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## **“A Better New Brunswick through Hockey”**

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**Chris Green**  
Chair ROC4/HNB  
Board of Directors

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Dear Mayor & Council:

Hockey New Brunswick prides itself on being a leader in youth wellness. The players who participate within HNB are guided down a path to a better way of life through hockey. They are provided with the skills that are necessary to achieve this goal. A strong community symbolizes our success in this mission.

Hockey New Brunswick urges the Mayor and Council to revisit the failed regional ice strategy that was put forth by the Fundy Regional Service Commission. A collectively and fairly negotiated plan is the only option. Our youth depend on your voice to be that of reason.

The negative ramifications of a non-resident user fee system are irreversible. It has been proven time and again that our youth cannot shoulder the financial burden of their communities. Similar implemented plans have seen detrimental drops in enrollment. The effects of such decline trickle down and negatively impact growth and prosperity. Such things as less usership, fewer small businesses, a drop in ice activity related employment (ie. sporting officials, rink attendants etc.) and the potential for an increase in youth crime should weigh heavy on the decisions of elected officials.

An economic downturn is imminent. Our Hospitality sector will see fewer people visiting our region to partake in tournaments, provincial competitions, clinics, events and games. This will translate into fewer hotel stays, restaurant meals, shopping trips and money being spent in our community.

Minor hockey players within Region 4 call for an immediate Mayor's caucus to solve this looming dilemma. Tax payers, voters and youth alike deserve a solution that is fair, feasible and collectively beneficial for all parties involved.

**Yours in Community**

**Chris Green**

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