



Georgian Bay Community Racquets Centre

Creating A Year-Round Community Asset

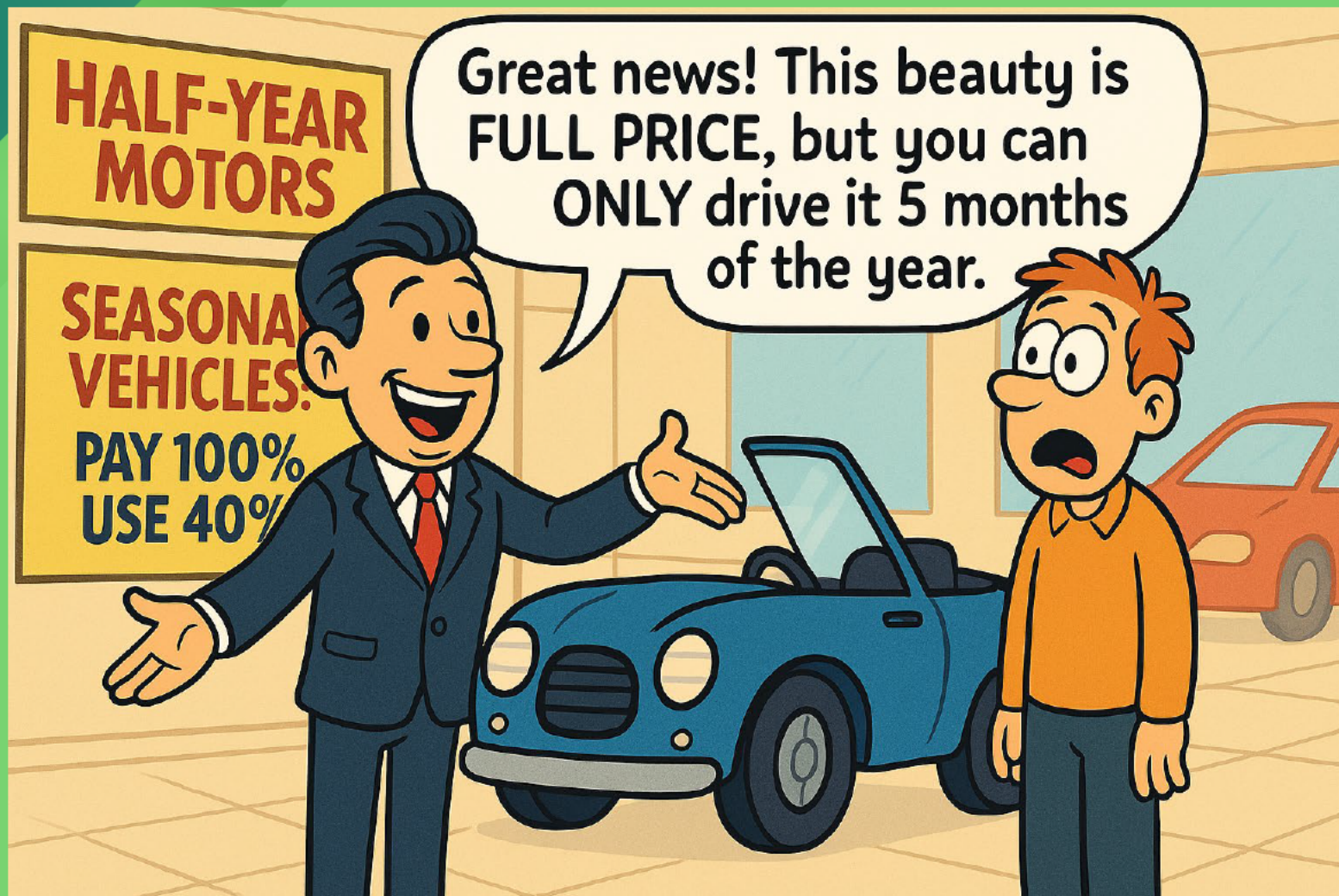
The Indoor Tennis Desert



**HALF-YEAR
MOTORS**

**SEASONAL
VEHICLES:
PAY 100%
USE 40%**

Great news! This beauty is
FULL PRICE, but you can
ONLY drive it 5 months
of the year.



