

Deputation to Town of Blue Mountains Council

August 14, 2023



Events for Life Centre Inc.

Enriching the lives of individuals with special needs

Kevin Whyte – Chair, EFL Board of Directors

OUR MISSION

To enrich the lives of individuals with special needs by providing educational, social and recreational day programs geared towards lifelong learning in the Town of Blue Mountains and surrounding area

Why are we here today

- EFL has grown from supporting 8 individuals to now 36 plus a waiting list & continues to see demand as the community grows
- We are now operating out of 2 locations (The EFL Centre - Beaver Creek Farms & Blue Mountain Church) with neither facility providing all of the program and accessibility needs of the group
- EFL has been providing a key service within the Town of Blue Mountains providing support to adults with intellectual disabilities with a much-needed and well-respected day program
- With the ongoing growth of our community and the absence of provincially/government supported services to support the increasing number of adults with disabilities in TOBM, EFL has become a community leader in supporting these residents
- After our last presentation in July 2022, Council passed a motion that included the strong support for EFL becoming a participant in the Campus of Care (COC) development project
- The Campus of Care project has recently received approval to proceed but unfortunately will not include any community groups in their development including Events for Life
- With the CoC project now not an option, EFL is looking to secure land so that we can build our new program centre. We are looking to secure 3-5 acres of serviced land (depending on the location and amenities close by that could be shared)

Our Ask

- Our goal is to have a long term “forever” property to allow us to deliver high quality support to a growing community and believe this is in the best interest of all involved including the Town of Blue Mountains
- Our plans would be that once we have land secured, EFL will launch a capital campaign to help fund a build of our permanent centre over the next 2-3 years to ensure the ongoing long-term delivery of support to the participants we have and will have in the future
- The space would be designed for multi-use purposes and adhere to the **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)** and other regulatory standards
- We see an incredible opportunity for community partnerships & collaborations in both the development of the EFL Centre as well as the ongoing use of the space by the community (i.e., during evenings and weekends when the program is not operating)
- **Our ASK is for the Town and Council to support the allocation of serviced town lands to Events for Life to build our “Permanent Program Centre”**

OUR CURRENT PROGRAM SPACES

EFL Centre – Beaver Creek Farms

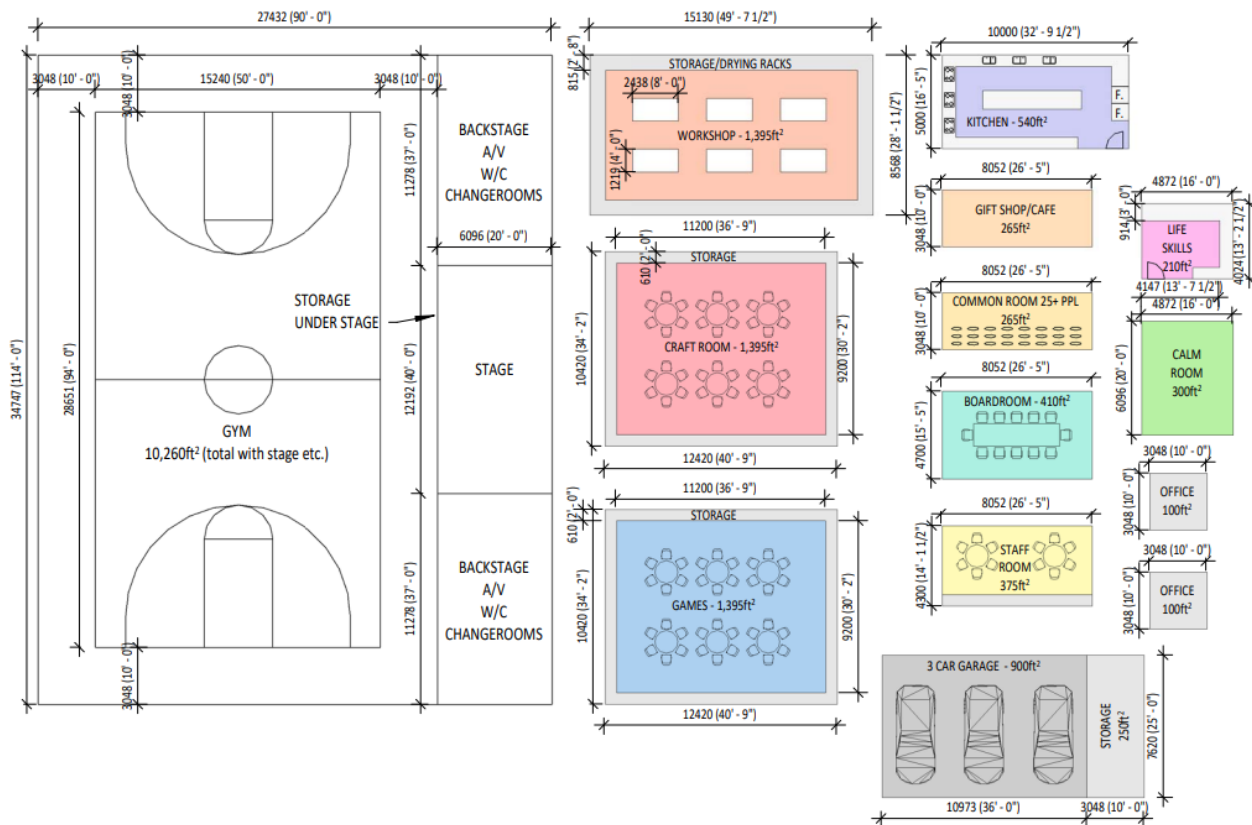


OUR CURRENT PROGRAM SPACES

Blue Mountain Community Church



Initial Room Plans



EFL Strategic Imperatives

- **Build Strong Foundation**
 - Increase staffing for growing demand
 - Ensure sustainability in funding and support
 - Build strong partnerships in the community
- **Facilitate Access to Housing for Participants**
 - Educate families on planning for aging & housing solutions
 - Collaborate with agencies in securing long term housing options
 - Assist with support models to ensure success
- **Expand Program Offerings**
 - Deliver growing and diverse program streams
 - Manage growing demand for spaces in program
 - Deliver work experience and employment opportunities
- **Deliver a Secured Location “Forever Program Space”**
 - Buy, Build, or partner to secure a long-term space for delivering program
 - Bring awareness to community for need and support of a “forever” property

**Team EFL thanks Council and the
staff at TOBM for your ongoing and
outstanding support**

<https://eventsfor.life/>

