

GETTING TO KNOW

The City of Langley



THE CITY

where is the city of langley?



LANGLEY CITY HALL, LIBRARY, AND TIMMS COMMUNITY CENTRE (COMING SPRING 2016)
20399 DOUGLAS CRESCENT, LANGLEY, BRITISH COLUMBIA, V3A 4B3 CANADA

TED SCHAFFER

mayor's message

“I am delighted to invite you to get to know the City of Langley and the function of local government.”

This is our fifth edition of *Getting to Know the City of Langley*. The City of Langley, with the cooperation of School District No.35 and the Langley RCMP, has created this educational resource to help students learn about local government. I know the value of education in our community and I am therefore proud to offer the City of Langley's assistance in this unique project.

As you read and study the story of the City of Langley, take time to test your knowledge and skill through the puzzles we have included to make learning about local government more interesting and fun. We hope you discover that local government plays a vital role in your life and is the level of government closest to the people.

Perhaps you will join us at City Hall for a visit or attend an upcoming City Council meeting in our Council Chambers. I would also recommend that you visit our site online at city.langley.bc.ca. After all, this is your City and we hope you enjoy learning about it!

TED SCHAFFER, MAYOR, CITY OF LANGLEY



COAT OF ARMS

city of langley symbols

Understanding the Coat of Arms

A Coat of Arms and a flag are the City of Langley's symbols. The Coat of Arms includes a shield, a crest, two supporters, a compartment and a motto.

SHIELD

The Shield is in the centre of the Coat of Arms. The gold cross symbolizes the historic crossroads of Yale Road (now Fraser Highway), Smuggler's Trail (now Glover Road and Michaud Crescent) at the heart of the City of Langley. The blue star of Innes in the centre of the shield reflects the original name of this intersection: "Innes Corners," after the important pioneer and landowner named Adam Innes. The City's flag uses the same symbols as the shield.

CREST

The Crest is at the top of the Coat of Arms and includes a black lion holding the City's flag and a canoe. The lion is a symbol of the MacMillan family from Scotland and is used in the crest to celebrate the arrival of James MacMillan in the Langley area in 1824. The canoe shows how MacMillan's party travelled up the Nicomekl River.

SUPPORTERS

The Supporters are the horse and elk that support the shield. The elk represents the natural history of the area, while the horse honours the early pioneers of the area who relied on horsepower for farming and transportation.

COMPARTMENT

The Compartment is the area at the base of the Coat of Arms and includes green grass and blue and white wavy stripes. The grass stands for the land of the City and especially for its original fields. The blue and white stripes represent the Nicomekl River.

MOTTO

The City's motto is "Strength of Purpose, Spirit of Community." The motto is a saying that expresses the City of Langley's identity and character.



A WALK BACK IN TIME

our history

From Fur Trading to Farming

This area first came to the attention of Europeans in 1824 when James MacMillan and his party were scouting for a new Hudson's Bay Company post. They travelled up the Pacific coast from Astoria, Oregon and navigated Semiahmoo Bay. The party travelled up the Nicomekl River as far as possible. MacMillan and his group then followed an ancient Indian portage route to the Fraser River. Today, Portage Park is at the foot of 204 Street on the Nicomekl River.

In 1858 the Crown Colony of British Columbia was proclaimed at Fort Langley. Soon after, colonists were permitted to buy land for ten shillings an acre and settlers began to arrive in the Langley area. Some were ex-miners or former Hudson's Bay Company employees; others came from Ireland, Scotland and England via eastern Canada or the United States. The pioneers homesteaded beyond the great HBC farm and many of them settled on the site of the present day City of Langley.

In the 1870s, Adam and William Innes were among the first to buy land here, at the junction of Smuggler's Trail (now Glover Road) and Yale Road (now Fraser Highway). The spot became known as Innes Corners.

Politics in this fledgling community kept Adam Innes busy. He was involved in the municipal incorporation of the Langley area in 1873 and served as Reeve of the new Township of Langley for seven one-year terms between 1874 and 1887. He was also secretary of the school board and donated land for one of the community's first schools.

Innes Corners grew gradually. In 1895, Yale Road was widened to New Westminster to make it passable for horse drawn buggies. In 1910, the B.C. Electric Railway, running between New Westminster and Chilliwack, was built through the settlement to carry Fraser Valley produce to the Vancouver market. When the post office arrived in 1910, Innes Corners was renamed Langley Prairie after Thomas Langley, a director of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Transportation access made Langley Prairie the commercial hub of the surrounding region. Construction of the Fraser Highway in the 1920s and the Patullo Bridge across the Fraser River in 1937 contributed to its steady growth. In the 1950s residents of the Langley Prairie community grew upset that this commercial and business centre for the region was not receiving its fair share of services from the Township of Langley. On March 15, 1955 this area seceded from the Township of Langley and the City of Langley was established.

