

Joint Councils' Committee, July 27, 2026

The Joint councils of the Town of Carberry and the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford met in the Municipality's council chambers at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, July 27, 2026 with Mayor Muirhead in the chair. For the Town were present Councilors Rea, Van Damme, Dobbin-Waters and Kalinowich. For NCL were present Councilors Van Kommer, Murray, Jardine and Olmstead. Also present were CAOs McConnell and Unrau. With them was Project Manager Lynch.

The meeting immediately went *in camera* to discuss preliminary matters.

When they emerged, it was to welcome the Splash Park Fundraising Committee as a delegation.

Delegation:

For their benefit, Project Manager Lynch had prepared a presentation of her feasibility study — the work she had done to prepare detailed costing of the creation of a splash park. She had prepared it for three possible sites — the initial location near the campground; one adjacent to the existing swimming pool; and one taking over the site of the skateboard park to the west of the CPCC. Major cost drivers in addition to the splash park fittings themselves are the delivery of a sufficient volume of treated water; recycling it; and a building to house the necessary equipment and change rooms. Lynch had also calculated and pointed out the significance of the ongoing maintenance and upkeep costs. The Splash Park Fundraising Committee appreciated the clarity and completeness of the research. With the facts at last in front of them, they will meet soon and consider their way forward.

The Councils thanked them for their presence, their dedication and effectiveness in raising the funds for their project and looked forward to hearing from them at their next meeting.

Financial:

CAO McConnell had prepared an extensive spreadsheet of the joint financial statements and took the meeting through the details of the revenue and expenses that the two municipalities share.

Unfinished Business:

After considering the detailed comparisons provided of the insurance coverage for the CPCC, the councils decided that the saving offered by Guild Insurance was worth accepting and moved to accept their offer for the balance of the term of their insurance (until March 31, 2027) and to take the

offer for the year from April 1, 2027 until March 31, 2028. A reserve fund of the amount of the \$10,000 deductible will be created.

The Manager of Arts and Recreation has requested that Councils consider netting underside of the roof of the swimming pool to deter pigeons. When they roost there, the droppings are a health hazard to pool users. Councils agreed to investigate the cost of netting and installation.

General Business:

The tenders that were issued for the construction of a washroom/mechanical building for the campground have returned, and the bid of Jacobson Commercial to a maximum of \$200,000 (plus taxes) was accepted.

Despite the wishes of the Campground Committee, it was agreed that it was too early to consider offering the naming rights for the campground. It would be more likely to attract offers once it is fully up and running.

Councils passed a resolution approving the hiring of the summer's pool staff. Since there is no CPCC board, it falls to the joint committee to formally hire the staff to satisfy the auditors.

Councils passed a resolution updating the Pool Policy.

At the request of Town Councilor Kalinowich, the NCL administration will prepare the necessary motion of council to ban the use of Engine Retarder Brakes along the PTH 5 bypass of the Town, and to apply for signs of the ban to be posted on the highway.

Control of the growing skunk population at the Transfer Station has been a problem. The Town's Animal Control Officer has resigned, and NCL's isn't prepared to handle the infestation. Discussion of approaches to the problem was deferred to the *in camera* session.

The Fire Department is requesting that training time be paid. Councils are agreed that the training of firefighters is valuable and to be encouraged. A policy will be drafted.

The CAO suggested that a member of the joint staff be offered to take the necessary training to be certified a pesticide applicator. This would spare the administration from hiring an applicator on an occasional basis. It was pointed out that the license is only the initial cost of becoming an applicator; there are equipment and supplies to be considered — enough to make hiring outside a simpler practise. Perhaps an RFP should be issued to become the Joint applicator on call.

Committee Reports:

The Manager of Joint Services reports that the pool has been open since June 22; the Grad was successfully hosted, and summer programs are under way. At the Transfer Station, the concrete and burn piles have been cleaned up with a bulldozer, and the metal and white goods have been sent on. At the Campground, the water line is installed, most of the picnic tables have been delivered, the new office has been delivered, and the new mower has been purchased. The trees are to be delivered the day after the meeting. The Ball Diamonds have hosted a u11 league tournament, minor ball is over for the year, and the VFD is installed. The overhead door at the fire hall has been repaired.