Winter Operations

A yellow circle with two white curved lines, one near the top and one near the bottom, forming a shape similar to a pair of parentheses or a wide 'U'.

Commercial operator

A yellow circle with two white curved lines, one near the top and one near the bottom, forming a shape similar to a pair of parentheses or a wide 'U'.

**Not-for-profit
operator**

Community Year-Round Tennis Locations

- Ajax
- Aurora
- Chatham
- Kingston
- Milton
- Midhurst (Barrie)
- Niagara Falls
- Vaughan
- Ancaster

- Richmond Hill
- Newmarket
- Sudbury
- Thunder Bay
- Markham
- Mississauga
- Brampton
- Toronto
- Ottawa

...Any many more

Indoor Structure Type

DOME



Indoor Structure Type

FABRIC TENSION





SOBEYS STADIUM
1 Shoreham Dr, Suite 100
Toronto ON M3N 3A6
T. 416.665.9777

November 14, 2024

Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street
Thornbury,
Ontario N0H 2P0

Re: Supplemental Support - Proposed Tennis Facility Development

Dear Mayor and Council,

Further to our letter of support dated November 4, and in advance of the upcoming deputation to Council, Tennis Canada wishes to provide additional support regarding the proposed tennis facility.

Tennis Canada has identified exceptional potential for The Blue Mountains to establish itself as a premier tennis tournament destination. Our assessment is based on the following key factors:

1. Tournament Facility Gap
 - Ontario faces a critical shortage of tournament-capable indoor facilities
 - Demand significantly exceeds capacity for sanctioned tournament hosting
 - There is an urgent need for high-quality facilities
2. Strategic Location Advantages
 - Established tourism infrastructure and expertise
 - Substantial existing accommodation capacity
 - Proven four-season destination appeal
3. Facility Requirements
 - **minimum 4** dedicated tennis courts to ensure optimal tournament operations
 - Professional-grade surfaces free from multi-sport markings
 - Year-round indoor facility to enable flexible tournament scheduling
 - Tournament-standard lighting and support amenities
 - Year-round economic benefits through recurring event



SOBEYS STADIUM
1 Shoreham Dr, Suite 100
Toronto ON M3N 3A6
T. 416.665.9777

4. Growth Strategy

- Address a gap in Ontario's tennis infrastructure
- Create new pathways for regional tournament development
- Enhance athlete development opportunities in Northern Ontario
- Strengthen The Blue Mountains' position in sport tourism

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Alison Anderson

Manager, Community Projects

Tennis Canada

Membership & Regional Development Manager
Ontario Tennis Association
Toronto, ON
M3N 3A7



Mayor and Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street
P.O. Box 310
Thornbury, ON
N0H 2P0



Dear the Mayor and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Ontario Tennis Association (OTA), I am writing to express our strong support for the proposed six-court indoor tennis facility in The Blue Mountains. As the provincial sport organization responsible for the growth and development of tennis across Ontario, we see this facility as a crucial addition to our provincial tennis infrastructure.

Strategic Alignment

The proposed facility addresses several key priorities in our provincial tennis development strategy:

- Addressing the critical shortage of indoor courts in North Central Ontario
- Expanding tournament hosting capabilities outside the GTA
- Supporting year-round player development programs
- Increasing accessibility to tennis in underserved regions

Tournament Potential

A six-court indoor facility would qualify as an official OTA tournament venue, enabling:

- Provincial Junior Ranking Tournaments
- Ontario Senior Ranking Events
- Adult Ranking Events
- Open Ranking Events
- Progressive Tennis development programs

Subject to agreement with the Club and the Town, we project the possibility of hosting sanctioned tournaments annually.

