

# Readers continue arena debate

Continued from pg. 13

Re: New arenas (yes, I am for them!)

There will always be two points of view on every topic and most funding for any municipal "user projects" do not involve the majority. From parks to seniors' programs to fall fairs to bike trails etc.— they are all part of the whole picture but the sum of the funding at that instance is for the minority of the population. Sorry to bring a little reality to your bubble Mr. Brown. Let me just give you a couple of return volleys on some of your comments:

TB: "Is it fair to seniors on fixed incomes? Is it fair to local business people, trying to scratch out a living? Is it fair to those who never darken the door of a rink?"

I pay taxes for seniors' facilities/ programs, streets to get paved that aren't mine, school programs that we don't participate in etc. but unlike you I don't mind paying for the good of all the community.

TB: "users are the vocal minority—many of them Walter Gretzky wannabes who figure their kid is gonna be the next Wayne."

Of course, we're the minority. So are library users, cyclists, joggers, car enthusiasts— most user groups in a town or city will be a minority. Taking shots at kids and their parents to perpetuate your self-serving opinion is low.

TB: "It's a textbook case of 'wants' over 'needs'."

Do we need a library expansion or want a library expansion? If we have 4,200 people playing hockey I'd bet we don't have 4,200 people in town being library members who use it on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

There are good reasons to build the arenas and the trick is trying to find the fiscal budget that supports the investment and still leaves room for money for other programs. It doesn't have to be an all or nothing decision as you would lead people to believe.

Bill Taylor, Georgetown

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I completely agree with Ted Brown's column and everyone else who spoke out for our hospital. Most of the silent majority were probably born in that hospital when it was still relatively new, and it looks almost the same today.

We're not asking for a new hospital like Brampton, Orangeville and now Oakville. All we're asking for is an addition so we can fit in some much needed equipment to service our growing population. What's to debate?

I'm all for kids and sports, but if we can only afford an arena or a hospital and we have people in power trying to figure out which one is more important—we have a problem.

M. Treviranus, Georgetown

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