The Natural Place...

Economic Development Community Profile

Last revision: December 2008



to Play



to Grow



to Work



to Invest

About this Document:

Pre 2009, the City of Pitt Meadows presented economic development information for Site Selectors in a single, printed and web-based document titled Economic Development Community Profile. Recently, the International Economic Development Association compiled over 1,200 data elements that have now become industry site selection data standards for North America. Many communities across Canada and the United States have or are in the process of completing this Site Selector Database. You can find a copy of the City of Pitt Meadows, Site Selector Database on the City's website, in the Economic Development section.

This Economic Development Community Profile is meant to support the statistical information in the City's Site Selector Database as well as to increase the Site Selector's intimate knowledge of the community – who the citizens are, where and how they like to spend their time, what and where the current development projects are taking place, plus an overview of the City's key economic sectors. If there is information that you are looking for and can't find, please contact us so that we can provide you with the information and update our documents accordingly.

The City of Pitt Meadows welcomes submissions and updates to any of the included information. If your submission is suitable to the scope of the document, we may include it in a future revision.

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The information contained within this publication has been compiled from sources believed to be accurate. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, it is not guaranteed and can change at any time without notice. The reader is advised to verify data before making decisions based upon information in this profile. For further information, please contact:

Laurie Darcus, Director of Legislative Services Idarcus@pittmeadows.bc.ca

Kathleen Wilson, Economic Development Assistant kwilson@pittmeadows.bc.ca

12007 Harris Road Pitt Meadows, British Columbia, CANADA V3Y 2B5 Tal: 604-465-5454

Tel: 604-465-5454 Fax: 604-465-2404

Web: www.pittmeadows.bc.ca **Table of Contents**

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Community Profile

www.pittmeadows.bc.ca

INTRODUCTION

This profile of the City of Pitt Meadows is designed to provide business investors with detailed information regarding the economy and the quality of life in Pitt Meadows. It is intended to assist businesses in evaluating opportunities in Pitt Meadows.

The contents of this document support the statistical information that can be found in the City's Site Selector Database. Further information can be found on the City's website at www.pittmeadows.bc.ca or by contacting the City's economic development department at 604-465-5454.

Corporate Vision

Pitt Meadows is a vibrant small city in a natural setting – a complete community that balances growth with the protection of its natural environment.



COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

The Natural Place to Invest

Pitt Meadows is a vibrant municipality with a population exceeding 16,500 and is located just one hour east of downtown Vancouver. With the scheduled opening of the new Golden Ears Bridge in summer 2009 and the redesigned Pitt River Bridge, Pitt Meadows is set to become the new gateway between the Lower Mainland and the Fraser Valley.

Located in the northeast sector of Greater Vancouver, Pitt Meadows is one of the fastest-growing urban areas in British Columbia. With a temperate climate, affordable housing, and an abundance of green space, Pitt Meadows offers a unique blend of big-city opportunity and rural lifestyle.

The market population within a 20-minute drive of Pitt Meadows is over 300,000, and metropolitan Vancouver is just 45 minutes away.

While agriculture has been the main economic driver for decades, Pitt Meadows is experiencing rapid industrial, commercial, and residential development. The Canadian Pacific intermodal yard adjacent to Highway 7 is the site of a new business park, and the Pitt Meadows Airport lands offer a prime location for both aviation and non-aviation-related industry.

More than 85 per cent of the City's land area is devoted to farmland, forest, or habitat protection. Pitt Meadows is an environment of trails, parks, and mountain vistas, providing residents with a superb quality of life. It is also one of B.C.'s richest areas for agricultural production, and a natural setting for tourism and film production. Pitt Meadows currently ranks sixth amongst B.C.'s municipalities in the value of agriculture production.

Land costs in Pitt Meadows are lower than in communities to the west and south. The completion of the Golden Ears Bridge in 2009, linking Pitt Meadows to Surrey and Langley, is stimulating new economic opportunities and is making locating to the community even more desirable.

Local government in Pitt Meadows offers prompt, personal service to business. Careful planning and fiscal management mean the municipality has the lowest residential property taxes of any municipality in Greater Vancouver - 25 percent lower than those in the City of Vancouver. Staff and Council work hard to contain costs and streamline processes.

The City welcomes new businesses, whether they operate on a global scale or at a home-based level.

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Location

Pitt Meadows is located in southwestern British Columbia. Regionally, Pitt Meadows is located in the Lower Fraser Valley, east of Vancouver.

It is a primarily agricultural area, situated on the north side of the Fraser River at its junction with the Pitt River. The city is bisected by the two arms of the Alouette River, along with a number of other sloughs and waterways. Pitt Lake, on the City's northern boundary, is the largest tidal lake in North America. Along the community's northeast edge lies the Thompson Mountain Range.

Pitt Meadows is forty minutes by West Coast Express passenger train service and one hour by car from Vancouver's downtown area.



Regional Role

Pitt Meadows is located between the rapidly developing communities of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, and Maple

Ridge. Surrey and Langley are located south of Pitt Meadows, on the opposite side of the Fraser River. These communities are also experiencing rapid growth.

Pitt Meadows is directly involved in regional transportation improvements, such as the new Golden Ears Bridge and the redesigned Pitt River Bridge, which will improve access to and from Pitt Meadows, thus enhancing the area's appeal to new residents and businesses.



Pitt Meadows is part of Metro Vancouver, which is a federation of twenty-two member municipalities and one electoral area.

Business Advantages

Pitt Meadows benefits greatly from its strategic location – For comprehensive information, regarding the strong global linkages and business advantages Canada, British Columbia and, Metro Vancouver can offer your business, we encourage you to visit Invest in Canada, Invest BC and, Vancouver Economic Development.

DEMOGRAPHICS

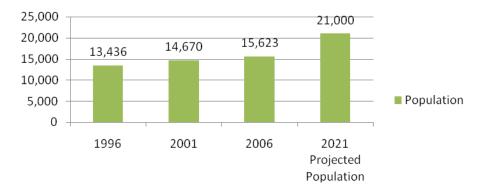
Population

According to the Census, Pitt Meadows had a 2006 population of 15,623. Between the 2001 Census and the 2006 Census, the population has grown 6.5%, which is the same rate of growth as Metro Vancouver as a whole.

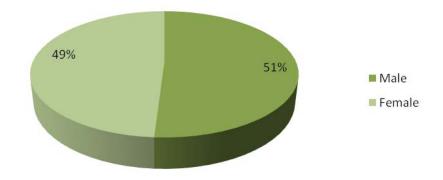
The City is projected to have a population of as much as 21,000 by 2021, which is an additional 5,000 residents.

This rate of growth is projected because of improved access to the community from the new Golden Ears Bridge and Pitt River Bridge projects, as well as more development activity in general throughout the northeast sector of the Metro Vancouver region.