Player Development Impact

This facility would serve as a crucial regional training center, supporting:

- Year-round junior development programs
- High-performance training opportunities
- Coach education and certification programs
- School outreach initiatives
- Tennis Canada's progressive tennis pathway

Regional Development

The facility would fill a significant gap in our provincial tennis infrastructure:

- Currently no dedicated year-round indoor facilities within a 56km radius (the nearest being Barrie Winter North Tennis Club)
- Serves a growing population base of over 100,000 in the broader region
- Enables year-round programming currently unavailable in the area
- Creates opportunities for school partnerships and youth engagement
- Supports our mandate to develop tennis across Ontario

OTA Commitment

The OTA commits to supporting this facility through:

- Tournament sanctioning and support
- Coach development programs
- Technical expertise and guidance
- Marketing through our provincial networks
- Integration into our player development pathway

We strongly endorse this project and its planned six-court configuration, which crucially, represents the minimum size needed for effective tournament hosting and programming. This facility would become a vital hub in our provincial tennis network, serving both competitive and recreational players throughout the year.

The OTA views this project as a strategic priority for tennis development in Ontario, and we look forward to supporting its success.

Andrew Chappell

[REDACTED]

Membership & Regional Development Manager

Ontario Tennis Association

1 Shoreham Dr.

Toronto, ON

M3N 3A7

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Georgian Bay Community School

Kevin Wilson, Principal
Colin Sawyer, Vice-Principal
Jennifer Gunion, Vice-Principal
Jacob Gardhouse, Vice-Principal

197799 Grey Rd. 7
Meaford, Ontario N4L 1W7
Telephone: (519) 538-1680
Fax: (519) 370-2920

November 11, 2024

Ryan Gibbons

Director of Community Services
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Mr. Gibbons,

As Principal of Georgian Bay Community School, serving all secondary students in The Blue Mountains, I strongly support the proposed six-court indoor tennis facility.

Our 400+ high school students currently face significant challenges accessing indoor recreational facilities during the winter months. This facility would enable us to:

- **Expand our physical education curriculum year-round**
- **Create competitive school tennis teams**
- **Offer new leadership opportunities through sports programming**
- **Provide structured physical activity throughout our day as well as extra-curricular after school**

The proximity to our school makes this an invaluable opportunity for our students' physical and social development.

Sincerely,



Kevin Wilson
Principal
Georgian Bay Community School



Beaver Valley Community School

Julie Phillips, Principal
Kim Graham, Vice Principal
Marian Ramos, Office Manager

P.O. Box 340
189 Bruce St S
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0
Telephone: (519) 599-5991
Fax: (519) 370-2905

November 15, 2024

Ryan Gibbons

Director of Community Services
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Mr. Gibbons,


I am writing to express my strong support for Thornbury's proposed indoor tennis facility. As Principal of a K-8 school in our community, I see the invaluable impact of diverse recreational opportunities on students' development, confidence, and overall well-being. An indoor tennis facility would be a welcome addition, enabling students to engage in tennis year-round, regardless of the season or weather.

Currently, our students only have limited exposure to tennis due to the constraints of seasonal outdoor facilities. A year-round facility would allow us to introduce tennis more thoroughly into our physical education curriculum and after-school programs. Tennis offers students a unique blend of physical fitness, mental discipline, and social engagement, all essential to their growth. This facility would provide a structured environment where students can develop new skills, stay active, and engage positively with peers.

Beyond our school, I believe an indoor tennis facility would also benefit the wider community. With the potential for weekend clinics, community events, and family recreational opportunities, this space could quickly become a central hub for community connection and physical activity in Thornbury.

Thank you for considering this proposal, which I believe would greatly enrich both our school's programming and the quality of life for families in our area. Please do not hesitate to reach out if there's any way I can provide further support.

