

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TECUMSEH MAYOR AND COUNCIL ENJOY A GAME OF PICKLEBALL

This morning in Tecumseh's Shawanoe Park, members of Council enjoyed a game of Pickleball with the Tecumseh Pickleball Association. Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in Canada especially among seniors. It looks like tennis, sounds like ping pong and requires the light-on-your-toes action of badminton. The game is played on a court similar to a tennis court but with smaller boundaries. In teams of two, players use small paddles to volley a ball back and forth over the net.

"Tecumseh is pleased to not only provide a location for this sport, but also ongoing support for the Tecumseh Pickleball Association's work to encourage residents to stay active," said Gary McNamara, Mayor of Tecumseh. "We are pleased to provide a facility for this fun and energetic game."

Tecumseh has supported the sport through improvements to the former tennis courts in Shawanoe Park, making it one of the region's premiere outdoor Pickleball courts. The improvements include repainting the court surface and installing posts and netting for the four new permanent courts. New fencing has been placed along the back of the three main courts to help control play and keep balls within the court. Benches and a picnic table outside the courts provide an area to rest and watch games.

Tecumseh residents Malinda Hebert and JoAnne Neilson have worked closely with the Tecumseh Parks and Recreation Department to promote the sport of Pickleball and to provide recommendations for the needs of the pickleball courts. They established the Tecumseh Pickleball Association which offers lessons, coordinates tournaments, and oversees organized play at the Tecumseh Pickleball Courts.

"Our mission is to facilitate the growth of Pickleball in Tecumseh for the enjoyment, health and social engagement of all players by offering organized recreational and competitive play for all skill levels," says Malinda Hebert, Tecumseh Pickleball Association Ambassador. "While fitness and fun is the primary goal, pickleball can be as competitive or social as players want it to be!"

The Tecumseh Pickleball Courts are located in Shawanoe Park, 13158 St. Gregory Street. A key may be purchased for \$25.50 plus tax at the Tecumseh Parks and Recreation office that allows seasonal access to the local court. Membership with the Tecumseh Pickleball Association is available by contacting Malinda Hebert at mahebert53@gmail.com or Jo-Anne Neilson at joneilson@bell.net and provides organized recreational and competitive play for all skill levels.

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