Population Growth



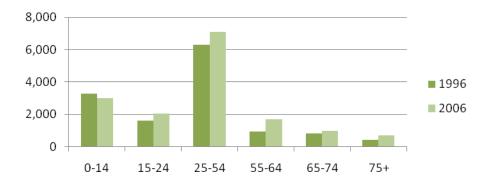
Population by Gender



Median Age

The median age for Pitt Meadows residents is 38 years old.

Population By Age Group



Twenty-six percent of Pitt Meadows residents are under 19 years of age, 62% are between 20 and 64 years of age, 15% are 65+.

Pitt Meadows has a higher portion of young people than Metro Vancouver as a whole. Pitt Meadows has a larger proportion of children under the age of 20, reflecting the family-oriented nature of the City.

Regional Population

The population of both the province of BC and Metro Vancouver are forecast to grow by approximately 35% by 2031 or by an average of 1.2% per year.

Family Structure

Seventy-six percent of the families in Pitt Meadows are husband-wife couples. A lone parent headed approximately 12% of the families. The average number of persons living in a private household in Pitt Meadows was 3.

	#
Total # of Census Families in Private Households	4,565
Husband-Wife Families	3,470
Common-law Couple Families	525
Lone-parent Families	570

Single-family households account for 65% of Pitt Meadows private households, while multi-family households account for 2.5% and 32.1% are non-family households.

Of Pitt Meadows population whom are 15 years and older, 29% are single (never been married), 55% are legally married, 3% are separated, 8% are divorced, 5% are widowed.

Source: 2006 BC Stats, Census Profile, Pitt Meadows

Ethnicity

Citizens in Pitt Meadows represent over 50 ethnic origins. The most frequent include: English, Scottish, Irish, German and French.

The majority of residents identify English as their mother tongue. Next to English is Punjabi, French, German and Dutch.

Household Income

Pitt Meadows residents have one of the highest median incomes in British Columbia.

	2006		2001		1996	
	Pitt Meadows	ВС	Pitt Meadows	ВС	Pitt Meadows	ВС
Median Household Income	\$64,748	\$52,709	\$64,997	\$52,490	\$63,115	\$51,530

Source: 2006 Stats Canada

Educational Attainment

In 2006, 68% percent of the population between the ages 25-64 show some sort of post-secondary education (i.e. apprenticeship, trades certificate, college/university certificate, diploma or Bachelor's degree) this represents a 5% increase in post-secondary education from 2001.

Labour Force

The labour force represents the total number of residents in Pitt Meadows, age 15 years and older who are employed. In 2006, 86% of the residents were employees of a company, while 12% were self-employed. The 2006 unemployment rate in 2006 was 4.5%; overall, a 2% decrease from 2001.

Currently 85% of the Pitt Meadows employed labour force, works outside the borders of Pitt Meadows. This is expected to change with the increase in industrial, commercial, and retail development in the area.

By Occupation

Twenty-four percent of Pitt Meadows labour force over 15 years old, are employed in a sales and service occupation, 19% in business, finance and administration, and 17% in trades, transport, equipment operator and related occupations.

See The Natural Place to Grow for comprehensive demographic information.

EDUCATION

Public Education

School District No. 42 - For statistical information, please view the City's Site Selector Profile or visit www.sd42.ca

School District No. 42 is one of the fastest growing in British Columbia, serving slightly over 15,000 students from Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge. School District 42 recognizes that children should be enrolled in schools that best fit their interests, skills, and abilities.

The District meets the diverse needs of the students by offering a variety of programs and by giving every student the opportunity to attend a school that suits his or her particular needs, anywhere in the city, as long as space permits. They are committed to the concept of life-long learning and to that end provide courses and certificate programs that meet the needs of adult learners in our community. For further information link to: www.sd42.ca

Programs and Services

In addition to the regular core curriculum offered in all schools, School District 42 offers a number of special programs and services such as early literacy programs, trades training and adult education, some of which are described below:

Special Needs Support Services

School District 42 believes that all students are valued as contributing members of the school community. It is committed to the full service neighbourhood school model. This means that students with special challenges are educated in their neighborhood school with classmates of about the same age. At each school, a team of professionals works together to set goals and develop an individualized plan for those children with special challenges.

Language Programs

There is a variety of language programs offered at the elementary and secondary levels. The District believes that multilingualism is a desirable goal and that students who have learned a second language will be better able to accept the multifaceted nature of Canadian society and have greater employment opportunities. Opportunities include:

- French Immersion
- Japanese, Spanish, and German
- English as a Second Language (ESL)

Community Education

School District 42 supports the concept of life-long learning in the many programs and services it provides through its Community Education department. Access to education is provided to more than 9,000 students of all ages, through morning, afternoon, evening and weekend courses. Course offerings change and increase to meet community demand.

Partnership Programs

School District 42 has partnered with five post-secondary institutions to offer nine unique programs to Grade II & I2 students and adult learners (and non-grads, with prerequisites). Students have the option to graduate and obtain first year post-secondary certification in one year. Trades programs currently available include:

- Automotive Assistant (Westview Secondary)
- Electrical (Garibaldi Secondary)
- Metal Fabrication (Samuel Robertson Technical)
- Culinary Arts (Samuel Robertson Technical)
- Carpentry (Samuel Robertson Technical)

- Bricklaying/Tile Setting (James Best Learning Centre)
- Drywall Installation and Finishing (James Best Learning Centre)
- Residential Framing (James Best Learning Centre)

Academies

While all School District No. 42's secondary schools provide all the programs necessary for graduation, each also provides some additional program options. Academies include:

- Digipen Technology Academy (Garibaldi Secondary)
- International Baccalaureate Program (Garibaldi Secondary)
- Digital Arts (Maple Ridge Secondary)

- Soccer (Westview Secondary)
- Equestrian (Thomas Haney)
- Hockey (Pitt Meadows Secondary)
- Hairstyling/Cosmetology (Samuel Robertson Technical)

Self-Directed Learning at Thomas Haney

Thomas Haney Secondary school offers a self-directed learning model. Working closely with teacher/advisors, students complete courses that have been divided into 20 manageable units.

Students can begin and complete courses at any time during the year based on a plan worked out with the school advisor and parents.

Advanced Placement Courses

All secondary schools offer advanced placement (AP) opportunities for students in designated courses. These courses allow students to gain both grade 12 and first year university credit for the same course. Students must apply to take AP courses and should check to determine which AP courses are offered at that school.

Private Education

Within the boundaries of Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge, there are five private schools offering programming in Junior Kindergarten up to Grade 12. The schools include Greybrook Academy, James Cameron School, Maple Ridge Christian School, Meadowridge School and St. Patrick's School. Tuition varies from \$4,000 to \$12,000 per year.

