



Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
Fax: 623-5468
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TO: Members of Council
FROM: Krista Power, City Clerk
DATE: Monday, March 8, 2021
SUBJECT: **Additional Information**
Committee of the Whole – March 8, 2021

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Correspondence from Mr. R. Smith, dated March 8, 2021 relative to Report No. R 9/2021 (Community Services - Facilities, Fleet & Energy Management) – Multi-Use Indoor Sports Facility – Tender Award, for information.

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From: Raymond Smith <raymondalsmith@gmail.com>
Sent: March 8, 2021 11:22 AM
To: Krista Power <Krista.Power@thunderbay.ca>
Subject: letter for tonight's meeting to for city council

Good day,

We are opposed to council moving ahead with an indoor turf facility. It is unaffordable. Doing so would add \$16.5 million to the city's present debt of \$212 million dollars.

Thunder Bay already has the 6th highest municipal debt outstanding per capita in a BMA study of 35 Ontario cities. Thunder Bay also has the second highest property taxes out of 35 Ontario cities with only the city of Windsor having higher taxes.

There has been no commitment of funds from the federal or provincial government.

There has been no funding from Soccer Northwest Ontario.

If the city was in a better position to build an indoor turf facility there are other more affordable options like the Edmonton Soccer Dome that opened two years ago at a cost of \$7 million dollars. It is the largest sports dome in Canada with a playing surface of 135,000 sq. ft and a playing surface of 270' X 500'. It has 7 fields and a full size fifa regulation field. The city of Edmonton contributed \$2.9 million dollars to the cost and the rest was paid by private enterprise.

Thank-you.

Ray Smith 475-0995