Warm regards,


Julie Phillips, Principal
Beaver Valley Community School
Thornbury, ON

Tyrolean Village Resorts 2021 Limited

796455 Grey Rd. 19, Blue Mountains, Ont. L9Y 0N8
Tel. 705-445-1467, info@tyrolean.com

November 12, 2024

Mayor and Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

On behalf of Tyrolean Village Resorts, a significant accommodation provider in The Blue Mountains region, I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed 4-court indoor tennis facility. With over 40 years of experience in local tourism and hospitality, I can attest to the many economic and social benefits this facility would bring to our community.

Tourism Impact

The proposed facility would add to the regions year-round recreational offerings and attract new tourists to the area.

- Extended tourist seasons beyond traditional peak periods
- Increased mid-week occupancy through tournament hosting
- Enhanced shoulder season activities for visitors
- Diversified winter activities beyond skiing

Tournament Potential

Based on our experience hosting tennis tournaments in the past, this type of facility could result in the following benefits.

- 8-12 weekend tournaments annually, each bringing 100-150 participants plus families
- Average 2-3 night stays per tournament
- Significant ancillary benefits for local restaurants and attractions
- Mid-week training camps and clinics filling traditional low-occupancy periods

Economic Benefits

- Significant new spending at local accommodation facilities.
- Significant new spending at Restaurant, Retail and attraction venues.
- Employment opportunities in hospitality and service sectors.
- Additional facilities to attract corporate retreats and team-building events

Regional Competitiveness

This facility would significantly enhance our region's appeal:

- Year-round recreational offering
- Unique indoor sports facility
- Competitive advantage for attracting sports tourism
- Strengthened position as a four-season destination

Tyrolean Village Resorts 2021 Limited

796455 Grey Rd. 19, Blue Mountains, Ont. L9Y 0N8
Tel. 705-445-1467, info@tyrolean.com

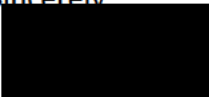
Development Alignment

The facility aligns perfectly with our region's development goals:

- Four-season tourism strategy
- Supports improved health and wellness of our residents
- High-end sports and recreation facilities
- Family-oriented activities
- Active lifestyle amenities
- Improved visitor experiences

As a business owner deeply invested in this community's success, I strongly endorse this project. A facility of this calibre would not only enhance our tourism infrastructure but would also contribute to the overall wellbeing and health of the local resident community.

Sincerely,



Denis Martinek, Director
Tyrolean Village Resorts 2021 Limited

•



The Mayor and Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street
P.O. Box 310
Thornbury, ON
N0H 2P0

Nov 8, 2024

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

As a former Canadian tennis professional and Olympic gold medalist, I am writing to express my support for the proposed indoor tennis facility in The Blue Mountains.

Throughout my career, I've seen firsthand how access to quality indoor facilities can transform communities and create opportunities for players of all ages. Having represented Canada for over two decades, I understand the critical shortage of year-round tennis facilities in Ontario, particularly outside major urban centres.

The proposal for a six-court indoor facility would fill a significant gap in the region. Year-round access to tennis isn't just about developing elite players – it's about providing communities with opportunities for recreation, fitness, and social connection throughout the Canadian winter.

During my playing career, I witnessed the growth of tennis in Canada from a summer-only sport to a year-round activity, but we still lag behind other nations in indoor court accessibility. Every new facility brings us closer to meeting the growing demand for year-round tennis.

I encourage the Town to support this initiative, which will benefit residents of all ages and skill levels while contributing to the continued growth of tennis in Ontario.

Best regards,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Daniel Nestor.

Daniel Nestor
Olympic Gold Medalist
8-Time Grand Slam Champion
Member of the Order of Canada

November 12, 2024

Mayor and Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON
N0H 2P0

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

On behalf of Regional Tourism Organization 7 (RT07), a tourism organization that supports tourism stakeholders and industry in Bruce, Grey, and Simcoe counties, I am writing to express our support in principle for the proposed six-court indoor tennis facility in The Blue Mountains, provided it aligns with the long-term needs of the traveling public and contributes meaningfully to the sustainability of the region.

