

December 19, 2024

Dear Mayor Zebian and the West Hants Regional Municipal Council

RE: Proposed West Hants indoor Pickleball Facility – Letter of Intent

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I am writing to you on behalf of the pickleball community here in the West Hants Regional Municipality (WHRM). Specifically, I'm writing to express the interest and need within the community for an indoor pickleball facility for year round use.

Pickleball is a fast growing sport and activity here in the WHRM, across the country and even globally. As a long-time tennis player and advocate of sports, I am also personally committed to the game of Pickleball through play and the teaching of others how to participate at the recreational and competitive levels. The growth of the local pickleball community has resulted in the creation of the Avon River Pickleball Club (ARPC), a registered society and not-for-profit under the Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks, for which I am currently president.

As our broader community continues to rapidly grow, both existing and new residents are participating in the sport, resulting in an increased demand for a place to play. Most specifically a dedicated facility or multi-use space is needed to support and foster the growth of this sport. Recreation continues to grow here in West Hants, particularly after the consolidation of Windsor and West Hants, and this is evident in our community, through increased recreation programming, the Sports Complex and improved outdoor recreation spaces. This is something we should all be very proud of and something that we should continue to expand. The ARPC believes that a pickleball facility is the next step in growing recreation in the WHRM.

To support our club's interest in a facility we have engaged Lindsay's Construction to help us understand the size and scale of a facility or building that would accommodate pickleball as well as other multi use opportunities. We would be happy to share our vision with the municipality and its leadership team as you embark on your four (4) year term and more specifically as part of strategic planning you may be undertaking.

We wish to formally express our interest in a facility through this correspondence in the form of a "Letter of Intent". We request the opportunity to more thoroughly review the proposal for the facility in an environment that is most appropriate for the municipality. We are currently engaging additional stakeholders and citizens to continue to generate momentum and look forward to collaborating with the municipality as soon as we can.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hughes

Community Pickleball and Tennis Advocate and President of the Avon River Pickleball Club