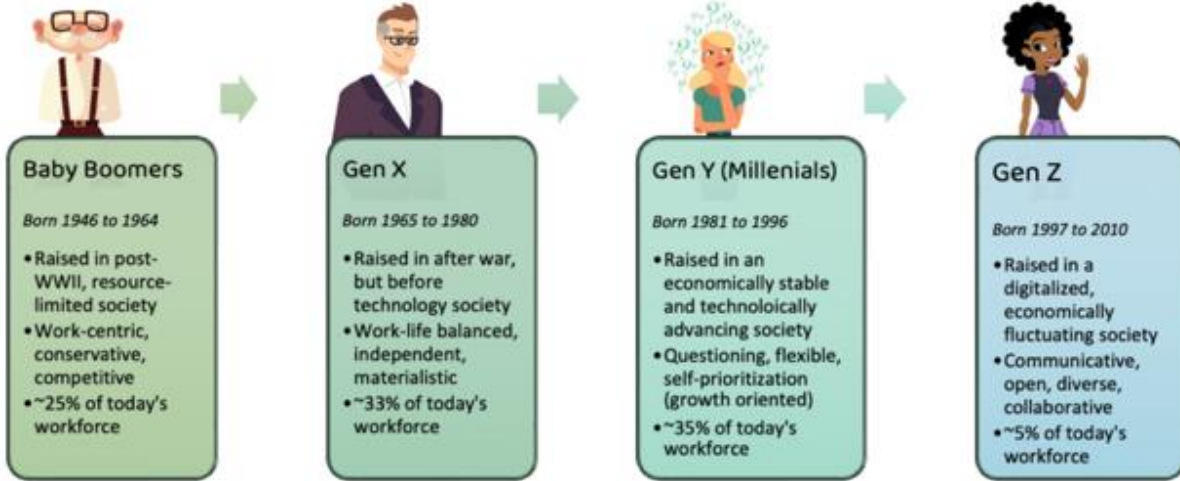


- > Mayor Bazinet, Deputy Mayor Noel, Councillor Petrie and Thompson,
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- > I would encourage each of you, from a personal growth perspective to re-watch the Memorial Arena Task Force meeting video, February 10, 2025.
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- > On full display is unconscious bias, ageism and a complete lack of generational awareness from Task Force Members and Town staff.
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- > During that meeting your largest demographic of tax ratepayers were condescended to using a “I know better” authoritative approach and in some cases a lack of temperament restraint during discussions. You failed to realize that this is a generation that is not fully versed in building code, accessibility constraints, budget financing or the technical nuance of building construction.
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- > They are a generation of where there is a will there is a way, resourcefulness and compromise. Your responses to that group did not reflect on that and a different approach is needed.
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- > It has also become apparent that Taskforce member selection was based on a “group” think strategy to progress to phase 2 of Bannister Park with as little resistance as possible. All in the hopes that it will attract a younger demographic to the Town?
- >
- > The “Build it and they will come” ideology/strategy is flawed. You already have a multi-use facility, the Maitland Recreation Center, which has a \$3 million annual operating budget and is under utilized, and nowhere near revenue neutral. This Center is on par or better than facilities in larger municipalities. Example the Y in Cambridge is comparable (minus the ice rink). It is supported by a population of 146,000. Ours, supported by 3900 ratepayers with a population of 8000.
- >
- > These types of isolated business decisions have broader affordability and taxation implications to families wanting to live here. The continued tax increases to support unnecessary infrastructure “pet projects” like a Memorial Arena’s replacement will drive the middle class, retirees and businesses from this Town because of unaffordable taxation.
- >
- > In 2019, Council received a report from Town staff regarding the options. Here we are in 2025 and we are budgeting \$85,000 to have a consultant research “options”. Did we not like the options recommended last time? Maybe, the report will be more favourable to the Bannister Park Revitalization Team Members that now sit as part of Memorial Arena task force?
- >
- > Please. Get back to basics regarding our core services We elected you to manage the \$. Not make Goderich into a sporting complex.
- >
- > Sincerely,

Jim

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> Sent from my iPad
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> Sent from my iPhone