A Vital Commercial Centre

Today Adam Innes would recognize the mild climate, the valley setting and the grand mountain views, but he would be amazed to see the fields and forest he knew transformed into a vibrant ten square-kilometre city. On the very spot where he homesteaded, he would find Innes Corners Plaza, an inviting meeting place of trees, pools and waterfalls created by City Council as a focal point for the commercial core he helped establish.



HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Economic Heritage

Settled as a peripheral farming and logging area for the Hudson's Bay Company

Incorporation

March 15, 1955 (Langley Prairie residents secede to protest allocation of tax dollars to rural areas instead of the growing commercial centre)

Major Contributions to Growth

Arrival of BC Electric Railway in 1910 and construction of the Fraser Highway/Yale Road in the 1920s

ABOVE A reenactment of James McMillan and his party portaging along an ancient Indian portage route (now Portage Park).



levels of government

Canada has three levels of government: The Federal Government in Ottawa, the Provincial Government in Victoria, and Local Governments such as the City of Langley.

CANADA

Federal Government

The Federal Government takes care of the bigger picture – national issues such as defence, international trade, and foreign affairs.



BRITISH COLUMBIA

Provincial Government

At the Provincial level, the government in Victoria takes care of such things as health care, education, transportation, forests and the environment.





CITY OF LANGLEY

Local Government

Municipalities are responsible for things much closer to home. Some call it “grassroots” government because it is closer to the people.

What do you think local government spends most of its time and resources on?

Why is the City of Langley a City?

While all municipalities are legal corporations, the classification is determined by the size of the area and the population. Provincial guidelines classify a village as less than 2,500 population, a town as 2,500 to 5,000, a city as over 5,000 and a district as greater than 800 hectares and less than five people per hectare.

The City of Langley has a population of 26,300 within an area of 10.18 square kilometers (4 square miles).

*Good citizenship starts with you.
You can make a difference in your
community at the grassroots level.*



THE MAYORS

now and then



HUNTER VOGEL

MARCH 15, 1955 – MAY 29, 1955



ERNEST EDWARD SENDALL

MAY 30, 1955 – OCTOBER 26, 1959



JOHN ALFRED PENZER

DECEMBER 2, 1959 – APRIL 5, 1961



AUBREY SEARLE

DECEMBER 8, 1980 – DECEMBER 6, 1982



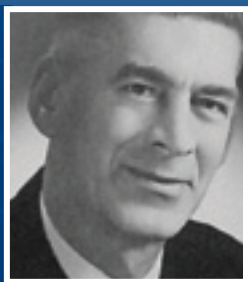
REGINALD HENRY EASINGWOOD

DECEMBER 6, 1982 – DECEMBER 6, 1988



JOE GERRY LOPUSHINSKY

DECEMBER 5, 1988 – DECEMBER 6, 1993



JOHN HERBERT CONDER

MAY 8, 1961 – JANUARY 6, 1969



DAVID LEONARD NICHOLAS

JANUARY 6, 1969 – JANUARY 8, 1973



WILLIAM GRANT DUCKWORTH, JR.

JANUARY 8, 1973 – DECEMBER 8, 1980

FUTURE MAYOR

"If I was Mayor, I would help the City of Langley focus not only on the physical infrastructure but on the social infrastructure, enriching the life of the mind, and as a result, the life of the community as a whole."



MARLENE GRINNELL

DECEMBER 6, 1993 – DECEMBER 5, 2005



PETER FASSBENDER

DECEMBER 5, 2005 – JANUARY 2, 2014



TED SCHAFFER

JANUARY 3, 2014 – PRESENT



"As mayor, my job is to support the City's mission to build a vibrant, healthy and safe community. We have created a vision for the future and my goal is to help turn that vision into reality."

TED SCHAFFER, MAYOR, CITY OF LANGLEY

CITY COUNCIL

who's who in local government?



LANGLEY CITY COUNCIL (LEFT TO RIGHT):
COUNCILLORS JACK ARNOLD, PAUL ALBRECHT, RUDY STORTEBOOM,
MAYOR TED SCHAFER, COUNCILLORS GAYLE MARTIN, VAL VAN DEN BROEK, AND DAVE HALL.