Post-secondary Education

Currently Ridge Meadows College and Sprott-Shaw Community College are the only post-secondary institutions within the boundaries of Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge. A joint venture between BCIT and TransLink may provide an automotive and heavy equipment training facility in Maple Ridge within the next three years.

Within less than 50 km, residents and employers have access to multiple post-secondary institutions including, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Simon Fraser University, Trinity Western University, University of the Fraser Valley, University of British Columbia, Douglas College, Vancouver Community College, British Columbia Institute of Technology and the Justice Institute of British Columbia.

GOVERNMENT

We believe local government is a community effort.

Whether you operate a blueberry farm in the rural area or live in a row home along the Fraser River, every resident and business owner benefits from local government.

The City of Pitt Meadows provides and maintains the community's basic essential services – clean drinking water, garbage and recycling collection, sewage disposal, roads and sidewalks, streetlights, fire and police protection.

The City also ensures that residents of all ages and abilities have access to a variety of amenities including parks, a library, recreational facilities such as gymnasiums and skating rinks, scenic trail systems, and outdoor playing fields.

By listening to the residents and using strategic land-use planning, the City of Pitt Meadows is continuously responding to the community's needs and planning for the community's future.

The City of Pitt Meadows is governed by an elected Council consisting of a Mayor and six Councillors - all are elected by the community for a three year term. The next Civic election is scheduled for November 2011.

Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall every first and third Tuesday of each month where the Mayor and Council vote on a variety of resolutions and bylaws. The Mayor and Council are also responsible for developing a vision and plan for the community. Citizens are encouraged to attend and participate in the Council meetings.

Outcomes of the regular Council meetings guide the Administration, which in turn, provides leadership and direction for staff in day-to-day operations and long-term business affairs.

The majority of funding for local government comes from residential property taxes. Additional sources of funding include fees for services, provincial and federal grants.

The City of Pitt Meadows strives to meet high standards of community leadership and stewardship and to operate in a fair and transparent manner. We aim to be accountable by clearly demonstrating the results achieved from the practical use of the resources entrusted to us.

Members of Pitt Meadows Municipal Government

Mayor Don MacLean
Councillor John Becker
Councillor Bruce Bell
Councillor Doug Bing
Councillor Tracy Miyashita
Councillor Gwen O'Connell
Councillor Deb Walters

dmaclean@pittmeadows.bc.ca
jbecker@pittmeadows.bc.ca
bbelll@pittmeadows.bc.ca
dbing@pittmeadows.bc.ca
tmiyashita@pittmeadows.bc.ca
goconnell@pittmeadows.bc.ca
dwalters@pittmeadows.bc.ca

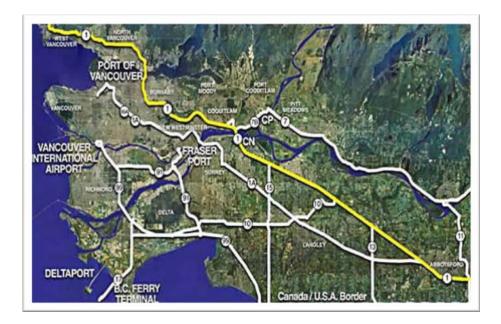
For regional, provincial, and federal government information, please refer to the City's Site Selector Database.

TRANSPORTATION

Road Networks & Highway Infrastructure

Businesses in Pitt Meadows are within two days trucking to 35 million consumers in North America.

Pitt Meadows benefits from a highly developed road network that provides local businesses with easy access to major highway corridors serving the Lower Mainland and points beyond. The recent opening of additional lanes on Highway 7 has further enhanced the City's transportation advantages, providing significant transportation time reductions west and south of Pitt Meadows. Other expressways in the Greater Vancouver area open up distant markets for local businesses.



Highway distances from Pitt Meadows

	Kilometres	Miles
Vancouver, BC, Canada	38	24
Prince Rupert, BC, Canada	1490	926
Calgary, AB, Canada	945	587
Seattle, WA, USA	227	141
Portland, OR, USA	505	314
San Francisco, CA, USA	1539	956
Source: Rand McNally Trip Maker		

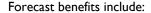
Major Transportation Projects

Golden Ears Bridge

TransLink's Golden Ears Bridge Project has been recognized by *Infrastructure Journal* in the United Kingdom as the recipient of the prestigious "Global Deal of the Year."

This is the highest award given annually by *Infrastructure Journal*, which considers projects in all sectors – not just transportation – throughout the world.

Golden Crossing Constructors Joint Venture is building the six-lane bridge over the Fraser River. The project includes 13 kilometres of new mainline roadway plus more than 12 kilometres of local road improvements. The Golden Ears Bridge will provide convenient access to the communities of Langley and Surrey and to the Trans Canada Highway. The project is expected to generate significant development and business opportunities for the city.



- Increased local population growth
- Regional employment
- New businesses

For further information link to: www.goldenearsbridge.ca



Courtesy of Golden Crossing Constructors. Bridge scheduled to open summer 2009

- Development revenues
- Increased property values

Pitt River Bridge / Gateway Program

The Pitt River crossing, part of the province's \$3-billion Gateway Program, provides strategic links between the CP Intermodal Terminal, Lower Mainland ports, and Port Coquitlam's Mary Hill Interchange Project and connects key economic and transportation facilities with the Metro Vancouver area.

In response to increased population and economic growth, a new Pitt River Bridge has been included in the Province of British Columbia's Gateway Program.



Artist rendering of the new Pitt River Bridge.

Courtesy of TransLink.

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The portion of the Gateway Program that directly affects the community of Pitt Meadows is the Pitt River Bridge Mary Hill Interchange Project.

This specific project is a stand-alone component of the North Fraser Perimeter Road Project. The North Fraser Perimeter Road Project is a proposed set of improvements on existing roads to provide an efficient, continuous route from New Westminster to Maple Ridge.

This Pitt River Bridge Mary Hill Interchange Project includes a new 6-lane bridge with up to 16 meters of marine clearance. This system will replace the existing swing bridges and will eliminate the current counter flow system.

The existing intersection at Lougheed Highway and Mary Hill Bypass will be replaced with a grade separated interchange with on and off ramps that would allow for free-flow of traffic. This will provide future connection to the Fremont Extension, to support development in Port Coquitlam and Coquitlam.

The bridge design also allows two lanes to be added in the future. These additional lanes could meet future demand for vehicle use (HOV, buses, and/ or other vehicles) or Light Rail Rapid Transit.

For further information link to: www.gatewayprogram.bc.ca

Air Transportation

Pitt Meadows Regional Airport - The New Gateway to Metro Vancouver!

