

Carrie Fairley

Subject: Public Comment to be read aloud at May 26 Council Meeting

From: Adam McManus [REDACTED]
Sent: May 21, 2025 10:09 AM
To: Town Clerk <townclerk@thebluemountains.ca>
Cc: Carrie Fairley <cfairley@thebluemountains.ca>, [REDACTED]
Subject: Public Comment to be read aloud at May 26 Council Meeting

Dear Councillors,

I am writing today in strong support of the proposed indoor tennis facility. This initiative presents an incredible opportunity to provide year-round access to a sport that fosters community engagement, active living, and inclusivity.

Unlike private clubs, this facility would be open to everyone, ensuring affordable court access for casual players, juniors, seniors, and schools alike. The proposed model recognizes that public recreation should be accessible while remaining financially sustainable.

An indoor tennis facility is long overdue in our region. Currently, residents face months without local court access and must travel an hour or more for year-round play. This facility would significantly benefit not only The Blue Mountains but also surrounding communities, reinforcing our Town's commitment to equitable recreation and creating a valuable revenue stream.

I urge Council to advance this project promptly, enabling us to secure a location and realize this essential addition to our local sports infrastructure.

Adam McManus

Town of the Blue Mountains Resident

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: cfairley@thebluemountains.ca; [REDACTED]
Subject: Public comment to be read out at May 26th council meeting
Date: May 20, 2025 1:46:02 PM

I am submitting this comment of the proposed indoor tennis facility because of the incredible opportunities it will create for youth in our community.

As a retired physical and health educator of thirty years we can not underestimate the value of physical activity and specifically playing sports have on the well being of our youth.

The town has an opportunity to lead the way in advancing the health and wellbeing of all populations it has been elected to serve especially our youth.

This town owned proposed facility would provide affordable, accessible programming for children and teens ensuring they have the same opportunities as those in larger municipalities. Additionally, I note the structured partnership with schools and developmental programs could make tennis a core part of recreational education, fostering an active lifestyle and promoting lifelong engagement with sport.

I have spent years working and volunteering for youth programs and I strongly urge council to move forward with site selection for this facility to ensure equitable access to recreation for future generations.

Carole Huntley
Town of Blue Mountain resident

Appeal for Indoor Tennis Facilities – Town of Blue Mountains

To: Town of Blue Mountains Council

Date: May 21, 2025

I recently attended the meeting regarding 130 King St. West as a possible location for indoor tennis. There was a large amount of pushback about this potential site, but no discussion about the merits of having a year-round recreational facility and filling a much-needed gap in recreational infrastructure

The 'not in my backyard' mentality overlooked the fact that the majority of those present were indeed tennis players.

I would hope that priority will still be given to addressing this need, even though 130 King St. West may not be a viable option.

I was personally impressed with the (previous) presentation of the Georgian Bay Racquets Initiative and feel that they are on the right track. This is a model that has been successfully utilized in other towns of similar size, many with municipal support.

The Georgian Bay Racquets Initiative is not a corporate entity or a private club, but a coalition of like minded residents of the Town of Blue Mountains, working towards a common goal.

I ask that the Town of Blue Mountains continue to work with this group, and to keep pace with what so many other towns have to offer. If the land can be found, there seems to be no legitimate argument against moving forward. I am 68 years old, and so the sooner the better!

Thank you for your consideration,

Cheryl Mitchell



Thornbury

Carrie Fairley

Subject:

Indoor tennis facilities

Our town is a hub of many communities (Meaford, Thornbury, Collingwood, Wasaga , Stayner and Creemore) which is in desperate need of an indoor racquets facility. Presently we only have the one at Montera which doesn't even come close to meeting the needs of the public. Furthermore it's only part time, poorly lit with an inadequate surface.

The old Tees Please would be an ideal location. I am a newly retired physician and a multi-racquet enthusiast. I am living on the property of Osler Bluff. A good majority of our members would fly at the possibility of this.

The eight court bubbled facility in Newmarket sold out its membership in one day.

A racquets facility at Tees Please with tennis, pickle ball and padel would be an instant winner. If you sent out a poll to get interest in joining with an annual fee etc, your concerns about financial viability would be instantly dismissed.

