

Pamela Martin

From: Ray Johnson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: May 22, 2025 9:51 AM
To: Municipal Hall
Subject: Support for 4 pickleball courts at court #1 at Centennial Park
Categories: Pickleball

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1. Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I have heard that Central Saanich Council is considering converting tennis court #1 at Centennial Park to four permanent pickleball only courts.

I want to give my support for this project.

Since the closure of the Wain Park pickleball courts, there are no purpose built outdoor pickleball courts on the Saanich Peninsula. The closure of the Wain Park courts has created a large void where the ever increasing number of pickleball players, now believed to exceed tennis players in North America, can get together for drop in pickleball games. Such a facility is greatly needed on the Peninsula. There are currently 15 purpose built tennis courts on the Peninsula and zero for pickleball.

Drop in pickleball courts, like those previously in Wain Park, led to a very close, congenial group of players who would get together to meet, play, socialize, and just generally have fun. The courts were available during the day and didn't consist of exclusive rentals. This permitted players to meet and mingle with other players, fostering healthy outdoor physical activity that also promoted mental health and a feeling of community. I suggest that this is similar to what is done at outdoor basketball courts but with far greater numbers of players participating on a daily basis.

I have been told that the pickleball associations and the pickleball community will finance the conversion; thus no cost to Central Saanich.

I want to applaud the foresight, thoughtfulness, and responsible actions of the Central Saanich Council for considering this request for urgently needed purpose built pickleball courts.

Thank you,

Ray Johnson

Ray Johnson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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