

Cindy Reimer

From: Kevin Nagoya
Sent: April 20, 2020 1:57 PM
To: Cindy Reimer
Subject: FW: Cold Lake Minor Hockey (CLMH): North Arena

FYI....

Kevin

From: Lawren Wowk [mailto:vp hockeyops@clmh.com]
Sent: April 20, 2020 1:41 PM
To: Craig Copeland <CCopeland@coldlake.com>
Cc: Duane Lay <DLay@coldlake.com>; Kirk Soroka <ksoroka@coldlake.com>; Chris Vining <CVining@coldlake.com>; Jurgen Grau <jgrau@coldlake.com>; Bob Buckle <BBuckle@coldlake.com>; Vicky Lefebvre <VLefebvre@coldlake.com>; Teresa Dole <president@clmh.com>; Jason Harrison <director_at_large@clmh.com>; Kim Hillier <vpbusiness@clmh.com>; Connie Harrison <clmhadmin@clmh.com>; Kevin Nagoya <KNagoya@coldlake.com>
Subject: Re: Cold Lake Minor Hockey (CLMH): North Arena

Thank you. We will be there and refrain from speaking "moistly." Cheers.

Lawren Wowk
Vice President of Hockey Operations
Cold Lake Minor Hockey Association

On Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 1:35 PM Craig Copeland <CCopeland@coldlake.com> wrote:

Yes you could come and speak at a safe distance...the football team Jets came last Tuesday.

You could bring two or three with you and we could fit you in.

Craig

From: Lawren Wowk [mailto:vp hockeyops@clmh.com]
Sent: April 20, 2020 1:21 PM
To: Craig Copeland <CCopeland@coldlake.com>
Cc: Duane Lay <DLay@coldlake.com>; Kirk Soroka <ksoroka@coldlake.com>; Chris Vining <CVining@coldlake.com>; Jurgen Grau <jgrau@coldlake.com>; Bob Buckle <BBuckle@coldlake.com>; Vicky Lefebvre <VLefebvre@coldlake.com>; Teresa Dole <president@clmh.com>; Jason Harrison <director_at_large@clmh.com>; Kim Hillier <vpbusiness@clmh.com>; Connie Harrison <clmhadmin@clmh.com>; Kevin Nagoya <KNagoya@coldlake.com>
Subject: Re: Cold Lake Minor Hockey (CLMH): North Arena

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your response. I will speak with the CLMH Executive and confirm our presence. The City Council meeting on the 28th of April, is this in person? Cheers.

Lawren Wowk

Vice President of Hockey Operations

Cold Lake Minor Hockey Association

On Mon, Apr 20, 2020 at 11:06 AM Craig Copeland <CCopeland@coldlake.com> wrote:

Good day Lawren

I copied everyone on the email. Thank you for the email describing the impact to CLMH. I was wondering if you would be interested in coming as a delegation to the April 28th council meeting at 6pm? This way you can present your impact of the North Arena closing in a public setting?

In terms of the other user groups that you mention I would suggest that Minor Hockey avoid at this time throwing the other groups into the conversation. The City will address this matter as a whole with all the user groups collectively in the coming months in terms of ice rink utilization for 2020/21 season.

Council when we did the 2020 budget allocated 16 million in tax dollars from the ID349 and 1.5 million from the MD Bonnyville from our ICF (Intermunicipal collaboration framework). Both these funding sources remain unknown at this time. If our City does not have any funds for 349 again this year (2019 we had zero) then we have to find \$16 million in savings or through residential/commercial property tax increase.

Thank you

Craig

From: Lawren Wowk [mailto:vp hockeyops@clmh.com]

Sent: April 17, 2020 8:57 AM

To: Duane Lay <DLay@coldlake.com>; Kirk Soroka <ksoroka@coldlake.com>; Chris Vining <CVining@coldlake.com>; Jurgen Grau <jgrau@coldlake.com>; Bob Buckle <BBuckle@coldlake.com>; Vicky Lefebvre <VLefebvre@coldlake.com>; Craig Copeland <CCopeland@coldlake.com>

Cc: Teresa Dole <president@clmh.com>; Jason Harrison <director_at_large@clmh.com>; Kim Hillier <vpbusiness@clmh.com>; Connie Harrison <clmhadmin@clmh.com>

Subject: Cold Lake Minor Hockey (CLMH): North Arena

Good morning Your Worship and City Council,

The below is an email concerning the news of the North Arena being closed and the effect it will have on our Membership. This email is directed from the CLMH Executive and Board of Directors. Thank you for your time and consideration.