Dr Virginia Griffin

TBM resident.

[REDACTED]

May 19, 2025

**Subject: Potential Indoor Tennis Facility
Public Comment to be Read Aloud at May 26th, 2025 Council Meeting**

Distinguished Town of the Blue Mountains Councilors, Staff Members and Residents,

My name is Gerry Wayland. I have been a full-time resident in The Town of the Blue Mountains for over 15 years. I have been a business owner in The Town of the Blue Mountains for over 15 years and have worked in the municipality for over 25 years. I am also an avid tennis player and overall supporter of the sport.

I would like to emphatically state my support for an indoor tennis facility to be built and operated at was once known as The Tees Please golf driving range site.

There is an avid tennis community in The Town of the Blue Mountains. We consider ourselves lucky and grateful to have the Town of the Blue Mountains municipal Bayview tennis courts, Boyer Park tennis courts and Nippising Ridge tennis courts free of charge for our summer use.

We are blessed to live in Canada which brings with it many winter sports and activities, however for we tennis enthusiasts living in the Town of the Blue Mountains our winter tennis playing options are limited to the Montera Tennis / Conference Facility or driving an hour to Midhurst to play at that indoor tennis facility, neither of which are ideal.

The Monterra Tennis facility's primary function is that of a Conference Center. Tennis is an after-thought. The lighting, court surface color and wall color are less than ideal for playing tennis. In addition, conference use takes precedence over tennis use leaving us eager tennis aficionados out in the cold for days or sometimes weeks at a time. The Midhurst Tennis Club is set-up as a true tennis facility with proper courts and lighting, however it is two-hours of driving on windblown highway 26 for 90 minutes of tennis.

I feel a new dedicated indoor tennis facility located at the former Tees Please site would be ideal for our residents and the municipality. Tees Please was for many years a recreational site, well used by residents. There is ample room for an indoor tennis facility along with parking. It's location at the corner of two significant intersections, Grey Road 19 and Grey Road 21 makes it easily accessible to residents. In addition, the facility will not disrupt any residential neighborhood with traffic or noise.

The Town of the Blue Mountains is a wonderful blend of the agricultural, commercial, residential and recreational worlds. We all know the benefits of the snow and water sports enjoyed by residents. Tennis however, is rated as one of the healthiest sports as cited in a study by The British Journal of Sports Medicine in 2016. The following is a list of benefits:

Physical Benefits:

- **Cardiovascular Health:**

Tennis is a great cardiovascular workout, increasing aerobic capacity and lowering resting heart rate and blood pressure.

- **Bone Health:**

The impact of tennis on the court can strengthen bones, particularly in the racket arm.

- **Weight Management:**

Tennis is a high-calorie burning activity, helping with weight loss and maintaining a healthy weight.

- **Muscle Strength and Flexibility:**

The diverse movements in tennis build muscle strength and improve flexibility.

- **Coordination and Agility:**

Tennis requires excellent hand-eye coordination and agility, improving both skills.

- **Reaction Time:**

Playing tennis can enhance reaction time and quick reflexes.

Mental and Cognitive Benefits:

- **Stress Relief:** The physical activity of tennis and the focus it requires can help reduce stress and boost mood.
- **Mental Clarity:** Tennis can improve alertness, critical thinking, and tactical thinking.
- **Brain Power:** The need for quick decisions and strategic thinking during a match can boost cognitive function.
- **Self-Confidence:** Playing tennis can build self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment.

Social Benefits:

- **Social Interaction:**

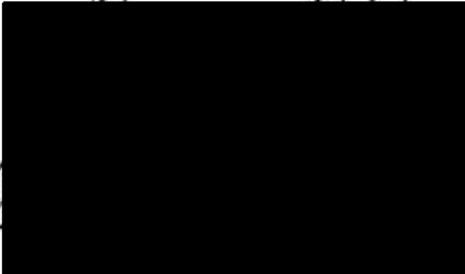
Tennis can be played individually or in teams, providing opportunities for social interaction and forming new friendships.

- **Community Engagement:**

Joining a tennis club or participating in community events can foster a sense of belonging.

In summation, given all the physical, mental and social benefits to the residents a first-rate indoor tennis facility would bring to the community, I sincerely hope Distinguished Councilors you will give your most serious consideration for the Town of the Blue Mountains to approve the proposed indoor tennis facility on the former Tees Please site.

