

Future of the Recreation Hall and Pavilion

Earlier this year, a questionnaire went out to the public of Macoun and area on what they wanted to see done with the Recreation Hall located at 745 Young St. The Village office received 37 responses, 13% of current residents. Here is a breakdown of the responses to the three questions along with the comments received:

- 1. Are you willing to join a Parks and Recreation Board to fundraise annually to cover operating and maintenance expenses to keep the Recreation Hall and Pavilion in operation?**

YES = 8 No = 29

- 2. Are you ok with tax dollars covering expenses to operate and maintain the Recreation Hall and Pavilion, even if it means an increase to your annual tax levy?**

YES = 11 NO = 26

- 3. Are you ok with the Recreation Hall and Pavilion being tendered for sale for use by a third party, making it unavailable for public use?**

YES = 14 NO = 23

Comments:

- The school and church are available for rentals, so Rec Hall not needed.
- Use the Rec Hall for rental or storage.
- Use for Village storage.
- A P&R Board would be great but I worry about the long-term commitment of a new Board.
- We feel our tax dollars are better allocated elsewhere.
- Both the hall and pavilion are severely underutilized and need work, is it worth putting money into.
- We have the newly renovated Town Hall and the school gym, kitchen, playground and giant school yard to use.
- Let it go, perhaps it will pay for itself.
- Need a good team of at least 6 to make a good run of a new Rec Board.
- Don't sell unless the space will be used for a café or something that benefits Macoun.
- The moisture, rodent and decaying issues are too much to tackle.
- The building should be removed but the pavilion should stay for public use as well the water spigot.
- Only tender the building as a last resort.
- I am already struggling to make ends meet so I do not agree to a tax increase for this matter.
- I still think this facility benefits the community if the right people are taking care of it but in its current condition, it should be torn down.
- Just keep the heat on, turn off the outside lights and gas to the building.
- I would be ok with the building being sold for removal if the Village is willing to replace it with something more suitable for the area, such as canteen and washrooms, easier building to maintain.

- *Stop sending money to Mainprize Park and library, stop mowing the highway ditches and people's fields, directing that time and money to Macoun. Shut the exterior lights off. Instead of paying for gopher control, trap, poison or use pellet guns to manage.*
- *Would still like to access dugout water from the exterior of the Rec Hall.*
- *I am 100% opposed to selling the rink.*
- *We need to keep the building in the community and use grant money to pay for the upkeep.*

Council has held lengthy discussions regarding the future of the space, weighing costs, maintenance and upkeep, liability, public expectations and the questionnaire responses. Council has decided the rec hall will not be sold, it will remain where it is, however it will be used for Village cold storage as it no longer passes public health inspection for public use. The pavilion will also remain in place and is available for public use at any time as well, Macoun Minor Baseball will continue to operate at the two ball diamonds.

Council hopes with the Rec Hall closure that residents will focus on the committees, municipal infrastructure and groups currently operating, such as the Macoun Happy Gang Club, Macoun Town Hall, Macoun Minor Baseball, Apple Shot Archers, Macoun Gun Club, Little Cubs ELC Preschool, Macoun School, Evangelical Missionary Church and Macoun Co-op. Supporting the many amazing things that this little community offers, promises long term success.