

Alisa Mahrova

From: Bill gardner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 7:37 PM
To: Santos, Rowena - Councillor; Palleschi, Michael - Councillor
Cc: MayorBrown; Carole Gardner; Bill gardner; jrobertwalsh988
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Question about yearly membership fees at TRCA

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi:

I would like you to consider discussing at the TRCA a plan for creating a YEARLY membership category for seniors at the TRCA. Currently, none exists for seniors.

Our situation: (and for many other seniors)

My wife and I are 73, and the \$135.00 membership fee is excessive, as it is DESIGNED for permitting a group of six to enter on one membership, and that is not us.. We would be paying for a feature we cannot use. We would rather give money to charity, than pay for features we cannot use.

Simply, we would only be going as a couple, not being able to bubble with grandchildren who go to school, or children, who do not live close to us. No one is in our bubble, once school began.

You currently have a DAILY reduced entrance fee for seniors at both the TRCA and CVC, and in the last few days I used it once at Glen Haffey paying also to fish, and once we went together to Island Lake (Credit Valley Conservation) in Orangeville.

We both use to be members of the Brampton Parks and Recreation, using the gym and fitness classes for almost thirty years. (our memberships expired March 14, 2020, which was rather sad but also good timing) Currently, you have a reduced rate for everyone 55 and older (in Brampton), which came in about 10 years ago. You need a yearly pass for seniors (single and a separate one for two senior people at the TRCA!

**With Covid 19, we have not renewed our memberships at the Brampton Recreation Centres!
because we are in the most vulnerable age category,
and it is simply NOT safe.**

Having a variety of different TRCA and CVC sites to walk on the trails would make a world of difference.

**For the foreseeable future (at least a few years), due to covid 19
we will never have other adults with us in a car,
a separate car entering behind us would have to pay to enter
We can never avail ourselves of having a group of six enter, and we could not walk near them even if they entered for free.**

Item 7.1

I would love an explanation as to what you intend to propose for seniors at the TRCA, after considering my recommendations. I recommend to you to offer a seniors pass for two people at a total cost of \$75.00 yearly., or a single senior for \$50.

Keeping seniors

healthy

active

and outdoors

keeps them out of hospitals and long term care.

**Part of the rationalization of reduced gym memberships was to keep the older age population active.
(Brampton has only one over utilized hospital, which you are well aware of)**

Whatever rationale lead to a seniors rate on a day pass, and a seniors yearly membership at Parks and Recreation, must clearly apply to the TRCA/CVC. I think no one has actually thought of it yet, so let us have Brampton's two representatives lead the way.

Time to start thinking of seniors during this pandemic!

PS: personally, we can afford the \$135.00, but some / many seniors might find it difficult.

Please feel free to modify and copy to other members of the TRCA and also the CVC.

Maybe their thinking of old people was their kids would take them as part of their kid's yearly membership, and they would not go there by themself. WRONG!

However, we do NOT go on weekends, because the bicycle road warriors drive too fast and too carelessly to be safe walking on trails. (no bells, no warning, and they whiz past you almost hitting you.)

sincerely

William and Carole Gardner

