

Notice To The Public
Skatepark and Tennis Courts
Facility Status Updates

At the May 25th, 2016 Council Meeting Council reviewed a request from the Manitowadge Skatepark Group for use of the existing Tennis Court Site for the purpose of establishing a Skatepark.

The Community Services Department as directed by Council has been working with the Skatepark Group to identify suitable locations within the Township to build a Skatepark facility. Approximately 10 sites were studied and rated based on pre-established criteria.

Following this process it was determined by the Skatepark Group that the best site prior to Soil Analysis Testing was the existing Tennis Court Site.

During its deliberations Council acknowledged that the existing Tennis Courts are in very poor condition and have not been open to play for the past 3.5 years. In 2014 through the Community Services Department Council explored the possibility of repairing the courts and the costs involved to do so. The result of this process concluded that it was not feasible to repair the courts due to the extent of the damage and deterioration that has occurred over a number of years. It will be necessary to completely rebuild the courts from below the surface and up. This, being a major project with high costs involved, has not been on the Community Services Department's capital list for the past 3 years or for this year due to an abundance of existing aging infrastructure needs.

Council concluded that in determining the need for new Tennis Courts in the future, the cost of building new courts in an alternate location would be very similar to rebuilding the courts in their existing location. Council also determined that in the future they would explore the option of building new tennis courts in an alternate location, should the local tennis community mobilize their efforts to establish the need for new courts.

Council with all of the above information considered, granted approval to the Skatepark Group, to go ahead and conduct the required Soil Analysis Testing on the existing Tennis Court Site. Should soil conditions be suitable Council has also agreed to allow the Skatepark Group via a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement to use the existing Tennis Court Site for their Skatepark Facility.