

This is a request to appear before City Council on December 9th & 10th, 2019. I will be discussing the redevelopment of the Regent Par III Golf Course. My name is: TANICE LUNN My address is: [REDACTED] My phone number is: [REDACTED]

The following is a written summary of what I will be presenting:

My name is Tanice Lunn I am here tonight to oppose the redevelopment of the Regent Par III Golf Course into a recreation hub. It is important that the trees on the land not be destroyed.

According to Tree Canada

Trees produce oxygen, intercept airborne particulates, and reduce smog, make the air more breathable and enhance a community's respiratory health.

Urban forests play an essential role in decreasing the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere. An average-size tree can store hundreds of pounds of CO₂ over its lifetime.

Trees capture carbon which reduces the Greenhouse Effect

Trees bring us closer to nature provide shelter for wildlife

Trees help stress reduction and speed the healing process

One large tree can lift up to 100 gallons of water out of the ground and discharge it into the air in one day.

The psychological impact of trees on people's moods, emotions and enjoyment of their surroundings may in fact be one of the greatest benefits urban forests provide.

One large tree can provide a day's oxygen for up to four people.

We need more trees not less

Finally, according to Tree Canada, trees intercept rainfall and reduce run-off, thereby functioning like retention/detention basins. This is especially important to Coronation park since the City of Regina okayed the backfilling of the floodplain 10 years ago so that developers could put buildings on that land. This was in spite of the fact that the engineering firm of Stantec found Coronation to be one of the worst flood zones in Regina with the potential to be dangerous.

Trees capture and slow rainfall and their roots filter water. Trees reduce storm water runoff, which reduces flooding and saves city storm water management costs. The golf course trees protect citizens in the area.

As the conservation nonprofit American Forests reminds us, "healthy forests are our most efficient, inexpensive, and natural systems to combat climate change."

Removing the established urban canopy on the golf course land would be completely unnecessary and in fact foolish for many reasons including: the ACT ball diamonds are a more appropriate site for a recreation hub and are located only 50 feet from the golf course land. The ACT ball diamonds do not have any trees and are already flat which would lend that area to being made into a sports field (if one were actually needed). The Regina Master Recreation Plan calls for getting rid of half of the ball diamonds in the city so that there would end up being 1 diamond per 2,500 people. Coronation has 1 ball diamond per 440 people. Wealthy neighbourhoods have few ball diamonds. The child poverty rate in the golf course area is 65%. These are not children who are playing baseball. One of the largest social housing units in Regina borders the ball diamonds. Children from wealthier neighbourhoods are brought in to play ball for 2 months of the year and then for the rest of

the year the children living in poverty have to look out their windows at a huge lot filled with nothing but gravel.

A sports field in the golf course area would be underutilized. There are already 6 sports fields in Coronation while in wealthier areas there are far less. For example, 2 in Twin Lakes, 4 in Sherwood McCarthy, 3 in Argyle Park and 4 in Prairie View. Disadvantaged children do not need yet another ball diamond or sports field in the golf course area. Wouldn't it be nice if the disadvantaged children living in front of the ACT ball diamonds could look out their windows and instead of seeing the barren ACT gravel filled ball diamonds they could look out onto a lush green space of a new sports hub while at the same time the hundreds of trees on the golf course land could be saved.

In two surveys completed over the last year 1620 people were approached to sign an open letter to the City objecting to the recreation hub plan for the golf course land. 1,600 of the 1,620 signed the document. City planners refused to look at or consider these signatures but, the documents were delivered to City Hall. The vast majority of people who signed were aboriginal and they made it clear they want the trees on the golf course land left intact. They do not want a single tree unnecessarily cut down.

According to the Journal of Science An urban forest is a forest or a collection of trees that grow within a city, town or a suburb. This makes the Regent Golf Course a recognized urban forest by definition.

It is our position that if you approve the golf course redevelopment into your proposed recreation hub or do anything that involves destruction of any of the trees then you are you are in violation of what Aboriginal people in the area have told you that they want which puts you in violation of treaty 4

To cut any trees down on the golf course land would fly in the face of all logic. It would represent the destruction of a 60 year old urban forest to build a field, toboggan hills and washrooms. How shameful in a City where government documents tell us that each tree is hand planted and must be protected. Given this, why would City Council okay the removal of hundreds of trees?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larence Juan", with a small asterisk above the first 'e'.