

Ridge Meadows Recycling Society

Recycling Report

FEBRUARY, 2014



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RESPECT for all living things

The Social Planning Advisory Committee (SPAC) is currently working on an initiative to turn Maple Ridge into a Compassionate Community.



Compassion is seen “as a way of transforming cities, focusing on community, sustainability, and civic engagement.”

Making people compassionate and caring for others and nature is an integral part of the environmental movement. As artist Chris Jordan states in the film, “The Clean Bin Project,”: “**When we care, that’s when we act.**”

The following quote clarifies the link between compassion & environmentalism:
*You are an environmentalist, you just might not have realized it yet.
If you breathe air, and you're concerned what's in it, you are an environmentalist.
If you drink water, and you're concerned what's in it, you are an environmentalist.
If you eat food, and you're concerned what's in it, you are an environmentalist.*

How do you incorporate compassion in your life? Here are a couple of the many compassionate movements worldwide:



“The Charter for Compassion is a cooperative effort to restore not only compassionate thinking but, more importantly, **compassionate action** to the center of religious, moral, and political life. Compassion is the principled determination to put ourselves in the shoes of the other, and lies at the heart of all religious and ethical systems.”

“The Compassion Relays connect the world with compassion. As we pass the Compassion Torch, we spread the light of compassion, inspiring and sharing the power of compassionate action in everyday life.
We bring compassion to life through caring for others, caring for self, and caring for the Earth “

The LAST Committee is now on Facebook!

Through our Supported Work Program, Ridge Meadows Recycling has been a member of the **LAST (Life After School Transition) Committee** for the past few years.

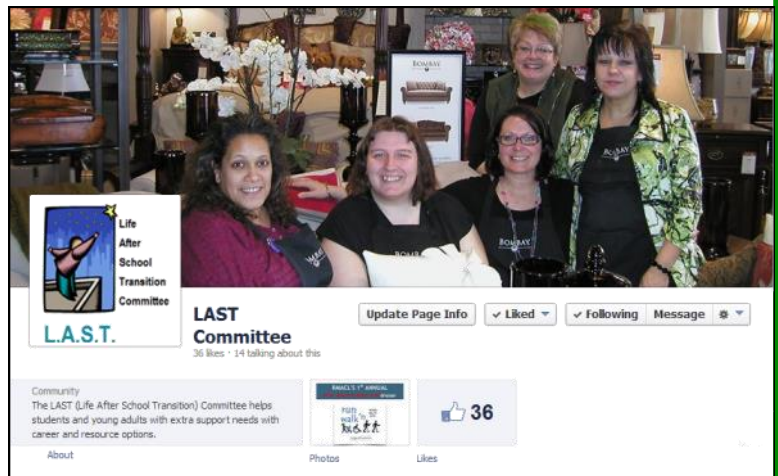
The LAST Committee works to empower local youth with extra support needs as they transition from high school to the next phase of their life in the communities of Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows. Members of the LAST Committee include School District 42, Community Living BC, Ridge Meadows Association for Community Living, Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Community Services, WorkBC, Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation, Ridge Meadows Parks & Leisure Services, Ridge Meadows Recycling, Ministry of Children and Family Development and PosAbilities.

“The LAST Committee helps students and young adults with extra support needs with career and resource options.”

The Committee puts on various events throughout the year, the most recent being last October’s Community Living BBQ at the Greg Moore Youth Centre and a Rotary event at the ACT which included speakers from Safeway, Marv Jones Honda, and keynote speaker Mark Wafer, owner of six Tim Hortons restaurants, focusing on the financial benefits of an inclusive workplace.

On Tuesday, April 8, the Committee hosts the Transition Resource Fair at Thomas Haney Secondary School’s rotunda from 7—8:30pm.

Many organizations will be on hand to answer questions, including post-secondary institutions, the Ministry of Social Development & Social Innovation, Community Living BC, the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Parks & Leisure Services, Employment agencies, and many more service providers.



