

Dear Mayor Mood, Warden Cunningham and Warden Muise

I grew up in the town of Yarmouth and currently reside in Wedgeport. The YMCA, as a recreation centre, has been part of my life from pre school age to my current status as a senior citizen.

I support the reopening for several reasons:

1. Health & wellness – physical and mental
2. Social – many new friendships are formed and a great place for adults to network.
3. Swimming Pool – the only place for year round swimming lessons for all ages. Also, teenagers become lifeguards and get part time jobs or summer employment not only at the pool but also at Lake Milo, Ellenwood Park etc. Swimming is an exercise for all ages – from a parent with a 6 month old to a senior keeping fit with water exercise and everything in between.
4. A recreation centre is necessary to attract and retain new residents from all walks of life. I have met new people to the area who stated that Yarmouth county was chosen because of the YMCA facility.
5. We cannot afford **not** to have a place,(for several years) offering various activities for our youth.
6. I feel that waiting up to 10 years for an expanded Mariners Centre, without opening the former Y will be a step backward and hard to recover from. How would we attract doctors or keep the resident doctors here without a safe place for their children to learn to swim, play, etc. or adults to take advantage of the variety of programs/equipment that the facility can offer?

Statistics show that residents from all municipal units benefitted from having the Y so I feel three units should be supporting the reopening without question.

Thank you

Yours truly,

Kathryn Murphy