

OAKLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE - HALL COMMITTEE

5 King St. North

June 27, 2024

Oakland, ON

N0E 1L0

Kathy Ballantyne

Director Facilities & Special Projects

944 Powerline Road,

Paris, ON

Dear Kathy:

Thank you for attending our June 17, 2024 Oakland CC, Hall Committee Meeting with Julee Farmer. We appreciated the opportunity to have Julee present her proposal for a private Daycare business. We briefly reviewed the proposed floor plan and requested a copy for each Hall Committee Member which we received on June 19th 2024. Our Committee has now met to discuss the floor plan proposal and have several concerns about the major impact the plan would have on our Oakland CC to function adequately.

Although the proposed floor plan allows Julee to meet the requirements of the Ministry for a 26- space daycare centre it creates several issues with traffic flow, reduction of hall capacity numbers, functionality etc.

- 1) The proposal results in the total loss of our cloak room where Guests hang their coats and sit and remove boots and wet footwear before entering the Hall. Staff have suggested rolling coat racks and boot trays which would allow dirt, rain, snow, salt etc. to be tracked directly in the hall possibly creating a safety issue with wet floors. It would further reduce the capacity of the Hall and we feel strongly that a Coat room is a necessary feature in our Hall just as in other Halls throughout the County.
- 2) The proposed Daycare plan removes a large area for storage of our tables. When all the tables are set up this area is used for overflow seating. The unacceptable impact on Diners could be possibly asking them to wait outside in the heat, snow or rain until till tables are cleared for

the next seating. This area is important for larger fundraising events which are very well attended. It will reduce our Hall capacity and functionality. We are looking forward to the return of Community dinners and an increase of activity in the Hall. Note: This area has terrazzo flooring on a concrete base and would need to be jackhammered up to install plumbing for the proposed washroom.

3) The proposed renovation also removes an area in the main hall for a “temporary” staff room with partitions that isn’t connected to the main Daycare. This area in the main Hall is in close proximity to the Kitchen, where buffet serving tables are set up as well as refreshments for Anniversaries, Birthdays etc. It will reduce capacity, functionality and result in a loss of revenue for the Hall. Would Daycare Staff as suggested by County Staff want to remove their Staff room each time the Hall is rented during the week?

4) The proposed Staff room would impede on the shuffleboard courts, making them unusable and on Hall Committee future plans for programs during the week.

After reviewing the proposal for the Private Daycare renovation at our June 24th, 2024 Oakland CC Hall Committee Meeting, we passed the following motion... It was moved by Kelly Geerts seconded by Carol Daniels that “The renovation proposal for the Oakland CC from Julee Farmer be refused as presented for reasons discussed” the motion carried unanimously.

We recognize there is a need for Daycare in the County however, if the County of Brant deems this site to be necessary for a Daycare Business, that Ms. Farmer build an addition on the north east corner of the building to accommodate her daycare washrooms tying into existing mens washrooms, and a proper Staff Room.

A suggestion for an alternate use for this County Office is to place County Staff in the former space as it was used before the Pandemic. This office previously held at times 4 staff but could easily accommodate 6 if necessary. There is also a customer service counter if needed or it could be removed. County Staff using this space is least disruptive to the Hall and saves County tax dollars by utilizing needed viable office space. We would be pleased to meet with Council or if you have any questions, feel free to contact our Chair.

Best Regards,

Joan Gatward, Chair

Oakland CC Hall Committee

c.c. Alison Newton, CAO