Proximity to the Fraser River, the CPR Intermodal Railway and Maple Meadows Business Park makes this facility an attractive location for business.

The Pitt Meadows Regional Airport is the only Fraser Valley aerodrome located on the north side of the Fraser River. It serves the area north of the Fraser River from Mission up to and including Vancouver.

The Airport consists of one 1,310-metre and two 762-metre paved runways and a staffed control tower. It is the home base for three major rotary wing operations, provides a float aircraft dock and ramp, and serves approximately 225 locally based float and regular aircraft.

Businesses at the airport offer a variety of both aviation and non-aviation services. Current aviation services at Pitt Meadows Airport include:

- aviation support services: fuel sales, hangars, and engineering
- flight training
- scheduled passenger service
- charter service
- avionics sales and service
- aircraft painting
- aircraft sales and repair

The new Golden Ears Bridge brings Pitt Meadows Regional Airport to the geographic and demographic centre of the Lower Mainland with over 85% of the population being within 27 kilometres from the Airport by major thoroughfare.

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Opportunities for Aviation Specific Businesses

- The only fully functional seaplane base between Vancouver International Airport and Mission
- Abundance of airside space, perfect for development
- A passenger terminal with a Canada Customs Office, office space, along with mixed office, shop, and airside buildings are planned
- Parallel runways, along with a crosswind runway. The main runway is 4700' long, adequate for all business and commuter aircraft (including jets) and has a full instrument approach
- Dedicated agricultural land surrounding the airport limits the severity of noise problems associated with the airport
- Proposals for co-development projects with the airport are welcomed

Opportunities for Business in General

- The Airport has a strong and positive link to the community perfect for businesses that pride themselves on strong customer relations
- Access and egress to the airport is optimal, being less than one kilometre from major thoroughfares, and less than three kilometres from a major east-west highway (Lougheed Highway)
- Full utilities are readily available, supplied by Metro Vancouver and the City of Pitt Meadows
- Both airside and non-airside accessible land is available, depending on business needs
- The Municipalities of both Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge have a strong and positive business atmosphere a great environment to bring your business!

Pitt Meadows Regional Airport Map

- I. Float Plane Ramp
- 2. Float Plane Dock
- 3. Canada Blue
- 4. Air Traffic Control
- 5. Terminal Building
- 6. Altair Aviation
- 7. Blades Aviation
- 8. Dyna Nav Aviation
- 9. Command Aviation
- 10. Pacific Skydiver Ltd.
- 11. Prism Helicopters



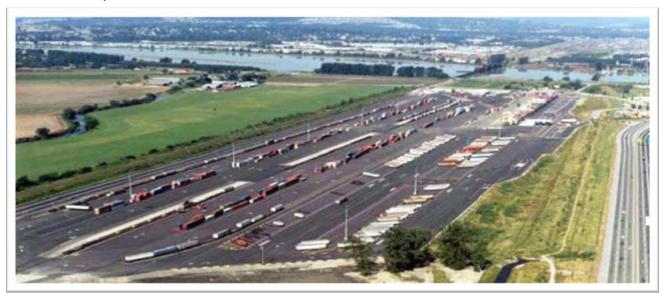
For further information, please visit www.pittmeadowsairport.com

Rail Transportation

Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR)

CPR's Vancouver Intermodal Facility (VIF) primarily handles containers for the domestic market but also handles international business, to and from local sites, to the USA and Europe via east coast seaports.

- Located in Pitt Meadows, CPR's Vancouver Intermodal Facility (VIF) primarily handles containers for the domestic market but also handles international business, to and from local sites, to the USA and Europe via east coast seaports.
- VIF is a hub for container traffic to and from the Lower Mainland and other BC customer sites, as well as regional distribution facilities.
- VIF is CPR's major intermodal facility on the West Coast of North America and provides great opportunities for import and export goods movement between Metro Vancouver and domestic and international locations.
- Companies locating in Pitt Meadows obtain significant location advantages by being closely located to such a facility.



For further information link to: www.cpr.ca

Water Transportation

On January I, 2008, the three Lower Mainland port authorities Fraser River Port Authority, North Fraser Port Authority and Vancouver Port Authority amalgamated to continue as the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA). The amalgamation of the three Canada Port Authorities is a key policy measure under the Government of Canada's "Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative." The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority will operate from the three existing port offices located in New Westminster, Richmond and at Canada Place in Vancouver. To learn more about the VFPA, please visit www.vfpa.ca

The Port of Vancouver is the closest major North American port to Asia, and is a strategic alternative for container cargo destined for US markets.

Nearby Ports & Features

Fraser River Port offers:

- A complete range of services at terminals equipped for efficient container and break bulk handling
- Integrated services for the coastal forest industry
- Is the largest auto port in Canada
- Integration with global transportation networks

Vancouver Port offers:

- 25 major marine cargo terminals, 67 berths and some of the most extensive on-dock rail facilities of any port on the west coast handling more than 70 million tones of cargo each year.
- Via Canadian National (CN) and the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) the Port of Vancouver is connected to every key market in North America and into Mexico.
- 17 bulk terminals that offer handling of coal, grain, sulphur, potash, liquid bulk chemicals, and specialty grain products and three break-bulk cargo terminals that specialize in handling high value forest products such as lumber, wood pulp and other value-added cargoes.

Public Transportation

Local Buses

TransLink, the regional transportation authority, operates regular bus service throughout Pitt Meadows, and provides a transportation link to other Lower Mainland communities. The HandyDart system provides door to door service for residents with special needs and residents who are disabled and find it difficult to use regular transit service. For further information link to: www.translink.bc.ca

Sky Train

Sky Train is one of the most advanced light rapid transit systems in the world. A 21-kilometre track links Vancouver to Coquitlam, with connecting bus service to Pitt Meadows. For further information link to: www.skytrain.info

Rail Transportation - West Coast Express

Providing service to the communities of the Northeast sector, TransLink's West Coast Express is Vancouver's efficient commuter rail service. The train operates Monday to Friday during peak commuter periods.

Five trains depart every 20 to 25 minutes during peak traffic periods, running westbound from Mission in the morning and eastbound from downtown Vancouver in the afternoon.

Monday through Friday, the westbound West Coast Express departs from the Pitt Meadows station at:

Train I	Train 2	Train 3	Train 4	Train5	
5:54 AM	6:24 AM	6:54 AM	7:24 AM	7:54 AM	
Monday throug	h Friday, the eastbour	nd West Coast Expres	ss arrives at the Pitt M	eadows station at:	
Train I	Train 2	Train 3	Train 4	Train5	
4:32 PM	5:02 PM	5:32 PM	6:12 PM	7:02 PM	

There are 31 roomy rail cars, each designed to accommodate 148 seated and 155 standing riders, and a state-of-the-art locomotive. The cars are wheelchair accessible and are equipped with bicycle racks, computer plug-ins, cellular phones, workstations, and washrooms. The train also features tinted windows, air conditioning, and on-board cappuccino service.