A facility of this nature could play a valuable role in enhancing year-round tourism options that are balanced across economic, environmental, and social dimensions, supporting The Blue Mountains' position as a destination that prioritizes sustainable tourism. Such a development may offer key benefits aligned with these objectives, such as:

- Enhancing visitor experiences during shoulder and winter seasons
- Contributing to a diversified mix of recreation options
- Providing infrastructure that supports sustainable, year-round tourism employment

This facility could address a current gap in the sports infrastructure, with the potential to attract moderate, seasonal tourism activity. Projected impacts, based on similar facilities, include:

- Incremental room nights during tournaments and training events
- Increased visitor spending in local businesses
- Employment opportunities related to sports tourism, aligned with regional sustainability goals

This facility could also complement existing tourism assets by:

- Adding alternative winter activity options that meet visitor needs
- Creating possibilities for sports training and community engagement
- Bringing new visitor segments to the area, while fostering a balanced approach to tourism growth

While we support the concept, we encourage a development approach that ensures the facility complements the regional and municipal tourism strategy by balancing economic, environmental, and social considerations for long-term sustainability.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Kim Clarke.

Kim Clarke
Manager, Stakeholder Relations
Regional Tourism Organization 7

Two black rectangular redaction boxes covering contact information, likely a phone number and email address.

Regional Chair – North Central Region

Ontario Tennis Association

Toronto, ON

M3N 3A7

[REDACTED]

Nov 12th, 2024

Members of Council

Town of The Blue Mountains

32 Mill Street, PO Box 310

Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Re: Proposed new indoor tennis facility at The Blue Mountains

Dear Council,

As Regional Chair for North Central at the Ontario Tennis Association (OTA), I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed six-court indoor tennis facility in The Blue Mountains.

From a regional development perspective, this facility would fill a critical gap in our tennis infrastructure. Currently, there are no indoor courts between Barrie and Sudbury, severely limiting year-round tennis participation in the region. A six-court indoor facility would:

- Create a new regional tennis hub for Northern and Central Ontario
- Enable year-round player development programs
- Support the growth of school tennis programs
- Host regional tournaments and leagues
- Develop coaching expertise in the region

Based on my experience overseeing tennis development in North Central Ontario, I can confirm that:

- Existing facilities are operating at capacity
- There is strong demand for winter programming
- Regional tournaments require facilities of this size
- Player development is hindered by lack of year-round access

The six-court configuration is crucial for:

- Running multiple programs simultaneously

- Hosting sanctioned tournaments
- Developing competitive players
- Supporting recreational programming

This facility would become a vital part of our regional tennis development strategy, supporting both competitive and recreational players throughout the year.

I strongly endorse this initiative and its potential to enhance tennis development across our region.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Arun Prasad.

Arun Prasad
Regional Chair, North Central
Ontario Tennis Association

cc: Georgian Bay Racquets Initiative

October

Mayor and Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Members of Council,

As a senior world champion tennis player and long-time resident of The Blue Mountains area, I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed 4-court indoor tennis facility. Having won two senior world championship tennis titles and represented Canada's over-80s team internationally, I bring both competitive experience and a deep understanding of what makes a successful tennis community.

My tennis journey spans more than 70 years, taking me to competitions across Canada and around the world. This extensive experience has shown me that our region currently exists as a 'black hole' for tennis development. While we have beautiful summers, the lack of proper indoor facilities severely limits year-round play. The current situation at Monterra tennis courts illustrates this problem perfectly—the courts are not dedicated to tennis, with conferences often taking precedence, and the surfaces being used for non-tennis events. This mixed-use approach simply doesn't work for developing a proper tennis community.

