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## **Genevieve Scharback**

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**From:** Dave Tilford <dtilford@sympatico.ca>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 05, 2017 10:17 PM  
**To:** Mayor Cole; Deputy Mayor Frayne; Councillor Vaughan; Councillor Tomes; Councillor DeLuca; Councillor Hebert; Councillor Oke; Dan Best; Genevieve Scharback  
**Subject:** The Multi Use Recreational Hub in Exeter

Dear Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Council Members, CAO and Corporate Services Manager/Clerk,

I am addressing you as Chairman of the Kingsmere Syndicate representing our 23 members and local tax payers.

It is our understanding that the Council of South Huron is faced with the immediate decision of repairing or replacing the existing arena, and closing or repairing the outdoor pool in Exeter. Council has also been asked to consider the construction of a community hub/recreation centre.

Based on the community hub open house presentation, the cost of the new arena is estimated to be \$11 million dollars. The building of a recreational hub is estimated to be around \$20 million and if an indoor pool is added the costs will top over \$40 million. Repair of the existing outdoor pool is estimated between \$1.5 and \$2 million. These amounts are estimates and funding from outside sources is unknown. The annual upkeep costs are unknown as well, but are likely to add a significant amount to taxes. It has been suggested that new and better services might increase population, but there is no hard evidence to support this, nor would any amount of new population be sufficient to offset the cost of this proposed structure.

The municipality of South Huron has a population of 10,000 people, with an estimated 4,700 residences as a tax base. Private and public exercise and pool facilities already exist in the municipality and council should not be creating competition for these tax-paying businesses. Although these facilities might be desirable, we must accept that a small municipality cannot afford such a grandiose scheme. Therefore, the undersigned urge their council to vote against the construction of any new facilities and to be innovative in finding ways to promote our municipality to attract new residents.

This is such an important issue that it should be added as a separate question on the 2018 municipal ballot.

Yours sincerely,  
David Tilford  
Chairman of the Kingsmere Syndicate