The Express runs on existing Canadian Pacific Rail track, which has been upgraded to accommodate passenger rail traffic, and provides significant timesavings over traveling by car (Pitt Meadows to Downtown Vancouver in about 45 minutes!).

Passengers can purchase tickets from automated vending machines. Tickets are fully integrated with TransLink's Bus, SeaBus, and SkyTrain services. For further information link to: www.westcoastexpress.com

KEY SECTORS

Pitt Meadows' diverse economy offers unlimited business opportunities in traditional and emerging sectors. Regionally, Pitt Meadows' potential market area includes Metro Vancouver (estimated population 2,255,880 million in 2005) as well as the Fraser Valley Regional District (estimated population 264,370).

Key Sectors

The City's key economic development sectors include:

- Agriculture
- Commercial/Retail
- Tourism
- Transportation/Aviation

Agriculture

Agriculture remains the predominant focus for land use and economic activity in Pitt Meadows, with substantial areas in production for berries, horticultural products, greenhouse crops, grazing, dairy farming, and other farm activities. There are several fallow parcels of land that could be farmed to readily achieve a higher level of productivity and greater farm revenue. Farmland is the most valuable resource in the community, and the local economy relies on the wise use of land for agriculture production and agriculturally oriented business. For further information and opportunities in this sector, download the Agriculture sector brochure.



Summary of Agricultural Activity

	1996				2001	
	Pitt M	eadows	GVRD	Pitt N	1eadows	GVRD
	# of farms	%	%	# of	%	%
		distribution	distribution	farms	distribution	distribution
Gross Farm Receipts						
< than \$2,500	19	П	18	16	12	12
\$2,500 - \$24,999	73	41	51	47	36	51
\$25,000 - \$99,999	27	15	12	21	16	14
\$100,000 +	59	33	19	48	35	23
Total	178	100	100	132	100	100
Total Gross Farm Receipts	\$59m		\$498m	\$50m		\$698m

Ministry of Agriculture 2001 (2006 Community Profiles N/A)

Transportation/Aviation

Pitt Meadows offers every major mode of transportation to ship goods quickly and efficiently to market. The rapidly expanding Pitt Meadows Regional Airport, CPR's Vancouver Intermodal Facility, new bridge, and highway projects pose significant opportunity for companies that rely on efficient and convenient transportation services.

The sector comprises air, rail, water and truck transportation services, as well as public passenger transit, other types of transportation such as taxicabs and limousines, and related services such as maintenance, cargo handling, storage, and warehousing. For further information and opportunities in this sector, download the Transportation/Aviation sector brochure.

Commercial/Retail

Forecasts prepared for the regional transportation authority suggest that once construction of the Golden Ears Bridge is complete; the demand for commercial and industrial land in Pitt Meadows is expected to increase, as is the price – somewhere between 50% and 100%.

The City offers a stable and optimistic business climate and in recent years has attracted regional and national companies representing a wide variety of businesses to the new Meadowtown Centre. This recent diversification of the tax base has been well received by the City's residents. Not only does it provide quality jobs close to home, it provides residents with a much-needed assortment of goods and services.

Due to the lack of vacant, zoned lands in Vancouver, the majority of new industrial development is expected to locate northeast and southeast of Vancouver.

A recent review of the City's Official Community Plan, suggests retail, commercial, mixed use and light industrial business park space in a number of sites including: Lougheed Highway, Harris Road, Waterfront Village at Sawyers Landing, Meadowvale, and the South Harris Business Park.

In 2006, the City commissioned Ipsos Reid to conduct a Citizens Survey. Seventy-five percent of Pitt Meadows residents support increasing the level of commercial and business park development in order to help pay for municipal programs and services. For further information and opportunities in this sector, download the Commercial/Retail sector brochure.

Tourism

In Pitt Meadows, nature's beauty is everywhere. Situated amongst magnificent mountains, meadows, beautiful forests, connecting rivers and North America's largest tidal lake, it's no wonder Pitt Meadows draws thousands of visitors each year. The city currently offers a wide variety of attractions, facilities and services as well as an array of accommodation and dining options while presenting vast opportunity for continued growth in this sector, especially as the province prepares to host the 2010 Winter Games.

A 2003 study conducted by Tourism BC titled, Value of the Pitt Meadows/Maple Ridge Visitor Info Centre, revealed that on average, the travelers surveyed at the PM/MR Visitor Information Centre spent \$144.69 per day in the community and those surveyed at Golden Ears Provincial Park spent \$121.18 per day in the community. Averaging 8,500 to 10,000 visitors per year contributes roughly \$1.0M - \$1.5M to Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge's economy annually. For further information and opportunities in this sector, download the Tourism sector brochure.

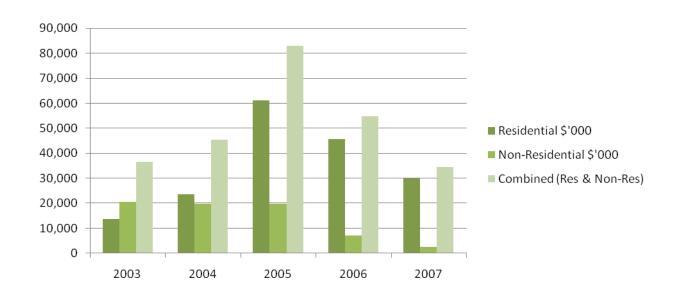
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Pitt Meadows offers myriad opportunities for commercial, industrial, and residential projects. In 2008, the updated Official Community Plan (OCP) was adopted and designates several areas for new industrial development. In addition, an economic development strategy was prepared.

Approved Land Use

For a complete list of Map Schedules, visit the City's website.

Value of Building Permits - Residential/Non-Residential



Source: BC Stats, Community Profile, Pitt Meadows

Summary of Development Cost Charges

	Single Family Residential	Medium Density Residential	Apartment Residential	Institutional	Commercial	Industrial
Total	\$9,059 per unit	\$7,037 per unit	\$6,051 per unit	\$9.14 per m2	\$16.34 per m2	\$11.00 per m2

Source: City of Pitt Meadows, Finance Department 2007

Current Developments

Light Industrial Developments

As stated in the City's Official Community Plan, industrial development is important to Pitt Meadows for a number of reasons, including:

- Supporting higher income earning jobs in the community suited to the skills of the resident labour force;
- Diversifying the City's tax base;
- Creating local business opportunities; and,
- Helping contribute to a thriving regional economy, with opportunities for industrial businesses to locate and expand in Metro Vancouver, which benefit all communities.

