

From: John Sollows

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I knew the Y had financial troubles, but this morning's announcement of closure left me shocked. I have never been a major user of it, but know that it's an important recreational centre for many people in the region, most importantly, in my book, for many kids of limited means for whom it is within walking distance. Like too many people I tsk-tsked when I heard they had financial challenges but did nothing about it.

Yarmouth is a healthy, sensible town which does not suffer as seriously from some of the CBC's favorite social issues as a lot of places. (Love the CBC but some of their announcers should run for public office, then come back!) When I hear about growing economic disparities and the dances around race relations, I realize that we set one helluvan example. No place is perfect, but we do well.

None of us know how important the role of the Y has been in turning kids at risk and poor kids into happy, productive citizens, but I'll bet some of them know!

I'm very glad the province has offered to step up to rescue the operation, but the onus is on all of us to help out. So I'll be glad to contribute to the trust fund when it comes out. Won't be as much as I like, but it will be enough to cause some pain!

I am not sure how to make sure the word gets out, but I bet your staff have that figured out! Leland and Danny, I hope the municipalities rally to help, as well.