Resident, 



Gerry Wayland

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [Carrie Fairley](#)
Subject: Public Comment to be read aloud at May 26th council meeting
Date: May 18, 2025 10:44:14 AM

I want to address a common misconception regarding the indoor tennis proposal: that GBRI should simply form a private club.

Tennis Canada has made it clear that the most viable model is community driven and supported by municipalities. Building a private club would require significant upfront capital, and the cost of land alone makes a private approach difficult. This approach would then limit access to many of the public who are already shut out of the many private ski and golf clubs in the area.

The GBRI proposal also aligns with the Town's 2021 Leisure Activities Plan, which prioritizes accessible indoor recreation for all residents, not just those who can pay for a private membership. The point of the Initiative is to provide access to year-round (indoor) recreation to the broader public. And it can be achieved through a financially sustainable model.

I encourage Council to move forward with this public-first approach and take the next step by selecting the right site!

Sincerely,
Gillian Kern
Town of Blue Mountains resident

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [Carrie Fairley](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Public Comment to be read at May 26 COW meeting
Date: May 20, 2025 5:42:26 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2022-09-12 at 9.02.53 PM.png](#)

Good afternoon,

Dear Town Council of The Blue Mountains,

As former Davis Cup Captain, Billie Jean King Cup Coach Canada and National Coach for Canada, and a former Davis Cup player, I've been following your community's exploration of an indoor tennis facility with great interest. I commend the Council for taking a thoughtful and forward-looking approach to this important recreational investment. I have frequented Blue Mountains since I was a young teenager and trained there for one summer.

Ontario continues to face a significant shortage of indoor tennis courts—especially compared to other regions across North America. This shortfall becomes most apparent during our long winters, when outdoor play is simply not an option. The Blue Mountains now has a unique opportunity to address this need while creating a first-class facility that could serve as a year-round hub for health, activity, and community engagement.

Based on my experience, a 6-court facility offers far greater flexibility and long-term sustainability than a smaller venue. With six courts, you can accommodate a healthy mix of programming: casual play, lessons, leagues, school partnerships, and competitive tournaments. It also future-proofs the investment, as demand for court time always increases after a successful launch.

Economically, indoor tennis centers consistently deliver strong returns to local communities. Tournament weekends and league play bring families and players who spend on accommodations, dining, and retail—helping to support and grow local businesses. This aligns well with The Blue Mountains' reputation for tourism and hospitality excellence.

If done right, The Blue Mountains could emerge as a premier tennis destination in Ontario, attracting players and events from across the province. I know many in the tennis community—including at the Ontario Tennis Association—are excited by the potential for this project.

It's also worth considering the long-term nature of this investment. Tennis bubbles typically last 20–25 years, and retrofitting or expanding afterward is expensive and complicated. Planning now for the right size and configuration will save significant time and money in the future.

Finally, community-led facilities—those supported by municipalities—are increasingly becoming the standard in Canada. The traditional private club model, by contrast, has become difficult to sustain due to high land costs and prohibitively expensive membership fees. A public-private approach ensures inclusivity, long-term viability, and greater community impact.

As someone who has visited the Blue Mountain area for decades and cares deeply about its future, I would be happy to offer my time and expertise to support your planning. I've advised

communities across the country on facility design, operations, and programming, and would be honoured to assist yours as well.

Warm regards,

Karl Hale



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [Carrie Fairley](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Public comment to be read aloud at May 26th Council meeting
Date: May 20, 2025 4:15:37 PM

Good afternoon,

I'm writing in support of the proposed Town-provisioned indoor tennis facility. As a resident of The Blue Mountains for 25 years, I've seen how much interest there is in tennis across all age groups—but also how limited the options are for year-round play.

In my work as a local tennis professional, I interact regularly with families, youth and adults who are keen to stay active through tennis but are held back by the lack of an indoor facility during much of the year. While my background is in the sport, my support for this project comes from a broader understanding of how it could benefit the wider community—not just those in structured programming, but also recreational players and residents looking for affordable and accessible ways to stay active through the winter months.