What we need is a dedicated tennis facility that:

- Operates year-round with proper court surfaces
- Focuses solely on tennis programming and development
- Provides consistent access for players of all ages
- Enables regular practice and play during winter months
- Creates opportunities for both recreational and competitive play

As someone who has competed at the highest levels of senior tennis, I can attest that successful tennis communities require:

- Dedicated facilities with proper maintenance
- Year-round access regardless of weather
- Professional programming and instruction
- A social atmosphere that builds community
- Opportunities for players to develop and improve

The proposed 4-court indoor facility would transform our region's tennis landscape. It would provide the dedicated space and focused programming that our community desperately needs, particularly during our long winter months.

My own journey in competitive tennis demonstrates that age is no barrier in this sport—but lack of proper facilities is. Year-round tennis offers crucial benefits for all ages:

- Regular physical activity
- Social connection
- Mental stimulation
- Competitive opportunities
- Health maintenance

I strongly endorse this initiative and urge Council to support this vital addition to our community's recreational infrastructure. As a world champion in senior tennis, I can confidently say that this facility would be transformative for our community's tennis future.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area. Above the box, there is a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Muffie Grieve".

Muffie Grieve
Senior World Championship Tennis Title Holder
Team Canada Over-80s Representative

Dr Tawfik & Associates

Fax: (647) 417-7176

Phone: (647) 556-2435

E-mail: hello@drtawfik.ca

Address: Marsden Wellness
Centre, 3-450 Hume St,
Collingwood, ON
L9Y 1W6

Date: Nov 13, 2024

Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON
N0H 2P0

Dear Members of Council,

As a family physician practicing in The Blue Mountains (CPSO #116992), I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed indoor tennis facility. From a public health perspective, the benefits of such a facility would be substantial and far-reaching for our community.

Research consistently demonstrates the exceptional health benefits of tennis. A comprehensive 25-year study published in the *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* found that tennis players lived an average of 9.7 years longer than sedentary individuals—significantly outperforming other sports including cycling (3.7 years), swimming (3.4 years), and jogging (3.2 years).¹

Tennis is particularly valuable as a lifelong sport that promotes both physical and mental health. The *British Journal of Sports Medicine* reported that racquet sports participants showed a 47% lower risk of all-cause mortality and a 56% lower risk of cardiovascular disease mortality compared to non-participants.² This is especially significant given that cardiovascular disease remains a leading cause of death in Canada.

The sport's combination of aerobic exercise, agility, balance, and social interaction makes it uniquely beneficial for all age groups. For our senior population, regular tennis has been shown to improve bone density, reduce the risk of falls, and maintain cognitive function.³ For our youth, tennis develops motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and social skills while establishing lifelong healthy habits.

However, our community currently lacks year-round access to this valuable form of exercise. During our long winters, many of my patients, particularly seniors, become significantly less active. A year-round facility would allow continuous engagement in physical activity, crucial for

maintaining health benefits and preventing the deconditioning that often occurs during winter months.

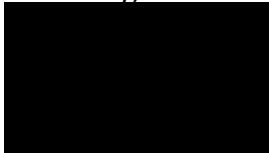
The proposed facility would also address several key public health priorities:

- Promoting active aging in our significant senior population
- Combating sedentary lifestyle-related health issues
- Providing safe, non-contact physical activity options
- Supporting mental health through social interaction and exercise
- Enabling consistent year-round physical activity

From a preventive health perspective, the return on investment would be substantial. Studies indicate that every dollar invested in physical activity can save up to three dollars in healthcare costs.⁴

I strongly encourage Council to support this initiative, which would make a meaningful contribution to the health and wellness of our community members across all age groups.

Sincerely,



Dr. Rasha Tawfik, MD
Family Physician
CPSO #116992

Footnotes:

¹ Schnohr, P., et al. (2018). "Various Leisure-Time Physical Activities Associated with Widely Divergent Life Expectancies: The Copenhagen City Heart Study." *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, 93(12), 1775-1785.

² Oja, P., et al. (2017). "Associations of specific types of sports and exercise with all-cause and cardiovascular-disease mortality: a cohort study of 80,306 British adults." *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, 51(10), 812-817.

