

Mayor Fourgere, Members of City Council, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Well, folks, here we are again, discussing the same thing we talked about 4 or 5 years ago, closing the Maple Leaf Pool.

While I understand about cost, dollars and cents, I do not understand why the residents of this Community have to write letters, make phone calls, do presentations to beg City Council to keep up a City facility, currently in use, for which tax dollars have paid for many times over.

Our family are farmers. We have a business. All business owners understand costs very well. Every farm or business to be productive requires inputs. If there are no regular inputs, eventually the farm or business soon stops producing anything viable. It is, in my opinion, the same with neighbourhoods.

A thriving Community has a hub, place for people to gravitate too. The Heritage Community does not have a have dedicated community centre like some other inter-city community associations.

The skating rink & shack left a few years ago. The only thing remaining recreation facility is the Maple Leaf Pool, surrounding park, picnic area and play structures.

In the summertime, Maple Leaf Pool provides a balance for the programs that are offered in the winter to school children and seniors.

My son, William and the neighbour children grew up at the Maple Leaf Pool, as the generations before him, the generation right now that is following him and, hopefully, the generations to come.

From a real estate point of view, which is my profession, anyone considering locating to a neighbourhood, especially with a family, looks at what is available for their children.

If there are no amenities to attract them, such as recreation opportunities like the Maple Leaf Pool and surrounding park, the potential buyer looks elsewhere and we all lose.

Physical activity is being promoted to offset the overuse of electronic devices for everyone. Adults and children alike.

The residents of this Community believe it is the duty of the Mayor and City Council to be more forwarding thinking in preserving the Maple Leaf Pool as one of the City owned recreation facilities.

My suggestion, going forward is that the dollars and cents from the tax base, from parking and from other revenue streams, generated by Ward 3, be ear-marked for repairs and projects in the Ward.

As decision makers, should something like this occur in your neighbourhood, would you want to lose something vital to your Community?

Thank you for this opportunity!



Jeanne' Clive

December 5, 2018.