THE VOTERS

The voters are at the centre of all decisions made at the local government level. City Council, made up of the Mayor and six Councillors, ultimately answers to the constituents of the City of Langley.

THE MAYOR

The Mayor is the elected head of City Council and leader of the municipal government.

COUNCILLORS

The Councillors are the elected representatives who, together with the Mayor, make up City Council.

ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Department is responsible for communicating the directions of Council to the various City departments.

DEPARTMENTS

The departments are the divisions of local government responsible for providing a variety of municipal services. The City of Langley's departments are described in the following pages.



ADMINISTRATION department

The Administration Department is responsible for the overall management of the organization. The department communicates the directions of Council to the various City departments and is also responsible for bylaw enforcement, human resources, and communications.



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Manages and provides leadership to the organization and its departments as directed by City Council.

CORPORATE OFFICER

Takes care of official city documents and records, including preparation of meeting agendas. Holds municipal elections every four years when the Mayor and Councillors are elected.

BYLAW ENFORCEMENT

Making sure that City bylaws and parking regulations are followed.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Looking after people who work for the City and hiring new workers when needed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Creates plans and materials to help inform, engage and collect feedback from the public about government programs, initiatives, services and policies.



CORPORATE SERVICES department

The Corporate Services Department is responsible for tax collection, budgeting, accounting and information technology services. The department's offices are located at City Hall.

TAX COLLECTION

Collecting money from property taxes paid to the City by land owners.

BUDGETING

Planning how to raise and spend money to provide City services.

ACCOUNTING

Keeping track of money that is received or spent by the City.

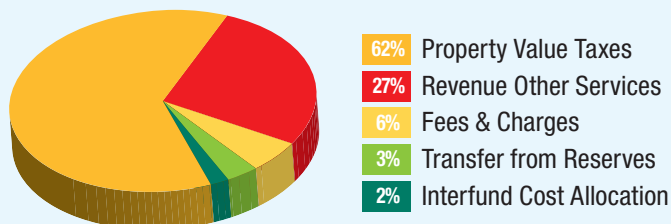
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Providing and maintaining computer hardware and software for City departments.



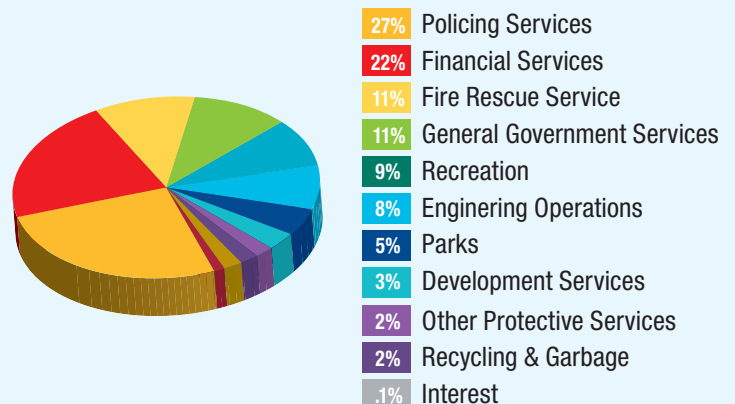
REVENUE

Where does the City's money come from?



EXPENSES

How is the City's money spent?



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT department



The Development Services & Economic Development Department is responsible for providing services related to the planning and development of the City.

The department's activities are directed in four main areas: planning, building, business licensing, and economic development. The department's offices are located at City Hall.

PLANNING

Planning the development of land in the City.

BUILDING

Inspecting buildings for safety, issuing sign permits, and issuing building permits to allow construction in the City.

BUSINESS LICENSING

Issuing business licenses.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Promoting business in the City.



ENGINEERING, PARKS & ENVIRONMENT department

The Engineering, Parks & Environment Department is responsible for the administration of engineering, public works services, and parks including the design, construction and maintenance of roads, water, sanitary sewer, drainage and parks services.

The department has its technical and administrative offices in City Hall. Operational services are based at the Operations Centre at 5713 198 Street.

ROADS

Designing, building and maintaining roads, sidewalks, traffic signs, signals, and streetlights.

WATER

Designing, installing and maintaining water reservoirs, water mains and fire hydrants. Ensuring water quality standards are met.

SANITARY SEWER

Designing, installing and maintaining sanitary sewer pipes and the pump stations.

DRAINAGE

Designing, installing and maintaining storm drainage pipes and catch basins.

PARKS

Developing and maintaining all parks and public spaces.



