

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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