

Joint Councils' Committee, April 27, 2026

The Joint Councils' Committee of the Town of Carberry and the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford met in the council chambers of NCL on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. with Reeve Drayson in the chair and Councilors Jardine, Van Kommer, Davidson, Olmstead, and with Mayor Muirhead and Councilors Dobbin-Waters, Kalinowich, Van Damme and Rea. Also present were CAOs Unrau and McConnell.

Delegation:

A delegation from the Prairie Harvest Festival Committee, represented by Joni Smyth and Amanda Dane, came to announce their plans and get the necessary permissions for the 2026 Prairie Harvest Festival. They intend to hold the event on Saturday, August 22, 2026. For the event they would like to close Main Street from Third Avenue south to Fourth, and Fourth from Toronto Street to Simcoe Street. These are of course Town streets, and they will be attending the next meeting of Town Council to formally ask. Among the amenities, the Legion will be offering an outdoor refreshment area, and food trucks will be sited in the parking area on the south side of Fourth Avenue opposite the CMI. To raise funds for the event, the Committee will again be running the weekly Farmers' Market on Wednesdays from June 3 to August 26. To keep things as professional as possible, they would like to know what rental fee will be asked for use of the CP park, and whether that fee will cover insurance for the organizers and/or for the exhibitors. The Joint Councils expressed thanks and encouragement to the Harvest Festival Committee, and there followed discussions about the insurance needed and from whom to get information. A representative of the AMM's municipal insurance plan was to have joined the meeting but had been forced to cancel, so CAO McConnell will reach out to her contact at Western Financial for definitive answers. Joni and Amanda were thanked for their information and their care.

Unfinished Business:

The HR firm that is helping to find us a Manager of Joint Services reports that ~~though~~ it has found some strong candidates, ~~there are as yet "no rock stars."~~ The search continues.

Because it is required by the terms of service, the committee passed a motion requesting Local Link Consulting Inc. to act as project manager for the Campground Project.

General Business:

The Joint Committee approved renaming the title of Manager of Leisure Services to Director of Arts and Recreation, effective April 27, 2026, and asked the administration to update all relevant documents.

To comply with the suggestions made by Chief McCallum, a motion was presented to offer members of the Carberry North Cypress-Langford Fire Department the wage rate established by the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) and to apply the rate retroactive to January 1, 2026. This came as a surprise to members of the NCL Council, who felt they should have had a chance to discuss such a large expense at their own meeting. The motion was tabled to the next meeting.

The Director of Arts and Recreation had presented a revision to the Pool Policy, which was approved as presented with one modification to improve clarity.

The Joint Committee approved the hiring of Brad and Bernice Snyder as Campground Attendants to start at a date to be determined; enough before the site's readiness to do the necessary preparations for opening.

Three tenders have been received to supply the new fire truck required by the CNCLFD, and the Committee will make a selection as soon as they have the recommendation of the Fire Chief, who hasn't yet examined the latest tender to have arrived.

Tenders have been received for sodding or seeding the campground. The prices asked are startling. The Committee discussed alternatives to placing sod and hydroseeding, both of which are prohibitively expensive. The engineer suggests that bringing in the necessary irrigation is a bare minimum initial expense. It will be on a separate circuit from the potable water being run to the campsites.

A newer truck is requested by the Cemetery and Parks staff. It has been lower on the Joint Capital Expenditures list, but because the Cemetery Board is concerned enough to offer to cover half the cost, it has become a priority. A vehicle has been sourced from a local seller for \$13,000. This is a bargain for a machine of this specification with only 63,000 Kms of use. Because policy requires that a purchase over \$10,000 be put to tender, it will be, but it is unlikely that anything better will be offered.

The Town advised the meeting that it is considering purchasing a new set of dumpsters. They would be painted in Town colours and sited separately from the others — probably on the site presently occupied by the compost heap. Then the attendant can direct town dwellers to the new blue bins, and direct rural residents to the existing green ones and thus avoid any

confusion of whose weight is whose when the contents are transferred to Evergreen. The plan met with general approval.