³ Groppel, J., DiNubile, N. (2009). "Tennis: For the health of it!" *The Physician and Sportsmedicine*, 37(2), 40-50.

⁴ WHO *Global status report on physical activity 2022*. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2022.

Nov 9, 2024

Mayor and Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street,
PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON
N0H 2P0

Dear The Mayor and Members of Council,

Subject: Support from Local OTA Certified Tennis Professionals for Proposed Indoor Tennis Facility

As certified tennis professionals serving the South Georgian Bay area, we are writing to express our strong support for the proposed 4-6 court indoor tennis facility in The Blue Mountains. With our combined experience of over 75 years in tennis instruction and facility operations, we can attest to both the pressing need for this facility and its tremendous potential impact on our community.

Technical Requirements and Facility Operations

From an operational perspective, 4-6 indoor courts represent the optimal configuration for a community tennis facility:

- **Tournament Capacity:** 4-6 courts meet Tennis Canada's minimum requirements for hosting sanctioned tournaments, which would bring significant sporting events and associated economic benefits to our region.
- **Programming Flexibility:** This configuration allows simultaneous operation of multiple programs:
 - Two courts for lessons/clinics
 - Two courts for recreational play
 - Two courts for competitive matches or specialized programs
- **Operational Efficiency:** 4-6 courts provide the economy of scale needed to maintain affordable court fees while ensuring facility sustainability.

Current Market Gap

The nearest indoor tennis facility is over 75 km away, creating significant barriers for:

- Year-round player development
- School programs and youth engagement
- Senior winter activities
- Competitive training opportunities

We currently maintain waiting lists for lessons and programs during the limited outdoor season, demonstrating substantial unmet demand. A dedicated indoor facility would allow us to:

- Expand youth development programs from 3 months to 12 months annually
- Implement comprehensive school outreach programs
- Develop high-performance training programs
- Offer senior-specific programming throughout the winter

Community Impact

Based on our experience, we project that a 4-6 court indoor facility would serve:

- 400+ youth players annually through lessons and camps
- 300+ adult players through organized programs
- 150+ seniors through dedicated daytime programs
- Multiple school physical education programs
- Regional tournament participants

Economic Considerations

A facility of this scale would create sustainable employment for:

- 4-6 full-time tennis professionals
- 8-10 part-time instructors
- Support staff for facility operations
- Youth employment opportunities

The year-round operation would also support:

- Professional development opportunities for local athletes
- Tourism through tournaments and events
- Extended-season programming for seasonal residents

From our collective experience operating tennis facilities and programs, we can confidently state that a 4-6 court indoor facility represents the minimum viable scale for:

- Sustainable operations
- Comprehensive programming
- Tournament hosting
- Community impact

We strongly encourage the Town to proceed with this enhanced vision for a 4-6 court indoor tennis facility. This infrastructure investment would position The Blue Mountains as a tennis destination in Ontario and create a valuable year-round asset for our growing community.

Sincerely,

Tom Kern

John Long

Margot Allan

C. Blythe

Tom Kern

John Long

Margot Allan

Corinne Blythe

OTA Certified Tennis Professionals

cc: Georgian Bay Racquets Initiative

November19, 2024

Members of Council & Staff

Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Council & Staff,

As a long-standing community member and someone Council will know is deeply passionate about the sustainable success of The Blue Mountains, I am writing to express my strong personal support for the proposed indoor community tennis facility.

For well over a decade, I have been involved with several groups of experienced tennis professionals and players seeking to establish a year-round, indoor tennis facility that could meet the tremendous demand that exists across the southern Georgian Bay area. Unfortunately, most of these past initiatives have been focused on constructing a private facility rather than a community-oriented facility such as that proposed by the Georgian Bay Community Racquets Centre (GBRC).