The Manager of Arts and Recreation has a successful day camp program under way, centred at the rink but with outside trips and theme weeks and activities. At the pool, swimming lessons are offered, and public swim times are kept consistent. Times for lap swimming and Aqua Zumba are set aside and have been regularly used. Special events for teens and adults are promoted. Family passes are offered and have been supported by the Town and the Library. For Canada Day, a free swim and barbecue drew about 150 participants. Wellwood's Canada Day had to be rescheduled and was still a great success, to which the MAR contributed a craft for kids. Some special events had to be rescheduled but have turned out well. The "Pickleball Roadshow" made a stop in Carberry to give a clinic for teens. The MAR will be part of the kids' area for the Prairie Harvest Festival. The Cardboard Boat Race will return to close the pool August 29. With the return of fall, several programs will restart including Tots' Time, After School Arts, and some art programs for older adults.

The Archivist keeps busy with informational and interpretive brochures about Town buildings and amenities. She is working with the cemetery board to broaden the information about the place and its occupants.

The HAC with the help of its "Friends" continues to provide gifts and baking to the various specialties at the Health Centre. They facilitate communication between local residents and the Health Region and Shared Health. Their fundraiser, the Rummage Sale, will take place October 19-21. Dr. Maharajh's equipment is in place and inspected at the Super Thrifty, awaiting only the approval of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, who are expected to visit in mid-to-late September. In the meantime, he will be seeing patients for consultation.

Evergreen Environmental are having little success selling most recycling materials and may have to bill the cost of accepting them back to the municipalities.

The Fire Department had three Level 1 firefighters graduate, and one Level 2. The instruction has been costly, but necessary. Policy requires that to engage in more serious firefighting, the member must hold at least a Level 1 certification. Because of the cost, the next training sessions will be in the 2027 budget. The new apparatus should be arriving soon. Sale of the old one has taken more time than expected.

The library has an excellent summer student and good uptake for their summer programs. With the new hose and the help of volunteers, the garden at the front of the building looks “amazing” this year. Stucco work continues; one side complete, work on the other and the back ongoing.

The museum is proceeding with their potato equipment display. They will remain open until Labor Day. They are fundraising with a barbecue at the Farmers’ Market this month.

The Planning District has issued over 80 permits this year so far. Planner Penner is only one course away from completing his Part 9 certification and has started on the mentorship requirement to gain his Part 3 certification.

The Daycare Committee is given to understand that the subdivision is now complete, and the title may be transferred to Tiny Taters Child Care Committee. Their grant application is progressing through the stages of government approval it needs.

The Library step and ramp tender is with MERX and should be ready to judge by the Town’s next meeting. Hopefully it can be awarded and started before the weather closes in. The Library eaves are also to be quoted, in hopes that they will prevent further leaking into the library office. At the Transfer Station, the compost pile is to be moved to the area that used to hold the concrete and the burn pile. Signs are needed to advise users of the new location. The hall’s sound system is to be quoted on by the person who provided the sound system at the rink. A minor leak at the firehall will be addressed. At 122 Main, quotes are sought for renovating the board room. Some windows are also to be upgraded.

Communications:

A letter was received from Myron Baska upset about having gone to the Transfer Station on the Friday of the Staff Appreciation and been unable to offload his material. Without minimizing the need for appreciation, couldn’t it have been held on a day the Transfer Station wasn’t open? The CAO added that in future years, the event should be held on a Tuesday or Thursday when the Transfer Station isn’t open, and that the lunch be firmly scheduled for noon, so that it coincides with all staff lunch breaks.

Around the Table:

Councilor Murray expressed thanks for the contribution of the Manager of Arts and Recreation to the rescheduled Wellwood Canada Day. It was appropriate and well received.

Councilor Kalinowich had been pleasantly surprised by how much he had enjoyed golf on the Appreciation Day.

Councilor Dobbin-Waters reminded that the Farmers' Market runs on Tuesdays and that the next one will have a Barbecue from the Museum Board and music by Shannon Sparrow.

With that, the committee moved to go *in camera* to discuss personnel and preliminary matters.