

Friends of the Collingwood Central Park Project

Collingwood, Ontario

<http://collingwoodcentralparkproject.weebly.com>

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

September 14, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT

Geoff Moran

Spokesperson

collingwoodcentralparkproject@gmail.com

COLLINGWOOD RESIDENTS TO TAKE PART IN PROTEST MARCH

COLLINGWOOD, ON: Collingwood Town Council take note – residents are not backing down any time soon. This coming Monday September 17th, residents will take part in a protest march, starting at Central Park at 4:00 p.m. and ending at Town Hall, to publicly demonstrate their dissatisfaction with Council's decisions regarding local recreation facilities.

Late last month, residents were angered by Council's "quick fix / short fix" decision to spend 11.6 million to erect fabric structures over Centennial Pool and a new ice pad at Central Park. The town also voted to spend over 3 million in repairing the 65 year old Eddie Bush Arena. Residents are still extremely discontented with Council's decisions, including covering an old pool (45 years old), failing to consider other locations for the pool, excluding the public from any discussion and signing an 11.6 million dollar contract without getting competitive prices. A petition was formed earlier this month, requesting Council to rescind their vote and to ensure that the proper, transparent process was followed. Council ignored all requests to take a pause and allow some public input.

An opposing petition has recently popped up, stating that the Friends of the Collingwood Central Park Project and the residents backing the group are fighting for one model of recreation facility only – the model proposed by the Central Park Steering Committee last year. As Dr. Geoff Moran, spokesperson for the group, stated at last week's protest, this is far from the truth. The group is looking to ensure that all options are weighed, a transparent process is carried out, due diligence is followed, and the best possible recreation facilities be built for future generations.

The protest march will take place one week after approximately 255 residents protested outside Town Hall. Residents are gearing up, yet again, to let Council know that they have failed to "Do it Once and Do It Right".

-30-

MEDIA CONTACT: Dr. Geoff Moran, Spokesperson, collingwoodcentralparkproject@gmail.com