

Welcome to the Community Consultation Meeting WiFi Proposal

Shaw is inviting community feedback on a WiFi proposal where Shaw is proposing to expand Shaw Go WiFi service to specific indoor and outdoor civic locations. In exchange for accessing municipal infrastructure, Shaw has offered to also provide complimentary free WiFi service to the public. The purpose of this Community Consultation Meeting is for Shaw to share information on the proposal, invite feedback from the community and answer any questions.

We welcome your comments and questions during the Community Consultation Meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 or by e-mail to Kiersten Enemark, Government Relations Manager, at Kiersten.Enemark@sjrb.ca or phone at (604) 629-3103 by November 22, 2017.

What has Shaw proposed to the City of Maple Ridge?

The City of Maple Ridge is currently offering free public WiFi service at 7 City-operated locations. All over Canada, people are accessing services on-line more and more, and local governments see the benefit of offering free public WiFi in that it allows residents the mobility to access services from anywhere, particularly from civic locations, at no cost. By partnering with Shaw, the City saves time and money by having Shaw responsible for the installation, operation and maintenance of expanding a WiFi network that will service both Shaw internet customers and the public.

The City is considering an agreement with Shaw that would be non-exclusive and each location would be subject to the City's full approval. Shaw agrees to pay the full cost of the installation, including power consumption. Shaw has offered to open WiFi to everyone: Shaw customers will be able to roam onto the Shaw Go WiFi network and non-Shaw customers will be able use the Guest Access service.

Where is Shaw offering to provide WiFi service?

Shaw is proposing to add WiFi to a total of 11 possible locations: nine (9) indoor locations and two (2) outdoor locations: Maple Ridge Golf Course, Gregg Moore Youth Centre (indoor and outdoor) and Leisure Centre, Curling Rink (Golden Ears Winter Club), Hammond Community Centre, Maple Ridge Arts and Theatre, Maple Ridge Museum and Archive, City Hall, Whonnock Lake Hall, Randy Herman Building, Memorial Peace Park (outdoor)

The agreement proposed by Shaw allows for the City to work with Shaw to add additional locations in the future. All locations and installations are subject to Shaw's technical feasibility review and the City's approval. Shaw has offered to open WiFi to everyone: Shaw customers will be able to roam onto the Shaw Go WiFi network and non-Shaw customers will be able use the Guest Access service.

Why these locations?

Shaw worked with City staff to identify locations that were important to the City; locations where people gather, such as, parks, recreation centres, and places where tourists visit, like museums. This agreement does not cover private businesses or residents.



The City has final approval of on all locations. If there are locations you like or don't like, or would like to see WiFi in other locations, please be sure to include it in your written comments.

What quality service is Shaw offering Maple Ridge?

Shaw is an expert at building WiFi networks, with the largest WiFi network in Canada and holds over 100 agreements with municipalities to provide WiFi services at civic locations. The WiFi service offered by Shaw is dependable, and offers competitive speeds.

Is WiFi safe?

All Shaw WiFi installations operate well below all Health Canada RF safety limits. In Canada, the Health Canada RF safety guidelines are called Safety Code 6. Based on scientific evidence, Health Canada has determined that exposure to low level radiofrequency energy, such as that from Wi-Fi equipment, is not dangerous to the public. The limits specified in the guidelines are based on an ongoing review of thousands of published peer reviewed scientific studies on the health impacts of radiofrequency energy. Levels of radiofrequency energy emitted from Wi-Fi equipment are typically well below these safety limits. As long as exposure is below these established limits, there is no convincing scientific evidence that this equipment is dangerous to Canadians

After the Community Consultation Meeting, what's next?

After the meeting, City staff will consider all comments received and will consider resuming negotiations with Shaw regarding the final terms of a WiFi contract. Final terms of the agreement would consider where public WiFi would be offered, or instead, possibly combine free public WiFi and revenue generating hotpots. If an agreement is reached, City Council will consider the final proposal at a council meeting in 2018.