Lougheed Highway Business Park

Canadian Pacific Railway has recently launched a 215-acre development for commercial and light industrial activity. It is located just south of Lougheed Highway, three minutes east of the Pitt River Bridge. Sixty-five acres has been reserved for private development of regional warehouse distribution facilities for CP's intermodal customers. Western Grocers has opened a new 250,000 square-foot warehouse on a 23-acre lot.

Pitt Meadows Airport Business Park

The South Harris Business Park is a 65-acre site intended to accommodate a wide range of clean industrial/business park uses.

Golden Ears Business Centre

This 35-acre site in Pitt Meadows is uniquely located adjacent to the new Golden Ears bridge with direct access to Port Kells (summer 2009). The site is intended to accommodate a variety of clean industrial/business park uses with up to 90,000 sqft options available. The site is marketed by Onni. www.onni.com

Commercial Developments

Commercial activity is important to Pitt Meadows as it allows residents to satisfy more of their shopping needs locally, The opening of the Golden Ears Bridge in summer 2009 presents myriad opportunities; however, it also increases the possibility of further leakage to commercial centres south of the Fraser River. Opportunities in the City's approved commercial development areas include retail and service commercial businesses such as food and beverage establishments, entertainment venues, personal and professional services and health care services (i.e. medical and dental).

Osprey Village

This mixed commercial/residential area encourages retail and personal services that will meet the needs of neighbourhood residents as well as to attract tourists from other areas. The primary features of the commercial development at Osprey Village include a pedestrian-oriented main street, village square, a waterfront park with a pedestrian trail, a public amenity building, community pier and eating and drinking establishments.



Community Profile

www.pittmeadows.bc.ca

North Lougheed Commercial Corridor

This is a new commercial area designated in the Official Community Plan and suitable for small, medium and potentially larger scale projects. Detailed transportation and planning requirements are under review for this area in anticipation of the completion of the Golden Ears Bridge.

Solaris/Meadows Gate Village - Pitt Meadows first landmark tower community!

A natural gathering place in the heart of the City and adjacent to City Hall, the Spirit Square, and Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre, this mixed-use 241-unit condominium development will include three 10-storey midrise buildings and one 4-storey lowrise buildings and will complete the Meadows Gate Village master planned community. The project will include 20,000 sqft of commercial space. The Pitt Meadows Library will also find a new home in this development. Visit www.lifeatsolaris.com for further details and project status.

Residential Developments

With construction of the Golden Ears Bridge, real estate values in the Pitt Meadows area will benefit greatly. Pitt Meadows offers a unique mix of urban and rural lifestyles plus convenient transportation for commuters. This combination positions Pitt Meadows is an attractive location in which to live and raise a family.

Casa Grande Seniors Centre

The four storey residential complex will provide 71 rental congregate care suites and 33 assisted living units. The public Seniors Centre will be approximately 9,350 square feet featuring a large hall and stage, a lounge, and multipurpose rooms. The facility will complement the adjacent Family Recreation Centre next door and will provide much needed room for growth in the type of activities available to seniors in Pitt Meadows.

The Seniors Centre will be programmed by area seniors through a not for profit organization contracting with the Parks and Leisure Services Commission and will be maintained by the developer/operator of the residential complex.



Artists rendering of Casa Grande Seniors Centre

Sawyer's Landing - located in Osprey Community

The Sawyer's Landing Waterfront project is a comprehensive residential development located on the shores of the Fraser River. When complete, it combines residential, commercial, and public amenity spaces including parks, walkways and a community centre. To date, the development includes a mix of single-family and multi-family units and several small parks. A connection to the waterfront trail network off Fraser Way has already been established, offering a link to the natural environment of the Fraser River. The planned commercial area will present the feeling of a small town main street opening onto a village square and the future village green.

Kingfisher

A 32 unit, Georgian inspired, attached, and detached townhouse development located between the commercial village site and the Shoreline development in the Osprey Waterfront Community on the banks of the Fraser River. For further information link to: www.mosaichomes.com

Rivers Edge

This is a collection of 95 single family homes to be found near the Fraser River in the South Bonson area of Pitt Meadows. The homes are located close to several parks and walking trails, including the Pitt Meadows Athletic Park and Arena. Located within the overall Sawyer's Landing development these homes are also conveniently located nearby to the amenities that the commercial village will offer when complete. For further information link to: www.foxridgevancouver.com

Origins

Located on Harris Road, across from the Civic Centre, within walking distance of shopping, amenities and Westcoast Express and on a main bus route, this 70 unit apartment building has a mix of bachelor, one bedroom, one bedroom and den, and two bedroom units. For further information link to www.originliving.ca

Solaris/Meadows Gate Village – designed for livability!

This development is located at the corner of Ford and Harris Roads and is adjacent to the Civic Centre, and nearby to local shopping and amenities. It is located on a main bus route and within walking distance of the West Coast Express. Solaris is the first phase of a two phase development that will result in three ten storey towers and one four storey building. The buildings will offer ground floor commercial space with 241 residential units above. For more information link to: www.lifeatsolaris.com



Rendering of Meadows Gate/Solaris development

Community Developments

Spirit Square

Soon to be, the heart of Pitt Meadows for community events and gatherings!

Construction on the City's new Spirit Square is underway thanks to a \$500,000 grant from the provincial government. The Pitt Meadows Spirit Square will provide a public celebration space on the grounds of City Hall.





Rendering of Pitt Meadows Spirit Square. Completion estimated for early 2009.

Community Profile

www.pittmeadows.bc.ca

the public library, a family resource centre, a seniors recreation centre and schools. The funding will see the expansion of the cenotaph area with additional surfaces to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers and will incorporate public art, a small stage area, pedestrian pathways, landscaping and features that celebrate the community's history.

South Bonson Community Centre

The South Bonson Community Centre will be situated in the Sawyer's Landing/Osprey Community waterfront development. The Community Centre when completed will be approximately 10,440 sq feet of community multi use space serving the citizens of Pitt Meadows and beyond. The Sawyer's Landing Waterfront project is a comprehensive residential development located on the shores of the Fraser River. It combines residential, commercial, and public amenity spaces including parks, walkways and a community centre. The design principles adopted by Council will ensure that the new community centre:

- Is a resource for the neighborhood as well as for the whole community
- Relates to the history of the area
- Is designed to "fit" and complement the surrounding area.
- Is designed to have multiple functions
- Is functional in relation to the plaza (events), park/riverfront
- Is unique and attractive to draw a variety of community and economic uses
- Incorporates sustainability principles in construction and is efficient to operate

Approximate completion of the community centre is mid to late 2010.

