

Item 10.3.1

HALIFAX REGIONAL
MUNICIPALITY

July 17, 2025

MUNICIPAL CLERK

From: [Office, Clerks](#)
To: [Ross Siegel, Simon](#)
Cc: [Vining, Krista](#)
Subject: FW: Written request to present to the Standing Committee on Comm
Date: Thursday, July 17, 2025 8:09:17 AM
Attachments: [CPED Standing Committee presentation request.docx](#)

Logging as presentation request to CPED.

From: Jamie Douglas Power [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 11:02 PM
To: Office, Clerks <clerks@halifax.ca>
Subject: [External Email] Written request to present to the Standing Committee on Community Planning and Economic Development

[This email has been received from an external person or system]

I have attached a written request to present to the community planning and economic development standing committee.

Please let me know if there is anything further I must do.

With thanks,

Jamie Power
Owner/Operator,
Headstart Tennis

Redacted
[REDACTED]

Municipal Clerks Office

Date Distributed: August 13, 2025
Committee members, William Hatfield,
Maggie MacDonald

Meeting: CPED

Meeting Date: August 21, 2025

Item Number: 10.3.1

To: Municipal Clerk's Office
Halifax Regional Municipality
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Subject: Request to Present to the Community Planning and Economic
Development Standing Committee

Re: Enhancing Year-Round Access to Tennis and Active Living for Peninsula
Residents

Dear Municipal Clerk,

On behalf of Headstart Tennis and with the full support of Tennis Nova Scotia, we respectfully request the opportunity to present to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee at the earliest possible date.

Our presentation will outline a proposal to significantly increase access to tennis and active living opportunities for residents of the Halifax peninsula by enabling year-round use of municipal tennis courts. Specifically, we propose the seasonal installation of an air-supported dome over the planned four tennis courts at Gorsebrook Field. This would extend public access from the current 5–6 months to a full 12 months annually.

This model is being actively promoted by both Tennis Canada and Tennis Nova Scotia. It has already demonstrated long-standing success locally, most notably at Northcliffe Park, where seasonally covered public courts have operated successfully since January, 1992. This includes very successful operation by Headstart Tennis since 2016. With no indoor tennis currently available on the peninsula, and both existing centres in Clayton Park and Bedford operating near capacity, this proposal addresses a significant gap in recreation infrastructure.

The proposed Gorsebrook facility would be publicly accessible, provide affordable indoor sport opportunities (including pickleball at times) and support a broad range of community recreation and development goals. This would also build on the success of our Headstart program, which has already shown measurable benefits in youth development and active lifestyles.

From a broader perspective, this project offers considerable public benefit, including:

- Expanded year-round access to physical activity and community sport
- Economies of scale by leveraging existing municipal investment in court construction
- New employment and programming opportunities through public-private operational collaboration
- Economic spin-offs through tournaments, leagues, programming, special events, increased park usage, and sport tourism.

We are requesting the following from HRM:

- A 15–20 year lease agreement permitting us to seasonally dome the courts at Gorsebrook Field and operate a publicly accessible indoor tennis facility.
- That HRM move forward with the planned construction of the four tennis courts, including fencing and the required concrete grade beam to accommodate the dome
- Collaboration on the placement and design of the proposed public washrooms to support winter usage.
- Coordination on the precise positioning of the courts to ensure efficient snow removal and dome operation.

Headstart Tennis would fund and install the dome, as well as provide the air support, heating, lighting, and an on-site clubhouse. We would assume full responsibility for all operational and maintenance costs associated with the facility. We believe this project aligns strongly with the goals of the municipality's active living strategy and the vision for sustainable, inclusive community development. We welcome the opportunity to further present and discuss this initiative.

Sincerely,

Jamie Power
Owner/Operator - Headstart Tennis