

Carberry Newsletter

**This is Volume 5, Number 3
The issue for March 2026**

We have a new councilor! Lisa Dobbin-Waters



The voters came out to the Drop-In on a snowy day and selected Lisa Dobbin-Waters to be their fifth Town Councilor by a margin of 98 to 25 over Micheal Hamilton.

Her first official duty will be to appear at the April meeting of the Town Council, but of course there are all manner of things to be arranged before that at the Town Office.

She will be the fourth councilor to have first taken up her position after a by-election. In the present council, only Mayor Muirhead was first elected at a regular election. The chance to "get your feet wet" in municipal politics by running in a by-election has been a positive step. Wish her welcome.

Carberry Sandhills Golf and Country Club is gearing up for the 2026 golf season!

The fairway mower had its cutting reels rebuilt, thanks to the ongoing generosity of the Carberry and Area Community Foundation. With the upgrades, our fairways will be looking better than ever!

The Clubhouse will see some staffing changes this year. Over the past few years, the Board have spent some money renovating the space. As part of this process, we have been updating equipment as well.

The board and staff are excited to welcome members and green fees back to the course!

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on April 15, 2026, at 6:30 at the Clubhouse.

We are seeking some new board members who can continue to help build the game of golf in our community. For information, please contact Greg Chandler at 204-841-0903 or Kathy Adriaansen at 204-841-3216.

Town working with CFB Shilo

On March 12, the Mayor, CAO, and ACAO were invited to CFB Shilo to meet with Base Commander Lieutenant-Colonel J.P. Nguyen to discuss recent updates regarding the anticipated expansion of our neighboring Canadian Forces Base.

Carberry has deep and longstanding ties to the Canadian Armed Forces, serving as a home base to many active-duty members and veterans. In that spirit, the Town expressed its support for the expansion and explored potential economic development opportunities that could help accommodate and strengthen this future growth.

Following this initial meeting, the Town anticipates hosting a stakeholder engagement evening with potential investors to review and discuss the preliminary ideas that were brought forward.

On behalf of the Town of Carberry council and staff, we extend a warm welcome to Lieutenant-Colonel Jack Nguyen and look forward to building a productive partnership focused on supporting growth, housing, and the well-being of active military members in our province.

from the Fire Chief:

It is coming to the time of year when icy roads give way to spring. If it is a dry spring, be fire smart around your house cleaning up dead leaves and other combustible materials. Only use seasoned dry wood in your firepits and keep up to date on the municipal websites for any fire bans.

Thank You
Clyde McCallum
Fire Chief

This Month's Council News

February 2026 Town Council Meeting

The work of the Corps of Commissionaires has improved since Council tabled the renewal of their contract. Council approved a Service Contract with them. It will run from April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027.

The SEO reported that there will indeed be an election. Two candidates have come forward: Lisa Dobbin-Waters and Micheal Hamilton.

A new Director of Leisure Services and Arts has been selected. Council resolved to hire Robyn Brydges for the post.

ACAO Sudak attended the Disaster Management Conference held in Winnipeg on January 28-30. She was congratulated on passing the MAMEC training in Emergency Management.

The EV charging station at the back of 122 Main Street is down. People have been coming in to charge there at all hours and have asked at nearby homes to use the washroom. Signage to prevent this will be posted. Moreover, someone is using the regular 110-120v outlet meant for block heaters with an adaptor to charge their EV which puts a dangerous drain on the outlet. Locking covers may have to be put on the outlets.

The lagoon expansion project is on hold until Manitoba Environment and Burns Maendel have worked out some details of the current secondary cell's capacity.

The ACAO has started on a course in Municipal Law at U of M to work towards a CMMA certification. She has had to assist Joint Services in the absence of a Joint Services Manager. She is seeking volunteers to form a committee for Habitat for Humanity with the Neepawa Chapter.

Public Works has been very busy plowing the streets and hauling snow. There is little room left on Town property, but with both trucks running the piles are lowering. The John Deere's blower needed repair. Thanks are due to the mayor for the loan of his skid steer in the meantime.

The Fire Department's Firefighters' Ball was a great success, raising just over \$53 thousand, which will go towards new SCBA equipment.

The Arts Council has partnered with the Rec Board to hire a Director of Leisure and Arts who will start on February 19. They will have a visit and concert from the BU Chorale on February 27.

The Museum Board is seeking funding grants and further display material for their standalone outdoor display of the origins of potato farming and processing in the area.

The HAC will be losing the services of Dr. Alagaili soon, but are on the list to receive one of fifteen foreign-trained students coming to Prairie Mountain. They are talking with Elite Safety Services who offer to train first responders for EMR certification at a cost of about \$5 thousand. Though EMRs are approved to work with local emergency services, no financial support is offered, and no equipment or supplies. Local departments have to supply their own.

