

Correspondence for Agenda

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From: MADDIE IVATTS [mailto:maddieivatts@outlook.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 6:00 PM

To: Mayor Cole <m.cole@southhuron.ca>

Cc: Dan Best <cao@southhuron.ca>

Subject: Request for Indoor Pool- The Youth of South Huron

September 11, 2017

Honourable Mayor Cole and Council Members,

Recently, through articles within the local paper, it has been brought to our attention that our Council is proposing to repair the outdoor Exeter Community Pool. We, the youth of this community ask that rather than spending money on refurbishing the outdoor pool, that those same financial resources be used towards an indoor pool.

Our outdoor pool is only used for two months of the year, and only on days that the weather permits. Many people within our communities would use and benefit from an indoor pool that could be used the entire year through.

We understand that the construction and maintenance are costly, but ask council not to view it just as an expense but rather as an investment into our children, our community, surrounding secondary and elementary schools, families and the elderly. Water safety and the ability to swim are life-long essential skills. Water exercise can be enjoyed by people of all ages and sizes and it is one of the healthiest forms of exercise because it's easy on the joints. Many programs could be offered such as swim lessons, swim team, rehabilitation, swim competitions, movie nights for elementary students, birthday parties, community swim, lap swim, jobs for local teen lifeguards, etc. This is about making a sound investment in the future of our community and surrounding areas.

We are in a very "convenient" location to have an indoor pool, as there are many citizens of small towns close within our reach who would travel short distances to use the pool. Having an indoor pool is yet another way we could connect the community and outlying supportive areas within a 20 km radius. Many people already travel 25 - 60 minutes, several times a week to use an indoor facility for various reasons listed above. Recently, a family has also moved out of our area, after driving two times a day to swim practise, as it became too much time wasted travelling. An indoor facility would attract and keep members within our community. Members of this area should not have to drive to other communities to enjoy a service we deserve and could provide within our own community.

We believe that an indoor facility makes more sense and ask that you consider it as an investment into the future of the community and surrounding areas.

Sincerely,

Maddie Ivatts and the Youth of South Huron