

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Fwd: Windsor Bluefins Summer Swim Team - Loss of Government Funding
Date: May 24, 2024 8:13:34 AM

From: Windsor Bluefins
Date: May 24, 2024 at 8:02:54 AM ADT
To: Abraham Zebian <AZebian@westhants.ca>
Subject: Windsor Bluefins Summer Swim Team - Loss of Government Funding

Caution [External Email]

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Dear Mayor Zebian and Council members of West Hants,

Allow me to introduce myself, my name is Alanna Maynard, and I am the president of the Windsor Bluefins summer swim team. We are a not-for-profit organization run by parent volunteers. We are your local youth competitive swim team out of the Hants Aquatic Centre in Windsor.

Our club offers an all inclusive swim team from ages 5 to 18. We rely on parent swim meet fundraising, club fees, municipal, provincial and federal funding to help run our club and to be able to offer local youth the opportunity to swim competitively in a safe, fun environment.

Our swimmers and coaches are members of your community. They are becoming role models for our future youth, they demonstrate that one can achieve their goals as a member of our coaching team, swims at a national level and is a strong hopeful for the Canadian Olympic team. We are teaching our swimmers about the positive rewards of being a volunteer and how that helps our communities, our feeling of belonging, teamwork, resilience, and acceptance. We are creating a lifetime passion and ability to swim.

We are surrounded here in Nova Scotia by some of the most beautiful beaches, lakes and nature. These swimmers and swim team members will contribute to future lifeguarding jobs and swim instructors in your communities. They will become strong leaders and voices that will help shape their communities in the positive growth of physical activity and the benefits of being active on mental health.

We were recently informed that we will not receive our federal funding this summer. Please see the email below. We have received this funding since 2019 and we use our funding to hire qualified swimming coaches for our youth. These coaches train all year in swimming, learn techniques to help each swimmer achieve their goals and take courses to be the best coach and role models for our youth. Without our coaching staff we can not run our club. We can not provide our youth the opportunity to swim, to be included in a team, to be active, to belong.

We have received some provincial funding but only for one returning coach who is continuing with post-secondary university education. This excluded our other coaches, a national-level competitive swimmer and coach currently in high school and another young adult coach. Coaching a competitive swim team requires Swim NS coaching standards and is a small field of certified coaches available.

We are seeking any assistance you can provide to help our team find sustainable funding in order to provide your community youth with a swim team. We have increased our fees to the breaking point of affordability for many families and we have trimmed our budget to the bare minimum, but even with these modifications, we remain in a deficit position. With the notification from municipal staff of a significant increase in our pool rental cost and swim meet cost, we are financially challenged to be able to maintain sustainability for the team. Although a disappointing notification, we understand the reasoning behind the increases but this coupled with the loss of our government funding placing the team in a vulnerable position.

Our club started in 1966 and many of your community members have been swimmers, have watched their children swim and their grandchildren swim. Please do not allow the end of our swim team after 57 years. Let's see the Windsor Bluefins continue strong for another 57 years of building a swimming community together.

Sincerely,

Windsor Bluefins
Alanna Maynard, President

Here is the email we received from the Canada Summer Jobs

From: SV-SF-CSOS

Date: May 15, 2024 at 10:12:43 AM ADT

To: Jennifer Hilborn

Subject: Result of the assessment of your Canada Summer Jobs application

*****This is a system generated email. Please do not reply to this address. Contact information can be found in the email below.*****

2024/05/15

Jennifer Hilborn

Windsor Bluefins Parent Association

Project Number:

Constituency: Kings-Hants

Subject: Result of the Assessment of Your Canada Summer Jobs Application

Service Canada would like to thank you for your application to the Canada Summer Jobs program.

After assessing your application, we regret to inform you that we are unable to offer you funding at this time.

Please note that due to a high volume of applications and limited funding, not all projects will be funded. In the event circumstances change and funds do become available, you will be contacted to proceed with next steps.

We appreciate your interest in the Canada Summer Jobs program and encourage you to apply next year. Please visit the Employment and Social Development Canada [funding page](#) for information on future funding opportunities.

If you have any questions, please contact us at the email address below.

Sincerely,

Smith, Kate

Service Canada

PO BOX 1800

HALIFAX NS CA

kate.smith@servicecanada.gc.ca