Dr. Maharajh is getting upgrades to the HVAC at the Super Thrifty store and will need the assurance of PMH that a nearby ER will be open whenever his equipment is in use. The equipment also must be certified by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. There will soon be a site visit.

The New Daycare is looking for new or gently used toys to equip their facility.

The Splash Park Committee has \$260,000 in hand already and is looking to open in mid- to late 2027.

Burns Maendel have found that the previous engineers misestimated the capacity of the existing second cell, which would take ten years off its intended 20-year service life. They are negotiating with Manitoba Environment the changes this will require. Also, the lift station is at or beyond the limits of the existing pumps to keep ahead of the incoming greywater.

February 2026 Joint Councils' Meeting

It was too small a meeting to transact business, but there were two delegations. The first was Tyson Boychuk of the Chamber of Commerce who led the "Christmas in Carberry" event for 2025. It was built around an income of \$1100 from ad sales in their Event Calendar and had costs of \$1823.69. The net cost was tiny compared to the size and success of the event, thanks to extensive donations from businesses and individuals. There were 35 entries in the parade, 42 elements, which put it at about half the size of the Brandon parade, an impressive achievement. The plans are for a larger and better organized event in 2026, with a name change to

"Christmas Kickoff." Boychuk hopes to hold the event at the Ball Diamonds, with the parade leaving and arriving there, and another loop track for the horse-drawn wagon rides. Fire codes permitting there will be fireworks, and float judging will be by a reviewing stand of dignitaries rather than a popular election which was a problem in '25. The larger event will require more volunteers than the three that set up 2025, Boychuk, Laurie MacNevin, and Brianna Renwick. There will be a parade, party and fireworks on the Friday (November 27) and minor sports workshops at the rink on the Saturday, so hockey, figure skating, bowling and so on can showcase their sport and attract new participants. The Holiday Calendar will again be published and promoted. It will be open to anyone with an event to publicize regardless of Chamber membership. Boychuk was assured that the Ball Park would be available if he could promise the grass would take no damage. He was congratulated on a success in '25 and his plans for '26.

The next delegation was Fire Chief Clyde McCallum, to discuss the needs of the Department now that he must retire his principal pumper after ten years' service, a requirement of the NFPA, who specify what must be available for a town to be certified fully protected (and thus insurable). Whatever is decided must take into account the mandated ten-year cycle of replacement.

McCallum presented several options for a ten-year plan and undertook to prepare an RFP for evaluation at the next meeting. In an election year, councilors are conscious of saddling the next councils with expensive undertakings. McCallum also proposed that inspections be resumed, and the results offered to the owners to help them with the maintenance of elderly infrastructure. Media protocol was discussed from a Fire Department point of view and an amended Joint Confidentiality Policy was reviewed.

Mayor Muirhead noted that both the Splash Park and Campground Committees show signs of exhaustion because the need for funds drives labour-intensive fundraising efforts. The volunteers affected are too valuable to abandon. He asked the attending NCL councilors to present the question to their council.

Councilor Davidson, who sits on the Whitemud Watershed Board, says the Splash Park would use enough water to require a license from the Water Services Board.

Brandon's curling rink refrigeration failed, and with the help of Councilor Van Kommer they were able to play out their bonspiel at Carberry, relying as little as possible on local staff (except for Karla at the concession). Because of the bonspiel, the ice was already in proper condition.

The TOC ACAO has stood in for the absent Manager of Joint Services, with help from Foreman Shane McCulloch. Preparation for the bonspiel and the High School Hockey Provincials the following week has kept staff busy. Bill Kalinowich helped to return the water softener to service. The EV charging station is down and no idea when it will be returned to service. Stage lighting to replace the equipment banished by Hydro is needed for the dance recital.

The HAC are facing the impending loss of Dr. Aligaili in March. PMH has said that they will work to fill this vacancy quickly.

The Museum has just received word that McCain's has offered to fully fund their planned exhibit building of the potato growing and processing history of Carberry.

Service for Seniors has found that the Lifeline units are unable to find cell service to put in a help call. The units must be changed to a version that can receive cell service here.

The Drop-In received grants for an industrial dishwasher and a set of chairs. To attract more members the annual fee has been reduced from \$30 to \$25. The daily use fee is \$2. At Joint expense they have the interior and exterior painted and a new sandpoint.

The Splash Park is fundraising intensively. They have a pork sale going, a flower sale for the dance recital, and they are planning another 'Hoedown,' this year featuring a hypnotist. To get costs for their project, they need Public Works to advise how the water will arrive, and what will happen when it leaves.

The campground committee are seeking a project manager to sort out the design and procedure for the recreation area. They have asked prospective campground attendants what is needed for the facility to be operational. They will need an office with power, office furniture, internet, computer, booking software, debit machine, etc. They must decide on hours of operation, and hire staff. They feel that they can advertise and operate before the washroom/shower/mechanical building is fully completed.

