

October 5, 2022

Dear Mr. MacLeod,

It is with extreme disappointment that I am writing to you today. My name is Danyelle Rapp and I am the newly appointed President for the Shelburne County Arena Association. I accepted this position with optimism as we had a newly appointed and vibrant board, an innovative new Manager, and an agreement with our municipal units to have an annual balanced budget. I accepted this role because I believe in the important place that the Shelburne County Arena holds in our community. It has been the cornerstone of community connection throughout the county for several generations and still is today.

As you may or may not be aware the Shelburne County Arena has been dealt a significant operational blow in the past couple of weeks. This has forced the Board to make some very difficult decisions and have been left with no choice but to temporarily close the facility while we navigate this current crisis.

To bring you to where we are currently, I would like to provide information as to how quickly this all took place. On September 15th, Andrew Holland, our newly appointed Arena Manager, arrived at the arena to begin preparations for the upcoming season as CIMCO was set to arrive the following Monday to start the chillers and begin the ice making process. Andrew immediately became aware of the smell of ammonia in the compressor room. He assessed the situation and dealt with what we thought was a minor issue from being dormant for the season, he turned the fans on to try and help with the smell.

On Monday 19th, Steve the CIMCO technician came in as scheduled to start up compressors. It was then it became apparent there was a bigger issue, and a leak was discovered in one of the pipes. It was decided to call Ted O'Connor to assist us in fixing the leak. He was able to fix the pipe for CIMCO to complete their start up process as scheduled on Monday the 26th.

Little did we know, on 26th when Garrett, another CIMCO technician arrived, discovered the leaky pipe had caused significant and irreversible damage to the chillers. This damage was caused by the leak of the ammonia being mixed with the brine. I am not technically savvy in this area, exact details of how all that happened would be better explained by CIMCO as they are trained in that field. At this junction, we were directed to not reenter the arena as it was deemed to be unsafe until the system was drained. We had no choice but to clean this up as it was hazardous. CIMCO arrived back on the 29th of September to facilitate a cleanup operation. The estimated costs for this clean-up are between \$15-20,000.00, thus depleting what funds we had accrued to this point.

Since that 29th, I have been in touch with Mark Swain, the account manager at CIMCO exploring our options, which were limited to only a full replacement of the chiller. The cost of this

replacement carries a huge financial burden of between \$150,000 - \$200,000, one that we cannot carry alone. We have investigated multiple grants in which deadlines have passed for 2022, and/or they do not provide emergency relief. This brings us to a place where we need to lean into the support of our local municipal units to help us.

We have set up donation options for the people of Shelburne County, who time and again support us through many localized initiatives, however this is an extremely time sensitive situation. If we have any hopes at being able to open our doors to the many patrons that rely on our facility to be operational, we need immediate financial help.

We appreciate the support that we have received in the past and hope we can lean again on you now. Thank you for your time and understanding. I look forward to hearing from you.

You can reach me by email at [REDACTED] Or by phone at [REDACTED]

Kind regards,
Danyelle