



Niagara Tennis News

what's happening around the Club

Once again Tennis News has made the Advance. Since several Club members have been asking about the recent article, we thought it might be appropriate to clarify a few points.

As you are aware, our Tennis Club has been working hard with the Parks and Recreation Department to obtain the necessary funding to replace the well worn courts in Memorial Park. This project is now in progress with these new courts being available by next Spring. We are now working with the Town to develop a long range strategy to provide improved facilities in Memorial Park. These plans were discussed at our AGM a few weeks ago and a meeting is already scheduled with the Parks & Recreation Department to further discuss our draft Long Term Tennis Development Strategy document.

But the current news is all about our neighbourhood tennis courts. NOTL has 5 neighbourhood courts that are located in Rye Street Park, St. David's Lions Park and Green Park in Garrison Village. Although neighbourhood tennis courts such as Rye Street and St David's are not directly associated with our community Tennis Club, I am sure that many of us have taken the opportunity to use these courts when they were in a better state of play. Sometimes they are just more convenient for a casual game or some hitting practice.

Rosemary Goodwin has addressed Town Councillors to consider investing additional funds on these neighbourhood courts to add an acrylic surface, which is already a standard for many municipal courts in Ontario. [Here is a link to the article in the Advance](#), if you have not seen it.

Councillors were intrigued by her request and have asked the Parks & Recreation Department to provide a report with more details as to cost impact.

Several NOTL residents have already taken the initiative to email each Town Councillor to express their support for Rosemary's idea and to speak up to say that if better tennis facilities were available, they would make use of these improved facilities.

Rosemary has brought this issue forward to Town Council and the Advance has brought the issue to the public forefront. **This is a unique opportunity for all tennis players and "supporters of tennis" in NOTL to let Councillors know directly that having sufficient funds allocated to improving tennis facilities in NOTL is a "good thing".**

Town Councillors work hard to be good stewards of public funds in our community and have approved funds for both our Club's court resurfacing and neighbourhood court resurfacing. **It is important for them to also hear directly from residents that quality public tennis facilities are wanted in our community. This is the time to let your voice be heard.**

I am sure that Rosemary would appreciate your support, and each of your individual letters will make a difference. You can contact [Rosemary](#) directly with any questions regarding her presentation or the article in the newspaper.

If you want to send an email of your support for improved neighbourhood tennis facilities directly to Town Councillors here is a list of email addresses for each Councillor:

deke@notl.org, gzalepajr@notl.org, jcollard@notl.org, akaiser@notl.org, JKing@notl.org, tflynn@notl.org, DDick@notl.org, nmmazza@notl.org, mbau-coote@notl.org

Kind Regards

Marilyn Francis, President

on behalf of the Tennis Club Board of Directors.