

**From:** Bill Morrison  
**To:** [Jason Kabel](#)  
**Subject:** FF Adult Shinny  
**Date:** Thursday, September 27, 2018 10:01:54 AM

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> Dear Jason,  
>  
> In follow up to our conversation at the arena, I wanted to thank you  
> for scheduling me to talk to the Town's Executive Committee on Monday  
> regarding the Adult Shinny Hockey pricing.  
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> The Adult Shinny Hockey started with a few of us having a little  
> scrimmage on the Tuesday and Thursday \$2 'Toonie Skate' in the Fall of  
> 2015. All of us skaters were former hockey players and after skating  
> in circles became boring, we shot a puck around and agreed amongst  
> ourselves that we would put our sticks away if non-hockey players  
> showed up just looking to skate; but it was always the same small  
> group of us every Tuesday and Thursday. The arena staff was happy that  
> the ice was being used at 9am in the morning as there typically wasn't  
> anyone just showing up for 'Public Skating' to skate laps around the  
> rink and after some discussion we were given the 9am slot on Monday,  
> Weds. and Friday for '\$2 Adult Shinny' which ran from the winter of  
> 2015/2016 through the winter of 2017/2018 and was also advertised in  
> The Recreator paper as \$2 Adult Shinny.  
>  
> The \$2 Adult Shinny was ideal for us older skaters who didn't want to  
> play in a competitive night league as we didn't require full equipment  
> to play 'Shinny' and we didn't have any goalies so we would play  
> "Posts"(puck on net post for a goal) or shoot on the plastic goalie we  
> could tie to the nets. Sometimes we would have three or four players  
> show up and play within one zone(net to blue line) and other times we  
> would have 8 to 10 players show up and play 3 on 3 or 4 on 4 fun  
> non-competitive hockey. I personally loved the non-competitive Shiny  
> format as I had taken 20 years off of playing hockey due to health  
> issues and was not able to play in the more competitive night  
> leagues. The Shinny hockey league was mostly just a few guys skating  
> and passing the puck around and getting great exercise and camaraderie  
> in a fun way. With every game, it's always "last goal wins" whether  
> it's against a post or a real goalie.  
>  
> We mostly had the same skaters show up week after week, but we had  
> over 20 skaters for a few weeks this past January prior to a match-up  
> between the Canada Border Services Officers and the local Paramedics.  
> People began talking that we had a "\$2 hockey league" as we finally  
> had enough players to play 5 on 5 and we had two goalies showing up  
> regularly while the Customs and Paramedics were getting in shape for  
> their big game, but once the Customs/Paramedic game was over we were  
> back to playing Shinny with 8 to 12 guys and sometimes one goalie if  
> we were lucky. The last few weeks of Shinny in March 2018 we  
> struggled to get 6 to 8 players on the Mon, Weds and Friday and I was  
> calling, texting and emailing daily just to get enough players for a  
> fun 3 on 3 game to come out. Some newer players we acquired in the  
> winter would show up and see if we had any goalies and wouldn't  
> play(or pay) if we didn't have goalies or enough guys to play 4 on 4.  
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> This season (2017/2018) the price has increased for Adult Shinny from  
> \$2 to \$8.15 and from my understanding from talking frequently with the  
> arena staff when I use the weight room, there hasn't been a single  
> person skate in the scheduled morning Adult Shinny since the price  
> increase. The regular Shinny players would like to play hockey, but  
> they aren't willing to pay \$8.15 only to find out there are only two  
> or three skaters and no goalies as they would get the same exercise  
> from the Tues/Thurs Toonie Skate. A few skaters have went back to the  
> 'Toonie Skate' on Tues and Thursday, but there has only been one to  
> three skaters at the Toonie Skate since the ice has been in. It seems  
> a shame that the ice is now sitting empty on the scheduled Shinny  
> skates and the players are looking at other options like playing at  
> the Duke arena.

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> On behalf of the Adult Shinny hockey players, I ask that the Town of  
> Fort Frances please look at lowering the price of the Adult Shinny to  
> keep the Town's taxpaying Shinny Hockey in the Town's arena and back  
> on the rink that is currently sitting empty at 9am so we can all  
> continue with our fun non-competitive Shinny hockey. I keep in touch  
> with the regular Shinny players and all summer they looked forward to  
> getting their 'fun exercise' on the 52 rink three mornings a week, but  
> the price increase from \$6 per week the last three years to \$24.45 a  
> week has proven to be too much for players who are mostly retired and  
> on a fixed income. The majority of them are not interested in getting  
> a membership as they do not use the other facilities.

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> We appreciate any consideration you and the Town of Fort Frances can  
> give us and look forward to any questions or comments you may have.

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> Sincerely,

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> Bill Morrison

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> Cell: 807-275-5843

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Bill Morrison  
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