

Dear Mayor Guthrie and Guelph City Council:

My name is Stacey Hatlelid and I am a member of the Pickleball Guelph Association. I am writing to you to express my full support of the Pickleball Guelph Association's request for funding from the City of Guelph for the development of both outdoor and indoor dedicated pickleball courts.

Pickleball has a low cost of entry and requires no special equipment. It is a great sport for those looking for a way to stay active and connect with others. And it is quite simply a lot of fun.

As an active pickleball player, I want to play this wonderful sport indoors on a more regular basis; however, that is challenging due to the limited availability of court times and locations in Guelph. Play times are available a couple of times a week during the day for seniors and are almost non-existent for anyone under 55 years old.

Outdoor courts are available only on a shared basis with tennis, and there is no allowance for any scheduled programming. This creates a random play situation which is inconsistent and doesn't allow for regular gameplay or events.

The availability of dedicated pickleball courts will meet the demand for playing space and programming well beyond what exists today.

I would appreciate the Council's full consideration for funding dedicated pickleball courts. That opens the door to many options for programming and training for the ever-growing list of those eager to learn pickleball and keep active and engaged socially.

I am pleased to support the application from the Pickleball Guelph Association for the funding of dedicated pickleball courts.

Sincerely,

Stacey Hatlelid