TAXATION

As presented in the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties – Fall 2008, Pitt Meadows ranks 6th highest amongst Metro Vancouver's member municipalities in the Business to Residential Tax Ratios.

To mitigate this, Pitt Meadows Council is committed to limiting and reducing the tax rate multipliers between the municipality's residential and the non-residential classes and will move towards closing the gap between the proportionate share of property tax paid by non-residential property classes and that of its residential property class. The multipliers will be reviewed annually as part of the business planning process.

Over the five year period of the City's financial plan (2009-2013), the mill rate multiplier between Class I (Residential) and Class 6 (Business and Other) will be reduced to 1:3.5 from the 2008 multiplier of 1:3.67.

Ratio of Business Mill Rate to Residential Mill Rate

Municipality	Ratio of	Business Mill Rate to Residential Mill Rate	Rank
Abbotsford	2.1344		ı
Langley (City)	2.2959		2
West Vancouver	2.3214		3
Chilliwack	2.4766		4
White Rock	2.7274		5
Langley (Township)	3.1376		6
Surrey	3.2313		7
Delta	3.2519		8
Maple Ridge	3.2899		9
Port Moody	3.3471		10
Mission	3.4516		11
Richmond	3.4947		12
Port Coquitlam	3.5910		13
North Vancouver (District)	3.6653		14
Pitt Meadows	3.6735	(to be reduced to 3.5 between 2009-2013)	15
New Westminster	3.7769	·	16
Burnaby	3.9845		17
North Vancouver (City)	4.1066		18
Coquitlam	4.9882		19
Vancouver	5.0758		20

Source: National Association of Industrial and Office Properties – Fall 2008

UTILITIES

Abundant and reliable! British Columbia is renowned for its water and power resources. As part of the Metro Vancouver region, the City of Pitt Meadows is able to share this plentiful supply with its business owners and residents.

Water

Water is purchased from Metro Vancouver (formerly the Greater Vancouver Regional District). It is brought to Pitt Meadows from the Coquitlam watershed. Metro Vancouver is responsible for the transportation and quality of the water to the borders of Pitt Meadows, from which point the City takes over. Supplying water from the source to the consumer is a partnership between Metro Vancouver and the City of Pitt Meadows.

Water Service Charges

Water consumption costs are charged to most residential and commercial users based on a flat fee. This fee is charged annually on the property tax notice due June 30th of each year. Large volume water users and most farms are charged for water based on a metered usage. Meter readings and billings are done twice a year for the periods of January to June and July to December.

Charges provided by the City for sewer-related services of any kind that remain unpaid on December 31st are deemed to be property taxes in arrears. These charges are in respect of the property to which the service was provided and are recoverable under the provisions of the Local Government Act. They may include tax sale of the related property.

Natural Gas

Natural Gas in Pitt Meadows is provided by Terasen Gas. Please see the City's Site Selector Database for Terasen Gas' services and costs for residential and business customers. Further information can be obtained by visiting www.terasengas.com

Hydro

Electrical service in Pitt Meadows is provided by BC Hydro. Please see the City's Site Selector Database for BC Hydro's services and costs for residential and business customers. Further information can be obtained by visiting www.bchydro.com

Telecommunications

The primary telecommunications service provider in Pitt Meadows is Telus. Alternate service providers include Shaw and Bell. Please see the City's Site Selector Database for Telus' services for residential and business customers. Further information can be obtained by visiting www.telus.com

Sewer

The City looks after the maintenance of the sewer system, including disposal of waste.

The City's sewage disposal is provided through Metro Vancouver (formerly the Greater Vancouver Regional District). Transportation to that disposal site from the borders of the community is also provided through Metro Vancouver.

The City is directly responsible only for maintenance and construction of sewer lines within its boundaries.

Sewage Service Charges

Sewage costs are charged to most users based on a flat fee. This fee is charged annually based on the property tax notice due June 30th of each year. Properties considered as Industrial uses (including ice arenas and golf courses) are charged based on metered water usage. These properties are billed each January for the prior year.

Charges provided by the City for sewer-related services of any kind that remain unpaid on December 31st are deemed to be property taxes in arrears. These charges are in respect of the property to which the service was provided and are recoverable under the provisions of the Local Government Act. They may include tax sale of the related property.

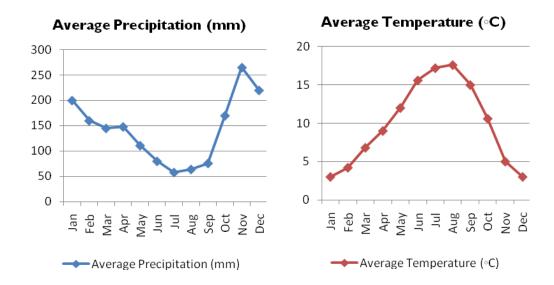
The Metro Vancouver charge makes up about 65% of the City's sewage budget (including reserve contributions). Because other sewage costs are relatively stable from year to year, the District's sewer rates are driven to a large extent by the sewer fees charged by Metro Vancouver.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Quality of life is the city's number one commodity

Climate

Pitt Meadows enjoys a temperate climate with moderate fluctuations in temperature and precipitation between seasons. Winters last from mid-December to late February and are characterized by cool temperatures and modest amounts of snowfall. Summers last from mid-June to mid-September and provide warm temperatures.



Amenities

Recreation, Leisure & Cultural Facilities

Parks & Recreation Services and Facilities

Community Profile

A joint Parks and Leisure Services agreement between the Cities of Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge ensures a wide variety of leisure facilities, both public and private are provided for the residents of both municipalities.

Corporate Vision

Pitt Meadows is a vibrant small city in a natural setting – a complete community that balances growth with the protection of its natural environment.

I his facility includes three indoor swimming pools – a 25-metre freestyle pool, teaching pool, wading pool, waterslide, a large whirlpool, two saunas, steam room and change rooms equipped with

lockers, fitness equipment, racquetball and squash courts gymnasium and weight room.

Pitt Meadows Arenas

Located in Pitt Meadows, this year-round three-rink facility, two with cement floors is used for various sporting events. Pitt Meadows Arenas offers a public event schedule and works closely with School District 42.

Maple Ridge Planet Ice Arena

This facility offers two NHL size-rinks, seating capacity for 1,250 for sporting events, a sports bar and grill, a deli and pro shop.

Pitt Meadows Historical Museum

Located in a heritage house along Harris Road, the museum is rich with pictures and artifacts that portray the lives of pioneers and First Nations.

Maple Ridge Arts Centre and Theatre - The ACT

Located in a park-like setting the ACT is a performance venue with a 500-seat main stage, a studio theatre, art gallery and gift shop, three visual arts studios, a teaching darkroom and ample parking and amenities. The ACT offers performances, events, exhibits, and arts and crafts classes.

