

From: tom johnston
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021
To: SPPC <sppc@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Closure of River Road Golf Course

To: Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee.
From: Tom Johnston
Subject: The Future of River Road Golf Course.

Feb.8,2021

River Road Golf Course should not be closed!

1. Thames and Fanshawe Course cannot meet the demand for member and non-member golfers in London and area.

2. Covid -19 and variants will remain with us this coming summer of 2021.

3. The past summer of 2020 was not a good experience for City of London golfers. The two operating courses could not meet the demand for golf. Members and non-members were forced to find golf at privately owned courses. Many of them may never return to the City courses if there are only two courses operating in the future.

4. Under the existing booking system, the City is losing money as non-members cannot access the system to book a tee-time. They go to privately owned courses.

5. Past reports have shown figures of how River Road Golf Course does not operate with a profit. Why are the three courses separated when calculating profits and losses. They should all be assessed as one City Golf System.

6. London has many excellent Parks, Paths, Bike Lanes and Trails that offer great enjoyment for City residents and visitors. These all cost money to maintain. None of these make a profit. Our Golf System makes a profit.

6. The City of London has numerous attractions that are well known and envied in Ontario and Canada. We read regularly of how new residents are moving to London for these golf venues and many other factors. Our three excellent courses have been an important consideration for many.

I hope that the committee will consider all input received and maintain our excellent Golf System of three golf courses!

Thank you.
Tom Johnston