

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

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