I have had the opportunity to review and, to a small degree, contribute to the GBRC proposal. In so doing, I have attempted to combine my 30+ years of business and leadership experience with my knowledge of the tennis industry and market and my passion to see our community invest in assets that will bring community benefit and enduring value. I am very excited by the GBRC (i) team and its research, (ii) its proposal and (iii) the potential community benefits.

Team & Research – The GBRC team is led by Kev Rostami who has trained as a lawyer, understands business and is a true student of the game of tennis. He has assembled an advisory team that includes not only solid business acumen but some of the most respected tennis leaders in the country – individuals who have built tennis clubs from scratch and developed programming that has positively impacted thousands of kids, teens, adults and seniors. Moreover, these are well-known and respected members of our local racquet community, with a genuine commitment to enhancing recreational opportunities for all. And, where other groups have relied on anecdotal market research, the GBRC team has accumulated highly relevant, quantifiable and valuable data supporting the demand for a proper indoor tennis facility.

The GBRC Proposal has not only been thoroughly researched, it also shows a strong attention to detail, a huge factor in de-risking a project of this magnitude. The three key aspects of this proposal – size, year round availability and, most of all, programming combine synergistically to differentiate this proposal and make it of such unique value to the community.

Finally, the proposed financial structure places a minimal demand on public funds in particular when considered relative to the returns and community benefit.

Community & Economic Benefit – The GBRC proposal would bring

- a differentiated and much needed asset to TBM and southern Georgian Bay area that would add to our four-season appeal and recreational reputation
- an open and affordable facility with programming that would appeal to virtually every stakeholder group in our community from schoolchildren to seniors; from high performance juniors to brand new players
- a major economic development opportunity with a new sport tourism asset which would draw tournaments and other tennis tourism with all the associated revenue inflow to local accommodations, restaurants and other service providers
- sustainable employment opportunities through year-round programming and facility management

It is worth noting that the economic development factor is well supported by Tennis Canada and the Ontario Tennis Association. The latter has indicated that a major market gap exists in southern Ontario for facilities that have 4 or more indoor courts with facilities capable of running sanctioned tournaments. The ability to host tournaments would bring significant visitor spending to our local economy including the opportunity to focus on shoulder seasons when hospitality demand is critically low.

The Blue Mountains is all about community health, well-being and recreation. It is also paramount that we create new economic development opportunities. This proposal serves both purposes. Thank you for your careful consideration of the GBRC proposal. Let's work together, as a community, to make this happen.

Sincerely,

*Bruce
Harbinson*

Bruce Harbinson

Resident of The Town of The Blue Mountains

November 19, 2024
Members of Council
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, PO Box 310
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Members of Council,

As a Coach 4 and former National Coach at Tennis Canada, I have dedicated over 11 years to developing tennis in Canada, working with juniors from the grassroots level to world-class players. I am writing to express my full support for the proposed indoor tennis facility in The Blue Mountains.

Throughout my career, I have witnessed how access to quality indoor facilities can transform communities by providing opportunities for athletes of all ages and skill levels. In a country like Canada, with its long winters, year-round facilities are essential for maintaining active lifestyles and developing talent.

The proposed 4-court indoor facility would bring significant benefits to the community, including:

- Youth development and talent nurturing: Enabling young players to train consistently and pursue their tennis dreams.
- Community health and wellness: Encouraging residents to stay active and healthy.
- Active living during winter months: Offering recreation and fitness opportunities regardless of the season.
- Social connection through sport: Creating a welcoming space for community engagement.
- Competitive player development: Supporting players striving for national and international success.

The growing success of Canadian players on the international stage has sparked a renewed passion for tennis across the country. However, the shortage of indoor facilities continues to limit opportunities. This proposed facility would be a major step forward in addressing this gap and fostering the growth of tennis in Canada.

I strongly encourage the Town of The Blue Mountains to support this initiative, which will enhance the quality of life for residents while contributing to the development of tennis at all levels.



Best regards,

Bogdan Grygorenko

Coach 4, Former National Coach at Tennis Canada