"A learning experience is one of those things that says, 'You know that thing you just did? Don't do that.'" — Douglas Adams

March 2026 Town Council Meeting

The meeting started with a Public Hearing to approve the location of the new display building for the museum. It was approved without difficulty.

Council passed By-law 1/2026 which established their Indemnities, and By-law 20/2025, which after PUB approval set the sewer rates in Town.

As suggested at the Joint meeting, Council approved an updated Joint Confidentiality Policy, and a complementary Joint Media Communication Policy was presented and approved. An agreement with NCL and Carberry Minor Ball about installing sprinklers at the Ball Diamonds was approved.

Council approved a tax incentive for Stride's renovation of 10 Main Street. The amount will depend on the final costs of the project.

The problems with social media were discussed. A recent storm of anonymous negative posts very nearly caused the closure of a newly opened business and brought down threats and abuse on the mayor when he went online to try and put a stop to it. Comments have been turned off on the Town Facebook page. The problem is caused by allowing anonymous posts. In some communities, similar storms have caused so much ill will that door buzzers and Plexiglas shields have been installed in the administrative offices. If it keeps up and can't be abated, there will be no incentive to run for municipal government positions this fall. All the Town can do is require that any post on their own site is attributed. Provincial or even federal law would be needed to mandate that all posts be signed, and the laws of libel and slander applied. Police can't charge anyone for what they post because of a primary right to freedom of expression. Besides, they don't concern themselves with matters of civil law. They can only work with criminal infractions like hate speech and threatening. The Town will draft and publicize a policy for posts on their own site and get their site hosts to notify them whenever anything is posted to their calendar or message boards.

The new Daycare needs a physical address for their facility. After some deliberation and consulting the Manitoba Civic Addressing Standard, Council settled on '750 Stickle Avenue.'

The resignation of Jim Robinson as Animal Control Officer was accepted with regrets.

The EV charging station is repaired, signage is put up and lockable covers have been put on all the 120v. receptacles.

The ACAO has stepped in with Joint Services while there is no MJS and is onboarding the new Director of Leisure and Arts. She has asked the Town's website hosting company if the public can be (safely) enabled to submit events directly to the website. Her duties as SEO will wrap up on the 17th. She thanks Jim Elliott and Pat Graham for manning the voting stations. The recent High School Hockey Provincials were successful, and the rink and booth staff are to be congratulated for handling a busy couple of weeks.

The Museum Board are planning a fundraising concert with "Lucky Ned" at the Legion on April 12. Preparations for the new display building highlighting the potato industry are keeping them busy.

The Library has an indoor hydroponic garden acquired with funds from the Westoba Inspire promotion. They hope to develop programs with it.

The Drop-In had a positive year financially due to grants from the CACF to buy a commercial dishwasher and a new set of chairs plus a successful set of fundraisers. They are reducing their membership fee to attract more members. They point to many improvements through the year, both from their own funds and from the Town and NCL.

The Splash Park Committee is far enough along in their fundraising to be looking for quotes on an installation. They find they will need information from Council as to how the water would arrive, and how it would leave the facility. Daily consumption of water would be approximately 33,000 gallons, enough to require a provincial permit.

The Council agreed that Public Works have done an excellent job keeping the town's roads clear during the heavy snowfalls.

The Local branch of Habitat for Humanity wants to do their next build in Carberry. They need either an empty lot or one with an old building that could be razed.

The mayor, CAO and ACAO will soon go to CFB Shilo to meet the new Base Commander and discuss an impending expansion of the base.

The Brandon University Chorale recently held a concert of very high quality in the Carberry Hall. It was a shame that more people did not attend the event brokered by the Arts Council.

Councilor Kalinowich brought a copy of the *Ethelbert Echo*, which is put out by a non-profit collective in his home town since the loss of their commercial newspaper. It has been very successful. Since our Town's website has well over 2,000 followers — more than the number of the News-Express's subscribers at its closing — is there still a place for a regular local newsletter?

—30—

Hey, it's March. The snow can't last forever!

What's happening in Leisure and Arts

Tots' Time Mondays 10-11:30 at the Hall, \$5 per family.

After School Arts starts back in April for four weeks, registration required.

Paint my Paddle Workshop with Kathleen Lagasse \$100 - registration required.

Manitoba Theatre for Young People Workshops Sunday April 12th - registration required. for more info please call or email.

Summer Day Camp Early Bird Registration begins April 1st. Watch social media for more info.

For registration or any further details of these programs:

Please email crbyarts@gmail.com
or telephone (204) 834-6623

Meet your new Director of Leisure and Arts

Hi! My name is **Robyn Brydges**, and I am the new Director of Leisure & Arts with the Town of Carberry and North Cypress-Langford.