RECREATION, CULTURE & COMMUNITY SERVICES department



The Recreation, Culture & Community Services Department is responsible for providing or facilitating leisure opportunities for people of all ages, interests and skill levels.

The department works closely with community agencies to provide a wide range of services to the citizens of Langley. Citizens have the opportunity to register for a diverse range of programs or participate in many drop-in type activities that are available.

FACILITIES

- Al Anderson Memorial Pool
- Douglas Recreation Centre
- Langley City Library
- Nicomekl Community Multipurpose Room
- Timms Community Centre
- Twin Rinks

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Some popular recreation programs in the City of Langley:

- Swimming
- Fitness
- Sports
- Social
- Dance
- Arts and Crafts
- Drama
- Youth Drop-in



schools, parks & recreation facilities



SCHOOLS

- A** Alice Brown Elementary
- B** Blacklock Elementary
- C** Douglas Park Community School
- D** Uplands Elementary
- E** Nicomekl Elementary
- F** Simonds Elementary
- G** H.D. Stafford Middle School
- H** Kwantlen Polytechnic University



COMMUNITY PARKS

- 1** Douglas Park
- 2** City Park
- 3** Sendall Gardens
- 4** Buckley Park



RECREATION FACILITIES

- A** Douglas Recreation Centre
- B** Spirit Square
- C** Langley Twin Rinks
- D** Al Anderson Memorial Pool
- E** Timms Community Centre
- F** Langley Seniors Recreation & Resource Centre
- G** Michaud House



NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKS

- 1** Portage Park
- 2** Brydon Park
- 3** Hunter Park
- 4** Linwood Park
- 5** Nicholas Park
- 6** Nicomekl Park
- 7** Conder Park
- 8** Penzer Bike Skills Park
- 9** Iris Mooney Park
- 10** Rotary Centennial Park
- 11** Dumais Park
- 12** Zazulak Park
- 13** Langley Prairie Neighbourhood Park



LANGLEY CITY FIRE-RESCUE SERVICE department



The City of Langley provides fire services and other emergency rescue services through the Langley City Fire-Rescue Service which is located at the Firehall at 5785 203rd Street.

FIRE SERVICES

- Firefighting
- Fire Prevention
- Community Education

OTHER EMERGENCY RESCUE SERVICES

- Motor Vehicle Accident Rescues
- Medical Service Calls
- Hazardous Materials Calls

EMERGENCY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

- Develops and tests the Emergency Preparedness Plan for the City of Langley and the Township of Langley



LANGLEY RCMP detachment

Police services in the City of Langley are provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Langley RCMP detachment is located in the Township of Langley at 22180 48th Avenue, but also operates a Community Police Office in Downtown Langley located at 20408 Douglas Crescent.

POLICE SERVICES

- Law Enforcement
- Crime Prevention
- Community Education

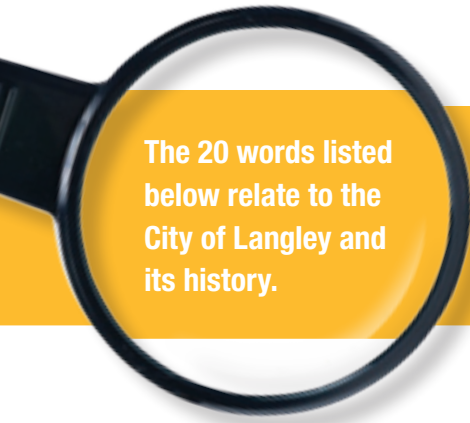
COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICE

- Storefront office in Downtown Langley
- Encourage communication between police and citizens of Langley



JUST FOR FUN

word search



The 20 words listed below relate to the City of Langley and its history.

E	G	E	I	P	I	P	S	A	C	E	N	S
S	V	G	N	E	M	A	G	E	N	D	A	E
E	O	A	C	G	N	R	E	N	N	E	A	T
W	L	T	O	F	I	K	A	U	E	C	A	U
E	U	R	R	L	A	N	O	I	G	E	R	N
R	N	O	P	B	A	R	E	E	L	S	E	I
A	T	P	O	N	G	A	M	E	E	W	A	M
W	E	T	R	Y	R	E	L	Y	R	W	A	V
D	E	T	A	C	H	M	E	N	T	I	N	Y
R	R	L	T	E	P	L	A	N	N	I	N	G
A	P	R	I	O	V	R	E	S	E	R	C	G
H	I	E	O	B	Y	L	A	W	R	E	E	A
R	S	T	N	E	U	T	I	T	S	N	O	C

See if you can find all 20 words in the word search puzzle. Look for words running forward or backward, up or down, across or diagonally in the puzzle. Good Luck!

agenda

constituents

incorporation

secede

reservoir

regional

detachment

minutes

park

volunteer

bylaw

engineering

portage

playground

city

railway

hardware

sewer

planning

farm

JUST FOR FUN

scrambled words

Unscramble these words. All of them relate to Municipal Government.
Good luck!