The Director of Arts and Recreation has asked for financial support and volunteers to sponsor a Canada Day Barbecue at the CPCC. The Committee moved to offer \$600 for supplies, and several council members will be on hand to serve and clean up.

Reports:

The (Acting) Manager of Joint Services reports that at the CPCC the ice is out, the plant shut down, and pickleball is set up on the curling side, minor ball and lacrosse on the hockey side. The softeners are being set up with the help of Bill Kalinowich, the mowers are tuned up for summer, and some season-end repairs are in hand. The Community Hall has received its new bar cooler, and the generator is running well. Furnace filters have been changed all around. Water will be turned on at the Gingerbread House and at the ballpark canteen when the weather permits. At the Transfer Station, the vacant job has been posted, and he's looking for quotes for a cat to push the concrete pile.

The Manager of Arts and Recreation attended the Westman Recreation Practitioners Association and heard a speaker from the Manitoba Fitness Council on hiring fitness instructors. She is working on a large array of programs from 'Tots' Time' to an After-School Arts program and bringing the Ag Museum's 'Trunk of Treasures' to the seniors' Drop-In. She has swim lessons arranged and is getting returning pool staff to run and serve them. The Manitoba Theatre for Young People has presented an excellent program to a disappointingly small turnout, but she hopes to promote the MTFYP in the schools to boost uptake. Crafts of several kinds have been well subscribed. A Youth Business Fair has been sponsored by McCain's and Manitoba Starch on May 23, but so far only one registrant has shown up. She is hoping to get another two volunteer judges for the event as well as more registrants.

The Archivist is working with Exit Stage Left to create a walking tour of the cemetery to visit and interpret the graves of the mayors of Carberry buried there. A plaque commemorating the WWI ace and pioneering bush pilot Wop May will be placed at his childhood home at 43 Simcoe Street on June 7, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. Please bring lawn chairs.

In April, the foreign-trained physician slated for Carberry began the process of earning the necessary P.R.A. [Practice-Ready Assessment] to begin unsupervised practice in Carberry. They should be ready to work here in late August or early September.

The Fire Department has had some effective live fire training sessions and is getting their level 1 & 2 firefighter candidates ready for their practical tests in June. Their annual "Texas Breakfast" fundraiser will take place on June 20.

The museum received all the funding necessary to complete their display shed and will be looking to the CACF for funding for the displays and the interpretive materials. They plan to hold an opening ceremony in conjunction with the Prairie Harvest Festival on August 22.

The Drop-In is to get new lights and tables through a grant from New Horizons. Planning for summer programs and events is under way. The large handivan's driver has taken another job, so it will be less available unless another driver can be found.

At the Cemetery Board's meeting the executive and signing officers were settled. They still need a citizen representative from NCL. Harold Tolton's tender for flowers for 2026 was accepted. Projects planned include updating the entrance sign, repairs to the brick pillars, additional topsoil, and a guest book with a protective cover. They hope to purchase a new work truck this year.

The Daycare board has met with MLA Jodie Byram and the PC Early Learning Critic along with Reeve Drayson and Deputy Reeve Olmstead. They plan to attend the Legislature at the end of May and request a meeting with the Minister if one hasn't already been held. Kim Baron will be writing grant applications and has already secured grants of \$22,000 from the CACF. Fundraising is wearing; they will pick just two major fundraisers and avoid overstressing their volunteers or over-asking their public supporters. The land transfer is apparently stalled at the lawyer's office. A steering committee of the board continues to meet weekly with Cooperatives First.

The Buildings Committee continues to bear down on repairs to the library; stucco repair and redesign and rebuild of the entrance stairs and ramp.

The Splash Park Fundraising Committee is not sure if it has a viable path forward. Their biggest fundraiser, the "Hoedown with Hicktown," is committed, and would be too costly to cancel, so they will go ahead with it and meet afterwards to evaluate their position in view of the much-elevated costs to be faced.

Communications:

The CNCL Fire Inspector sent the report of his inspection of the Chicken Chef Restaurant, which found everything to be to code.

The Western Manitoba Regional Library sent the draft minutes of their April meeting.

The meeting then went *in camera* to discuss personnel and preliminary matters.