The proposed model appears to prioritise inclusion and long-term community use. A facility like this could contribute meaningfully to local health, recreation, and quality of life.

I hope Council will continue moving forward with site selection and plan to meet the clear and growing need.

Margot Allan
TBM resident

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [Carrie Fairley](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Public comment letter to TBM re: tennis
Date: May 20, 2025 9:14:35 PM

I am a multi-sport enthusiast who enjoys everything that the town of Blue Mountains has to offer. The only thing missing is a proper indoor tennis facility. The number of letters supporting this proposal is undeniable! There is a broad cross-section of residents advocating for better recreational infrastructure. The demand and sheer volume of support reflects genuine community need for year round play.

Monterra is not a tennis facility and should not be referred to as one. It is absolutely sub-standard as an indoor facility. It is a conference center. Tennis is an afterthought there, not a priority. This proposal is about building a dedicated facility where tennis is not treated as secondary.

The proposed Tees Please location is a natural fit. It will serve not only TBM but the broader South Georgian Bay region, hence boosting the facility's viability.

Lastly, Canada is lagging behind other leading tennis nations when it comes to indoor court access. We should not allow our extreme climate to dictate what sports we can and cannot play. We have access to technology and expertise at our disposal to make this happen. There is no reason why communities like ours cannot deliver a proper facility.

Let's start giving genuine credence to the local demand and take action on a project that has demonstrated consistent and significant public backing.

Melisa Sandrock
Town of Blue Mountain Resident

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [Carrie Fairley](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: Indoor tennis facility BlueMountains
Date: May 18, 2025 12:57:25 PM

To Whom it May Concern:

As a physiotherapist I see the need for more year round physical activity centres in the Collingwood and Blue Mountain areas. The proposed new tennis facility would boost local participation in tennis, enhance community connections and promote physical and mental well being for all generations. Tennis is a sport for life that both young and old can continue to enjoy for many years.

I urge the Council to move forward with the next phase of site identification and planning so that we can finally bring this needed asset to fruition.

This initiative clearly aligns with our Leisure Activities Plan 2021 by creating an asset that can become a point of pride for our region. I particularly value how the facility is envisioned to host community events, local tournaments, fostering social connection and nurturing both physical and mental well-being across all age groups.

I look forward to hearing the outcome of this important community facility.

Thank you for your time.

Nancy Eisenhower BScPT, BPE.
Town of Blue Mountain Resident

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [Carrie Fairley](#)
Date: May 22, 2025 11:00:40 AM

Letter of Support for Indoor Tennis Facilities

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my full support for our community's continued development and investment in indoor tennis facilities. In regions like ours, where weather, long winters and short, dark days dominate much of the year, indoor tennis is not a luxury—I believe it is a necessity for maintaining both physical health and mental well-being.

We know that tennis offers a wide range of physical benefits. It's a full-body sport that builds cardiovascular endurance, strength, agility, and coordination. It also burns calories at a rate comparable to running or swimming, but with the bonus of strategic thinking and hand-eye coordination. For children, adults, and older adults alike, tennis provides an engaging and sustainable way to stay active.

But what makes indoor tennis especially valuable in our climate is the way it overcomes the seasonal barriers to exercise. During our long winter months, outdoor options become severely limited. Cold temperatures, icy conditions, and reduced daylight hours discourage physical activity. People are less likely to go outside, let alone engage in consistent, structured exercise.

Indoor tennis facilities provide a safe, weather-proof environment that allows people to stay active even in the darkest part of the year. This continuity is essential, not just for physical health, but for mental health as well.

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and winter depression are real challenges in our region. Lack of sunlight, reduced social interaction, and the tendency to become sedentary during winter months all contribute to rising levels of anxiety and depression. Tennis, especially in an indoor setting, offers a powerful remedy. It gets people moving. It provides structure and routine. It creates opportunities for social engagement. And it gives players, regardless of age or ability, something to look forward to.

Studies consistently show that regular exercise helps regulate mood, improve sleep, and decrease symptoms of depression. Tennis, in particular, is known to stimulate endorphins, promote mindfulness, and build resilience. Indoors, this can happen all year, not just when the sun shines and the weather cooperates.

Simply put, indoor tennis gives people a place to move, connect, and thrive—even when the world outside feels wet, cold or dark.