I am excited about all the upcoming events with both the Rec and Arts sides of my position! I live near Sidney with my family and our dog Penny. I enjoy spending time outside, whether in my flower garden, out on the boat, or touring the back roads! I'm an avid reader and I love to create! I'm looking forward to all the great things here in Carberry!



BLENDED DELIVERY
First Aid Training

Saturday, May 23, 2026

Carberry Drop-In Centre

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Online components must be
completed prior to in-class

register online or by phone

elitesafetyservices.ca

877-726-9101

a Canadian Red Cross training partner

Carberry
Plains
Archives



Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and
Thursdays

Are you 50+?

Join us at the Drop-In Centre!

Drop-In fee \$2 per visit

- Cards Mon Wed & Fri @ 1:00
- Coffee & Crafts Tue. @ 10:00
- Pool Tues. @ 9:00 & Thurs. @ 1:00
- Bring your own craft 1st & 3rd Thurs 10:00
- **Lunch** every Wednesday Noon, \$14

Everyone welcome!

Carberry Service for Seniors
has a limited amount of medical
equipment for short term rental.

- Walkers
 - Wheelchairs
 - Canes
 - Commode
 - Toilet Riser
 - Shower chair/bench
 - Tub Handle
- (...only available when in stock)



CONTACT: (204) 834-6613
or servsen@wcgwave.ca

Transfer Station Hours

Year round

Monday – 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Wednesday – 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday – 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday – 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed on Statutory Holidays

This Newsletter is brought to you by the

TOWN OF CARBERRY

SUBMISSIONS MAY BE MADE TO
admin@townofcarberry.ca

**FREE Mature Driver
Refresher Course**

*Free for drivers 55 & over,
in rural MB*

**Tuesday, April 14,
1:30 -4:30 p.m.**

at the Drop-In Centre
register with Deb (204) 834-6613

- Learn updated laws and safety rules
 - Brush up on defensive driving techniques
 - Learn how to compensate for changes in hearing, vision, flexibility and reaction time
- Offered by Safety Services Manitoba and M.P.I.

**FREE Community
A.E.D. Course**

Tuesday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.
at the Drop-In Centre

*an AED is an Automated External
Defibrillator, which is used to help
in cases of sudden cardiac arrest. It
can analyse the heart's rhythm and
if necessary deliver an electrical
shock to help the heart re-establish
its rhythm. It is user-friendly,
with clear instructions on how to
use it in an emergency. It is
important for everyone to know
what it is and how to use it.
It can save someone's life*

Offered by Elite Safety Services
and the Carberry North Cypress-Langford
Health Action Committee

**Movie Time
at the Drop-In**

**Tuesday March
31:**

**My big Fat
Greek Wedding**

Show starts at 1:30 p.m. Drop-In fee \$2,
Silver Collection for popcorn & drink

**FREE Blood Pressure
Clinic**

Wednesday, April 8, 11:00 a.m.
at the Drop-In Centre

*Join the EMR students for a free
Blood Pressure check
and learn about your heart health.*

No appointment necessary

Offered by Elite Safety Services
NOT a substitute for medical care

at the **Library**

Weekly Events

Story Time Wednesdays, 10 am
for ages 3-5. Stories and crafts
Chess Club Wednesdays, 3:30 pm
Board Game Club, Thursdays,
3:30 p.m. learn new games or
enjoy the classics with new friends.
Magic the Gathering Fridays,
3:30 p.m. Play with your cards or
ours, Beginners welcome.

Monthly Events

Seniors' Tea Second Tuesday,
April 14, May 12, June 9 2:00 pm
Garden Club third Saturdays
March 21, April 18, May 23 @2:00
Fibre Arts Meetup second Thurs.
April 9, May 14, Jun 11 7:00-9:00

Special Events

Adult Easter Egg Making
Thursday March 26, 7:00 pm
Please register in advance, \$5
Preschool Egg Hunt
Wednesday, April 1, 10:00 am
Kids' Paint Night (ages 9-14)
Thursday April 16, 5:00 - 6:30 pm
**Dungeons & Dragons — Learn
to be a Game Master**
Saturday, May 9, 12:00 - 4:30 pm
Adult Trivia Night Saturday,
April 25, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Please register your team (≤ 4)
for \$5 before Apr. 24

a vital conversation
on Community Wellbeing

**Take the Survey
before March 26:**

by scanning this code
or picking one up at
the library



**and then come and hear
the results and talk about
them:**

Wednesday, April 8, 2026,
at 7:00 p.m.

in Carberry Collegiate

CARBERRY AND AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Seniors! Don't forget you have
a date every Wednesday for

Lunch at the Drop-In

Have they gone?

