

From: [Michael Wayne](#)
To: [Executive Committee](#)
Subject: [External Sender] My comments for 2024.EX15.5 on June 18, 2024 Executive Committee
Date: June 15, 2024 3:22:58 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the June 18, 2024 Executive Committee meeting on item 2024.EX15.5, Moss Park Arena -Governance and Operational Review

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

I am writing to express the concern my fellow skaters and I have about the recent motion that was passed two weeks ago regarding the proposal to convert Moss Park Arena from a Board Managed arena to city operated facility.

For almost 30 years, we have rented ice once a week for shinny that involves a group of professors across many departments at the University of Toronto and many of our graduate students. The costs of the ice are shared amongst all players with the professors subsidizing the cost for students given their limited means while pursuing graduate work.

The management of Moss Park has always been tremendously accommodating to our group and it is because of this flexibility that we are able to hold this weekly skate for our eclectic group.

We understand that Moss Park Arena is one of only 8 arenas across the city that is Board Managed. It is because of this structure that the arena is able to offer a variety of programs and support different user groups while entrenching the arena into the community. Given the unique location of Moss Park and its surrounding neighbourhood, nothing could be more important.

We worry that a change to become a city run arena (like many other rinks in the city), might make it very difficult for the programs currently offered at Moss Park arena to continue. These include kids house leagues, women's pick-up skates, ice for community schools and our own eclectic weekly shinny hockey. There may be a process to facilitate these things through city run arenas, but it is significantly more difficult and cumbersome.

Accordingly, we strongly support retaining the current operating structure and status for Moss Park arena. We hope that our feelings about this can be considered by the Executive Committee.

We thank you for allowing us to express ourselves on this important topic.

Yours sincerely,
Michael Wayne, Professor of History Emeritus, University of Toronto