1. XTA _____
2. ETOV _____
3. OMARY _____
4. YTCI _____
5. ILCNCOU _____
6. STREC _____
7. ALWYB _____
8. PSAKR _____
9. RAETW _____
10. EEWSR _____
11. RDSOA _____
12. ONTIREARCE _____

Consider this. What would
you do if you were mayor?



WHERE IS THE CITY OF LANGLEY?

COLOUR IN A SQUARE ON THIS MAP



XTA = TAX, ETOV = VOTE, OMARY = MAYOR, YTCI = CITY, ILCNCOU = COUNCIL, STREC = STREET, ALWYB = BYLAW,
PSAKR = PARKS, RAETW = WATER, EEWSR = SEWER, RDSOA = ROADS, ONTIREARCE = RECREATION

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

get involved



STAY INFORMED

Stay informed about municipal issues by reading the local newspapers and visiting the City of Langley website at city.langley.bc.ca for the latest news and information. Watch for Council and committee meeting agendas as well as notices of upcoming public hearings.

ATTEND MEETINGS

If possible, attend a City Council meeting with your parents or class to see how municipal government works in the City of Langley! City Council meetings are generally held every second Monday throughout the year. Parks Environment Advisory Committee and Advisory Planning Commission meetings are also open to the public. These bodies advise City Council on planning and parks and recreation issues. Please check the City's website or contact the Administration Department for further information on Council and committee meetings.

VOLUNTEER

Volunteering is about giving your time to help other people or causes. There are many volunteer opportunities in your community. For example, the City's Point of Pride program allows people to:

- Adopt-a-Park
- Adopt-a-Trail
- Adopt-a-Street
- Adopt-a-Waterway

You may also be able to volunteer for Special Events. If you are interested in volunteering, a good place to begin is the City Recreation, Culture & Community Services Department located at Douglas Recreation Centre and Timm's Community Centre.



DEFINITIONS

glossary of terms

TERM	MEANING
Agendas	A list of matters to be considered at a meeting, for example a City Council meeting
Business License	A license to operate a business in the City of Langley
Building Permit	A permit to allow building in the City
Bylaws	Laws passed by City Council
Catch Basins	Drains for catching rain water on streets
Colonists	People who live in a colony such as a Crown Colony
Commercial Hub	A centre for business, such as Downtown Langley
Constituents	People who are represented by a government, such as the City of Langley
Crime Prevention	Work by police and citizens for preventing crimes from happening
Crown Colony	A territory claimed in the name of the King or Queen for settlement
Detachment	A base or unit of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Emergency Preparedness Plan	A plan of actions for people to follow in case of an emergency
Engineering	Using science and mathematics to solve problems for people
Hardware	The physical parts of a computer
Hazardous Materials	Materials that can be dangerous to people unless they are handled in a special way
Incorporation	Coming together to form a new municipality
Law Enforcement	Work done by the police and courts to make people follow the law
Medical Services Calls	Calls to help sick or injured people
Minutes	A record of what people discuss and decide in meetings, such as a City Council meeting
Operational Services	Services to maintain and repair public works in the City; for example, street cleaning
Portage	Carrying boats over land to water
Property Taxes	Taxes paid to the City by property owners to help pay for City services and schools
Public Works	Roads, pipes, buildings, etc. for public use or service
Reeve	Old name for the Mayor of Langley Township
Sanitary Sewer	Pipes that take liquid waste from homes and businesses to treatment plants
Secede	To break away from (ie: the area around Downtown Langley seceded from the Township of Langley to form the City of Langley in 1955)
Sign Permits	Permits to allow businesses to place signs on their properties
Software	The programs that run on computers
Storm Drainage	Removing runoff or rainwater from streets and properties
Water Mains	Pipes under roads that bring water to properties
Water Reservoirs	Large storage tanks that maintain a steady supply of water for the City



CITY HALL
20399 Douglas Crescent
Langley, BC Canada V3A 4B3
Phone. 604 514 2800
Fax. 604 514 2322
www.city.langley.bc.ca