Fraser Valley Regional Library

The City owns and maintains the Pitt Meadows Library, and as a member of the Fraser Valley Regional Library District (FVRL) in essence "contracts" for library services. Services include providing free access to a variety of reading material, access to the internet, and various reading programs and clubs.

Harris Road Park

This outdoor swimming pool is used during the summer months for swimming lessons as well as public swimming. There is also a spray park, playground and sports fields located here.

Pitt Meadows Athletic Park

Located in the South Bonson area, this facility contains several various playing fields for soccer and baseball, etc.

Grant Narrows Regional Park

This is where the Pitt River meets Pitt Lake. Pitt Lake is the largest tidal lake in North America. Although access to the lake is boat only, Grant Narrows Regional Park is a paradise for outdoor enthusiasts offering a vast wilderness area and wildlife habitat with a large protected marshland called the Pitt-Addington Marsh Wildlife Management Area. There is access to an extensive trail network in provincial wildlife management areas and along the city dykes. Features available include canoeing/kayaking, boat launch, picnicking, seasonal food concession, and public toilets.

Kanaka Creek Regional Park

The park follows Kanaka Creek for nearly 12 kilometres with various access points offering a network of trails and picnic areas. A highlight in the summer is the impressive waterfall at Cliff Park.

Golden Ears Provincial Park

Largest Provincial Park in the Lower Mainland, this 55,625-hectare playground for nature enthusiasts. It provides boat launching, camping facilities, hiking, and walking trails.

Malcolm Knapp UBC Research Forest

Comprising over 5000 hectares of pristine wilderness, this lush forest provides the site for research, demonstration, and education in the field of forestry and allied sciences. A small area of the forest provides recreational opportunities for residents and visitors with trail systems for hiking, jogging, or enjoying the forest. Retreat space is available for youth, adult and corporate groups.

Golf Courses

Pitt Meadows residents have access to several golf courses in the area catering to various skill levels. The following table provides a summary.

Course	Туре	Par	Yardage	Holes
Swan-e-set	Public/Private	72	7,000	36
Pitt Meadows	Private	72	6,314	18
Golden Eagle	Public	72	6,140	36
Meadow Gardens	Public	70	7,041	18

Leisure

Scenic surroundings, miles of dykes, rivers, estuaries, marshland, and 93 acres of municipal parkland offer outdoor enthusiasts vast choices for walking, cycling, hiking forest trails, canoeing, kayaking, bird watching and any number of other pursuits.

Trans Canada Trail

The longest trail in the world, stretching 16,400km. The trail includes every Province and Territory, most major cities and some smaller towns and communities. We are proud to have 21.5 km running through Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows and encourage you to explore our section of this amazing trail. The Trans Canada Trail begins in Pitt Meadows at the corner of Lougheed Highway and the old Dewdney Trunk Road. The paths include some country scenery as well as city surroundings. Experience the best of both worlds!

Dyking System

The dyking systems of the Pitt Meadows area are a year-round source of pleasure for local residents and visitors. This extensive system, built to protect low-lying lands from flooding, also serves a recreational purpose. Fair weather brings out multitudes of people who ride horses, walk, and cycle while enjoying the natural beauty that surrounds them. The lands bordering the dykes are a habitat to many species of birds and abundant wildlife, making the dyke system a haven for naturalists and bird watchers.

A 31 km greenway along the Pitt and Fraser River dykes is also being pursued. It is proposed to connect Grant Narrows with Osprey Community along the dykes wherever possible and using alternate routes where necessary. In April 2007, the GVRD, the City of Pitt Meadows and Katzie First Nation celebrated the opening of the first phase of the greenway project.

Health, Social and Community Services

Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge are served by the Fraser Health Authority, a regional health service administered by the B.C. Ministry of Health. The Health Unit office is located in Maple Ridge.

Community health programs offered through the health authority include:

- Public Health Nursing
- Hearing Clinic
- Speech & Language program
- Dental Health Services
- Environmental Health Protection
- Community Care Facilities Licensing

For further information link to: www.fraserhealth.ca

Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge offer their residents a wide range of services to meet their health, social and community needs.

The Ridge Meadows Hospital and Health Care Centre, located in Maple Ridge, provides acute and long term care as well as an array of other in and out patient programs and services. Twenty-four hour ambulance service is provided in the community and it is serviced by walk in clinics, specialists, general practitioners, dentists, chiropractors, massage therapists, and physiotherapists.

Law Enforcement

The Ridge Meadows RCMP provides Law enforcement. Services provided by the RCMP include matters relating to liquor licensing, criminal history checks and firearms acquisition permits.

Fire Protection/Emergency Response

The Pitt Meadows Volunteer Fire Department handles fire protection and a range of other emergency response capabilities. The community also has a volunteer Search and Rescue service and an Emergency Social Services Organization.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTACTS

The Development Services Department strives to bring ideas, people and capital together to create new business investment in the industrial and commercial sectors. From a multi-disciplinary perspective, the information and assistance provided by staff serve the goals of promoting the retention and growth of local industry, attracting new business and industry, and generating enhanced employment opportunities for residents of Pitt Meadows.

Personalized information services are available to investors, financiers, industry, and government. Further information can be obtained by contacting:

City of Pitt Meadows 12007 Harris Road Pitt Meadows, B.C., V3Y 2B5 Phone: 604.465.5454 Fax: 604.465.2404

Don MacLean, Mayor Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer Kim Grout, Director of Operations & Development Services kgrout@pittmeadows.bc.ca Laurie Darcus, Director of Legislative Services Kathleen Wilson, Economic Development Assistant

dmaclean@pittmeadows.bc.ca irudolph@pittmeadows.bc.ca ldarcus@pittmeadows.bc.ca kwilson@pittmeadows.bc.ca



The Natural Choice!

- Diverse, ready and skilled labour market
- Proximity to top quality post-secondary and trades training institutes
- Affordable land and housing
- Competitive tax rates
- Excellent proximity to major markets
- Thirty minutes to United States border
- Pitt Meadows Regional Airport is located in the community
- Forty-five minutes to Vancouver International Airport (YVR)
- With the opening of the Golden Ears Bridge in summer 2009 Pitt Meadows is only minutes away from the Trans-Canada Highway
- Encouraging & rewarding business atmosphere
- Well-managed, safe and livable community
- Unmatched quality of life
- A beautiful environment that fosters multiculturalism, responsibility and opportunity
- The world is coming to visit for the 2010 Winter Games!

As one of the fastest growing communities in Metro Vancouver, Pitt Meadows is well positioned for significant economic growth.

Whether you are seeking to expand, to purchase or lease land or facilities, the City of Pitt Meadows will provide liaison with the right people and industry resources.

We're here to answer your questions.