

Dear member of council,

My name is Melissa Jack and I moved up here almost 10 years ago so that I could engage in a life of recreation and outdoor living, and while our area offers a lot, I still find myself driving 2 hours every weekend to enjoy Wakeboarding, when the opportunity to have one in my own backyard continues to be a large debate.

While the thoughts of Collingwood Wakestock haunt us all, this cable park would be the farthest thing from that event, and it's truly unfortunate that this proposed Cable Park is being held to the reputation of wakestock within the community. Wakeboarding first and foremost is a family activity. I joined the community about 15 years ago, and more than anything - they've become a family to me. A large family that promotes health, recreation, environmental awareness, and kindness. This cable park would be a shining star in the community.

Cable wakeboarding is on the list for consideration for Olympic selection. If we were to have the Cable Park here it would be the best training ground for the Canadian athletes - much like the clubs on the Escarpment do in the winter. We hold our winter Olympians in high regard, Erin Mielzynski, Roni Remme and Derek Livingston to name only a few. Shouldn't this town be promoting an Olympic/Pan Am level training facility rather than keeping the land untouched, so that in 25 years you can develop into an industrial complex.

Entrepreneurship and small business success are at the economic core of The Blue Mountains. Recognized as Ontario's true four-season tourism and recreation destination, The Blue Mountains welcomes an additional 2.5 million visitors annually and offers a high-quality lifestyle that caters to families looking to build a solid foundation, adventurers looking to go off the beaten path and relaxation seekers taking in and experiencing the very best the area has to offer.

That statement was taken directly from your website. How does Walmart, Costco, or an Industrial power plant align with that statement.

Brennan Grange is an Entrepreneur and trying to open a small business that will promote affordable recreation to the residents and surrounding areas of the Town of Blue Mountains, all while supporting the tourism sector.

While cable wakeboarding would be the forefront of this, it would allow for passive recreation like - Paddleboarding on a safe body of water without large boats, allow for a tranquil and relaxing place for yoga and outdoor fitness classes, places for families to explore hiking and biking trails, and give them a safe spot to enjoy the outdoors. In the winter it would allow for snowshoeing, cross country skiing and ice skating. The collaborations with other small businesses in the area are unprecedented. Pop-up catering from local restaurants, a stop on the Apple Pie Trail, outdoor location for local fitness and yoga instructors, as well as a team building activities just to name a few.

To finish up, I'd like to leave you with another line from your website - Local businesses are the beating heart of our community. When you support a local business, your money goes directly back into the community. It's estimated that for every \$100 spent at a local business, \$68 stays in the community. When you support local in The Blue Mountains, everyone wins.

How much goes into the community when a Walmart or power plant is built? Are you truly willing to rob the community of two decades of recreation that is not only an environmentally friendly source of recreation, but also an affordable source of recreation for something that "might happen". Brennan Grange has documentation that proves that your "future planning" for industrial buildings can co-exist within the proposed recreation facility.

Let truly make sure everyone wins and support the re-zoning of the proposed Bayou Cable Park.