CLMH and the City have come to contractual terms over the past two hockey seasons. Three years ago, the City planned to decommission the North Arena. The CLMH Executive attended City Hall and addressed the City Council underlying a plan to Save the North. The City required CLMH to commit to a minimum of 25 hours of practice ice each week over a 20 week period with games allocated to the Energy Centre. CLMH entered into a contract with the City and successfully committed to over 25 hours of ice usage in the North each week over a 20 week period. Last season, CLMH entered into the second year of the same contract with the City. CLMH successfully committed to the same. Our Membership is over 500 registered players and the mandated grass roots model and Hockey Canada/Alberta development models were adhered to specifically due to the North remaining open. The Save the North campaign focused on the City allowing CLMH to provide the minimum development model as recommended by HC/HA. Our last two seasons have been our most successful season ever.

The CLMH Executive was disappointed to learn that the City has decided to close the North Arena. We understand that the economy is not what it once was but the economy has suffered in our region for the past five years. We further understand the COVID-19 crisis has likely caused a further effect. City Council's decision to close the North pre-dates the public mandates of our provincial government. City Council is our local public governing body. You have been in a successful contractual relationship for two full hockey seasons with CLMH. CLMH has created over \$105,000.00 in revenue from our Membership for the usage of the North Arena. As a public body, it was incumbent upon you to approach CLMH and provide advanced notice of your concerns. Advanced notice would have allowed an opportunity for dialogue if not resolution.

The closure of the North Arena only affects CLMH. The effect is a loss of 25 hours of ice each week. This is a 20% loss of services we can offer our paying Membership. CLMH is also a not-for-profit entity. Our governing board is voluntary. All of our coaches, managers, trainers are voluntary. CLMH is the single largest user group over any other organization in Cold Lake. Your decision casts a shadow over 523 registered participants. No other ice user group has seen a 20% loss of services from the City. Candidly, any

other ice-user group appears to have lost nothing at all. The Hockey Alberta development model, "Grass Roots", already requires U7 (Initiation) and U9 (Novice) to share ice for practices and games. The Grass Roots development stream has actually been a blessing to hockey development and the growth of our Membership colliding with ice availability. City Council's decision to close the North Arena has forced CLMH to consider some difficult options:

1. We cap the number of registrations this year to allow the Hockey Alberta development model to be delivered to our Membership. CLMH has never capped registration and this would be contrary to the spirit of the game; or
2. Our U13 (Atom) will need to begin sharing practice ice to achieve the minimum recommended weekly practice hours; or
3. We begin to offer morning practices from 6:15 am to 7:15 am. We are challenged to find coaches given our communities work related employment. Many coaches are not home in the mornings to commit to the same.

There is always resistance to change. Regardless of this outcome, times are changing and our Membership will be required to adapt to these changes. CLMH is not opposed to change but we want to continue to provide the recommended minimum development model to our Membership. Council's decision removes 20% of our development stream. Our Membership pays for a service that CLMH is mandated to provide. We are not able to provide for the same when the City makes a decision that directly, and only, affects our Membership without notice or consultation. Your decision is devastating to the development and enjoyment of our paying Membership. If CLMH is forced to change, is any other ice-user group forced to change? Closing the North Arena removes 20% of our development ice. Figure skating is a private club. They have paid instructors. Despite the same, figure skating historically receives Monday to Friday from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm for a total of 10 hours of prime ice. We look at figure skating as a comparison only. Our coaches are volunteers. They cannot inform their employers that their work schedule must change to accommodate hockey practices. The City ought to consider a reduction of ice time of its other user-groups so that CLMH does not lose 20%. Has the City considered a 5% loss of ice allocations by all user-groups? Who are we looking out for here? CLMH has 523 registered hockey players. They are not adult weekend warriors. We consistently see CLMH suffer while other user-groups remain unaffected. As a public governing body, your public policy must be for the people as a community.

CLMH was awarded two provincial host tournaments this past season. These tournaments directly impact our local economy from hotels, to restaurants, to local shops not to mention filling the seats of the Energy Centre with people from across the province. COVID-19 put the proverbial end to those tournaments unfortunately. CLMH was honoured to have been awarded these provincial tournaments and we maintain that our competitive stream made that possible which was only achieved by our development model. If CLMH must cap registrations, we will become less competitive and more importantly, we cannot grow as an organization. If we must enlarge the size of our teams to accommodate registrations, larger teams become

less competitive. We begin to lose memberships when we become less competitive. Hockey Alberta would then not consider the Energy Centre as a destination for provincial tournaments.

Last season the JJPPar provided an additional 20 minutes of ice. We were only asking for two additional hours. There is little to no hope of obtaining additional ice from the 4-Wing without City intervention or pressure. The City has effectively removed over 20 hours of ice from children's development model. Our Membership will be forced to accept change. We ask how is it that only CLMH and its 523 playing members are the only group forced to change.

CLMH requires your assistance and we seek audience with City Counsel to resolve this pressing issue. We look forward to your timely response.

Lawren Wowk

Vice President of Hockey Operations

Cold Lake Minor Hockey Association

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