

Council of New Westminster: The Maple Leaf Singers Arts AGM Report 2019

- The Maple Leaf Singers show chorus comprises nearly 60 voices in six-part harmony. Known for high-energy, choreographed performances, we deliver a repertoire that runs the gamut from Broadway and movie musicals to rock and pop, classical, folk, swing, and gospel.
- In May 2018, our chorus celebrated 50 years as an organization. In September 2018, we welcomed dynamic new director Rob Gillis, son of the group's founders, New Westminster couple George and Marie Gillis.
- Under Rob Gillis, the Maple Leaf Singers have made concerted efforts to attract new members, raise awareness of the group, and diversify the groups for which we perform. We are pleased to report that
 - Our membership has increased to nearly 60 singers
 - We performed at New Westminster's 1st Winterfest in December 2018
 - We participated in the Anvil Centre Culture Forward Days in September
 - We entertained participants at the Alzheimer's Society 2019 Burnaby Walk for Memories and have been invited to perform again in 2020
- As a registered charity, the Maple Leaf Singers perform a dozen or more shows each year at events, fundraisers, and seniors' residences, and care homes. Of our many shows, about two-thirds are special Christmas presentations. Our 2019 yuletide season includes private shows at seniors' residences and care homes in Vancouver, Richmond, Surrey, and Burnaby, as well as three open-to-the-public shows:
 - Sunday, December 8: Lougheed Mall, Burnaby 1:00 pm (free)
 - Saturday, December 14: Cliff Avenue United Church, Burnaby, 2:00 pm, (tickets \$15)
 - Saturday, December 21: The Anvil Centre, New Westminster, 1:00 pm (free)
- Listed by the *New Westminster Record* as a must-see show, the Maple Leaf Singers Annual Spring Show at Massey Theatre routinely promises good vibes that span the decades. Our 51st annual show, *Don't Stop Believin'*, in May 2019, welcomed nearly 1,000 audience members. Our 2020 show will be May 30 and 31, at Massey Theatre.
- Our show chorus welcomes new singers. All are welcome to audition. Call 778-245-4445 or email joinus@mapleleafsingers.com. We practice once weekly on Mondays, 7:30 to 9:45 pm, at the Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion.
- We also welcome inquiries about booking a show. We do not charge for our performances but, depending on the event, we welcome a donation to support our efforts. Email showbookings@mapleleafsingers.com
- Learn more about the Maple Leaf Singers at www.mapleleafsingers.com or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mapleleafsingers