

From: [Jenna Rees](#)
To: [Don Murray](#); [Jennifer White](#)
Subject: Ripley YMCA Parking Concerns
Date: December 11, 2024 1:52:58 PM

To the attention of: Mayor Murray and Members of Council

I will start by saying, the Township of Huron Kinloss is extremely fortunate to have the YMCA Child Care Centre in Ripley and it is a well run facility for families with young children. The recent expansion and renovations have allowed for even more children to be accepted into the program, which is great news for local families. We have been very privileged to have two of our children accepted into the licensed facility for child care and are extremely grateful and satisfied with our care there.

With the abundance of snow that we have recently received, a safety issue has emerged at the YMCA that we are hoping the Township will be able to assist in resolving. The issue has to do with the location of where the snow is being piled once the parking lot has been plowed. At its current location the snow build up significantly reduces the number of parking spaces available for drop off and pick up which causes the parking lot to be extremely congested and crowded. Also, turning around in the parking lot is difficult, dangerous and next to impossible in these very tight spaces, creating safety concerns for both the children and drivers attempting to pick up and drop off at similar times. In addition to these issues, the expansion project of the facility that has so greatly benefited many families in our area, also means additional staff to accommodate parking for. My biggest concern, while also being a first responder, is for the children's safety while being loaded and unloaded into vehicles at pick up and drop off times. Especially keeping in mind that most times, there isn't parking available which results in families parking on the road in front of the facility. This makes it difficult, especially for families with multiple children to load and unload, on the street where other vehicles and snowplows etc are traveling.

While we recognize that any expansion to the facility or parking lot may be a future option or phase, a more immediate solution would be to push the snow as far away as possible from the parking lot area to create a safer and smoother drop off and pick up area. This will help ensure that our children can be loaded and unloaded as safely as possible, as well as it will create more space to turn around and back out of parking spaces.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request, and if you have any follow up questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jenna Meurs and Family