For all these reasons, I urge decision-makers to recognize the importance of indoor tennis facilities, not just as sports venues, but as year-round wellness hubs for our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Gilbert

Resident and avid sports enthusiast

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [REDACTED] [Carrie Fairley](#)
Subject: Public comment to be read out at May 26th Council Meeting
Date: May 19, 2025 8:23:50 PM

Councillors:

I was attracted to live in the Blue Mountains over 8 years ago because of the active lifestyle that the community offers to its residents. I want to express my strong support for the Georgian Bay Community Racquets Centre proposal which will further enhance the township's attractiveness and fill a gap in the community for year-round tennis facility. After reviewing their various presentation materials, I believe they have found a thoughtful balance that addresses both community needs and financial sustainability.

For seniors like myself, maintaining physical activity year-round is crucial for health and mobility. Currently, our options for indoor winter recreation are limited, particularly for those for who don't ski or find outdoor winter activities challenging. As a keen long-time tennis player myself, I know that tennis offers low-impact exercise that's appropriate for a wide range of fitness levels and ages.

What particularly impresses me about this proposal is how it fulfills a commitment made by the Town in the 2021 Leisure Activities Plan without creating an ongoing burden on taxpayers. The town-provisioned model with specialized operators would give the community a valuable new asset while the expertise to operate it could come from those with proven experience. I've watched numerous municipal projects come and go over my years. The ones proving most successful have been those with clear partnership structures that leverage private sector efficiency while maintaining public accountability. This proposal strikes that balance admirably.

The fact that several other Ontario municipalities of similar size have successfully implemented this model provides confidence that this isn't experimental or risky. Rather, it's applying proven approaches to meet our community's specific needs.

I urge Council to move forward with identifying a suitable location and exploring the implementation options presented by GBRI. Our community deserves the year-round recreation options that comparable towns already enjoy.

Thank you for your support of this project.

Respectfully,

Tom Eisenhauer

Tom Eisenhauer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Town Clerk](#)
Cc: [REDACTED] [Carrie Fairley](#)
Subject: Public Comment to be read aloud at May 26 Council Meeting
Date: May 19, 2025 4:40:24 PM

Dear Council Members,

It is with great excitement and appreciation that I write to you as you consider a new location and the development of tennis courts that will serve our growing communities.

As a Collingwood resident, Meaford educator, member of both the Nipissing Ridge and Collingwood Tennis Clubs, and a director with the Collingwood Tennis Club, I can say this moment is vital—not just for the groups I represent, but for the future of the sport in our region.

There are many compelling reasons why new courts—especially those with **year-round potential**—are urgently needed:

1. **There are no public lit courts within 50 kilometers.** This limits evening play and blocks access to provincial competition. As Competitions Director for the Collingwood Tennis Club, I am unable to offer tournament opportunities due to inadequate facilities. Membership in the Inter-County Tennis Association (ICTA) requires a minimum of 3 lit courts; 4 or more courts would allow us to host regional and provincial tournaments, creating opportunities for both youth and adult players.
2. **Indoor court access is rapidly shrinking.** The courts at Monterra Resort, once a lifeline for winter tennis, are increasingly unavailable due to resort event bookings. Long-term access is uncertain.
3. **Tennis is a lifelong sport with proven health benefits.** Studies consistently show that tennis contributes to longevity and improved quality of life. Year-round access increases participation, which improves both physical and mental well-being for residents of all ages.

I have seen firsthand how the Town of The Blue Mountains has supported local tennis, and the community is deeply appreciative. Further involvement would have a lasting impact. The proposed location—formerly the site of Tees Please—is ideal. It offers easy access for residents of The Blue Mountains, Collingwood, Wasaga Beach, and Stayner, and would attract not just local players but regional tourism through tournaments and league play.

As a school administrator, I know what new, accessible sports infrastructure can do for youth. A year-round facility gives us the opportunity to introduce the sport to more children, particularly in the shoulder seasons and winter months when options are limited. As a leader in both the school and tennis communities, I am committed to helping grow the game, particularly for young people, and to giving back to our region.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I strongly urge your support for this exciting and much-needed initiative.

Yours in tennis,

Colin Shawyer [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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