Finally, the LAST Committee is now on **Facebook!** Come check us out & show your support for our work toward an inclusive society by “Liking” our page :)



Earth Day Photo & Poetry Contest Calls for Entry



Winners of the 2013 Celebrate Earth Day Poetry Contest with local politicians and Coordinator Joe Robinsmith

Entries are now being accepted in both the 2nd Annual Celebrate Earth Day Poetry Contest, and the inaugural Celebrate Earth Day Youth Photography Contest.

Following last year's success, organizer Joe Robinsmith is looking forward to seeing what entries in this year's contest bring. All the poems submitted in the 2013 were compiled & published in a book format through Createspace and are now available at Black Bond Books and through the Amazon website.

This year, Earth Day celebrates the Haney Farmers Market's 10th Anniversary and poems should highlight the 2014 event theme, "Food for Thought."

Poems can be submitted to joe.robinsmith@live.ca.

Categories include Elementary, Secondary, and Adult (19+). Deadline is midnight on April 5, 2014. Winners will be invited to read their poems at the Celebrate Earth Day Opening Ceremonies on **Saturday April 26, 2014** at 11am at Memorial Peace Park.

Ross Davies of the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS) will be organizing the inaugural Celebrate Earth Day Youth Photo Contest with his daughter Sarah, a member of the District 42 Student Advisory Committee (DSAC).

There are three contest categories: Food, Scenic, & Wildlife. Entries can be posted to the **Celebrate Earth Day in Maple Ridge Facebook page** and will be judged by the number of "Likes" they receive. Contest is open from March 1 – April 19. Winners will be announced at Earth Day on April 26.



More information on Earth Day is available on the **Celebrate Earth Day in Maple Ridge** page on Facebook and at www.rmrecycling.org



RMRS AGM REMINDER

Ridge Meadows Recycling Society's Annual General Meeting is on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at The Well restaurant, located inside Chances Gaming Centre. Come and learn more about the upcoming Printed Paper and Packaging Stewardship program and enjoy light refreshments with your fellow members.

Ridge Meadows Recycling Society's 2014 Annual General Meeting

6:30pm on Tuesday, April 1, 2014
at The Well, located inside Chances Gaming Centre,
22710 Lougheed Hwy, Maple Ridge, BC



Upcoming Events

Earth Hour

March 29 (Sat) 8:30—9:30pm

Join more than 7000 cities & towns in over 150 countries to switch off your lights for Earth Hour, a powerful message for action to save the planet



Ridge Meadows Recycling Society Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, April 1, 6:30pm at the Well, located in Chances Gaming Centre, 22710 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge
Join us for a short business meeting, then refreshments and a special presentation by a representative of Multi Materials BC, the organization responsible for the Printed Paper & Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Recycling Program rolling out across British Columbia on May 19, 2014.

Historical Society Heritage Tea

Saturday, April 5, 1-4pm at the Ridge Meadows Senior's Society

Meet living history in our community! To learn more, call Val at 604-463-5311



LAST Committee Transition Resource Fair

Tuesday, April 8, 7-8:30pm at Thomas Haney Secondary School, 23000- 116th Ave, Maple Ridge

For students & young adults with extra support needs searching for career & resource options.



Pitt Meadows' Centennial – Community Birthday Party & Heritage Fair

Friday, April 25, 11am – 8pm, Pitt Meadows Spirit Square and Family Recreation Centre
This free, family-friendly Centennial event will transport you through the decades past in Pitt Meadows!

Celebrate Earth Day in Maple Ridge - "Food for Thought"

Saturday, April 26, 10am - 2pm at Memorial Peace Park, Maple Ridge

Don't miss the Iron Chefs Challenge, Stone Soup making, eco-crafts, interactive activities, family Freecycle, roving performers, the first Haney Farmer's Market of their 10th Anniversary year, and much, MUCH more!

Mission Statement

"Ridge Meadows Recycling Society is a community-based, non-profit organization, advocating zero waste, operating responsible waste reduction services and providing environmental education. We employ people with developmental disabilities assisting their integration into the community."

Vision

"A waste free, socially responsible community."



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www.rmrecycling.org

