (1379 Laurier Avenue)
- Port Coquitlam Recreation Complex (2150 Wilson Avenue)
- Parks and Recreation's Administration Office (#200 – 2564 Shaughnessy Street)

## Ticketmaster has come to Port Coquitlam!

Get your hot tickets to upcoming music concerts, sports games, arts and theatre or family events right in your own back yard! The Port Coquitlam Recreation Complex (2150 Wilson Avenue) is the Tri-Cities-area outlet where you can purchase tickets **in person only** and/or pick up your pre-ordered tickets.

The ticket centre operates Monday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sundays, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed on statutory holidays). The following methods of payment are accepted: cash, debit, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Sears, Diner's Club, Carte Blanche and En Route.



## CITY CONTACTS

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT	604.543.6700
BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS	604.927.5444
24 Hour Request Line	604.927.5445
BUSINESS LICENCES	604.927.5238
BYLAW ENFORCEMENT	604.927.5440
CEMETERY	604.927.5251
COMMUNITY POLICE STATIONS	
3312 Coast Meridian	604.927.5451
2581 Mary Hill Road	604.927.2383
DOG LICENCES	604.927.5425
EMPLOYMENT INQUIRIES	604.927.5479
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR	604.927.5466
FACILITY BOOKINGS	604.927.7903
FIELD CLOSURES	604.927.5455

FIRE DEPARTMENT	604.927.5466
<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	911
GARBAGE/RECYCLING COLLECTION	604.927.5488
HYDE CREEK RECREATION CENTRE	604.927.7946
MAYOR & COUNCILLORS	604.927.5410
OPERATIONS (Drainage/flood control; roads & lanes; sanitary, sewer; sidewalks, street lighting & traffic; signal outages, traffic inquiries, water system)	604.927.5488
<i>Emergency – After Hours</i>	604.543.6700
POLICE (RCMP)	604.945.1550
<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	911
PORT COQUITLAM RECREATION COMPLEX	604.927.7970
PROPERTY TAXES & UTILITY PAYMENTS	604.927.5425
VECTOR CONTROL (Pest Control)	604.927.5447
WILSON CENTRE (Seniors Centre)	604.927.7970