

Carberry Newsletter

**This is Volume 5, Number 4
The issue for May 2026**

All is well! There will be a Texas Breakfast and a yard sale! Summer will start properly on June 20

Though the Chamber of Commerce isn't running it any more, Carberry can't do without its Town-wide Yard Sale, any more than it could properly celebrate the start of summer and Father's Day without going down to the firehall for a great big Texas Breakfast in excellent company. Everyone with treasures to offer will be setting them out for you (and anyone coming in for the event for the day) to look over. If you want to clear out your attic or show off your hobbies, join in the fun! Put a table out and stand by!

Hello from Arts & Rec!

We've had a fantastic turnout for our programs these last few months, thank you to everyone who has participated! We are busy behind the scenes getting the day camp and pool up and running. We had a tremendous launch of our swim lessons, with only a few lesson selections left! So far, 32 campers are joining the Summer Day Camp. We have 8 themed weeks planned, with something for everyone.

Upcoming *classes at the pool* are Aqua Zumba & Paddle Bros Sound Bath. We are also planning a GLOW swim night and a floaty day. On **Canada Day** we are hosting a free BBQ and swim from 11 am to 4 pm.

Our art programs are wrapping up for the season. Join us for *Paint Night* on May 29th with Jeena Chartier; only a few spots remain.

The *Youth Business Fair* has 12 booths registered; we hope everyone comes out to support them. There is everything from baking to candles to plants and worms! The fair is Saturday, May 23rd from 10 am to 12 NOON at the Carberry Memorial Hall.

Our final *piano recital* will be held on June 6th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the United Church. This will be our instructor's last recital, and we invite past and current students to attend and wish her well.

I am always looking for ideas for events and activities. If you have something in mind, don't hesitate to reach out to me. My email is rec@townofcarberry.ca

Robyn

Carberry WWI flying ace to be recognized

A memorial plaque honoring Wilfred Reid (Wop) May will be placed at his childhood home, 43 Simcoe Street in Carberry on June 7, 2026. May was a bush pilot and decorated war hero, who received the Inter-Allied Victory Medal, the Great War Medal, American Medal of Freedom, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Order of the British Empire for his service during World War I. He was inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame for his contribution to Canadian Aviation and was widely known as "Wop" May. He acquired his lifelong nickname from a small cousin who mispronounced his name as "Woppie." This was shortened to "Wop" and the name stuck.

May was born in Carberry, Manitoba on March 20, 1896. He was the youngest son of Alexander (Alex) May, a carriage and implement merchant in Carberry and his wife Elizabeth (née Reid). In 1899 Alex was elected to Carberry Town Council and later became Mayor of Carberry in 1901. The family home became a meeting place for business and political friends. In 1903, the family moved to Edmonton, Alberta where Wop grew up.

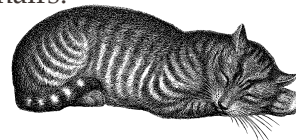
In 1916, Wop joined the Canadian Army as a machine gun instructor and went to England that same year before applying to be transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. He qualified and was deployed to France on April 9, 1918, as a fighter pilot. May's 13 aircraft "kills" and his close encounter with the Red Baron, Manfred Von Richthofen, quickly established him as an ace in the Royal Air Force.

Upon returning to Edmonton, Wop and his brother Elgin (Court) May formed Canada's first registered aircraft company, May Airlines. Wop became a renowned stunt pilot, bush pilot, flying instructor, and conceived the idea of training a squad for parachute rescue service for airmen lost in the bush country.

In 1951, Canadian Pacific Airlines hired him as manager of the repair depot. The following year, while on a hiking trip with his son Denny in Provo, Utah, he passed away.

The event will be held at 43 Simcoe Street, on Sunday June 7, 2026, at 2:00 pm. There will be several guest speakers, and a plaque will be placed in front of his childhood home.

Please bring your own lawn chairs.



This Month's Council News

March 2026 Joint Councils' Meeting

The first item of business was to welcome Lisa Dobbin-Waters, the newly elected Carberry Councilor, to the first meeting of her term.

The committee accepted CAO McConnell's budgets for the CPCC and the Hall.

The RFP for a project manager for the campground brought many responses. Once one is in place, quotes for any remaining work can be sought.

After considering the alternatives, the Committee accepted the bid of Local Link Consulting Ltd., to provide on-call project management services.

The search for a Manager of Joint Services continues. The CAOs will optimize the requirements.

After a very busy month, the ice plant will be shut down on April 7. One employee will take her refrigeration handling license exam in April or June, and two employees will take the Aquatic Facility Operator course in Winkler in May. The Drop-In has several upgrades in hand including changing out the entrance carpet. They would like to change the lighting to LED with Efficiency Manitoba's help.

The new Director of Leisure and Arts is quickly getting up to speed and restarting or restructuring existing programs.

The Archivist is collecting data on the area's old schools and hoping to ensure all have memorial plaques. She has done a brochure on the area's grist mills and elevators.

Dr. Maharajh has completed the necessary improvements to the Super Thrifty site and needs only the inspections and approvals to open shop.

The Fire Department hosted a wildland/urban interface fire course for 19 participants from several departments to learn about wildland fires reaching urban structures. Training for Level 1&2 firefighters continues. Testing will start in a few months.

A hydroponic garden bought with funds from Westoba Inspire has arrived at the Library and the first plants are started. The Library's walk, steps and ramp collect snow that melts into hazardous ice puddles if not removed.

The Museum is hosting a fundraising concert at the Legion featuring "Lucky Ned" on April 12. They have found a contractor to build their new display building, and he will start work in early April.

The Tiny Taters Child Care Cooperative have been in touch with the MLA and the PC critic for Early Learning and Child Care to get their grant expedited. The severance still hasn't come through after a year's wait.

The Splash Park Fundraising Committee had reached the stage of seeking quotes for their project. When they took their findings to the Joint Council, they were disappointed to find there was no consensus in the Councils about joint funding or support of the venture. They have a couple of fundraisers in hand, including another 'Hoedown with Hicktown' which was so successful last year.

The CNCL Fire Department's Inspector sent a report of his inspection of the Carberry Child Care Cooperative's building at 240 Main Street. He found no departures from code or anything to remedy.

There was an informational meeting held with members of the Joint Councils' Committee, the Project Manager, and the Splash Park Committee to discuss the infrastructure issues of the splash park. Costs for the infrastructure would be far higher than anticipated. A feasibility study should be done to find where and whether the facility could go.

In honour of the 50th anniversary of the Bowling Lanes, there will be a celebration (and free bowling) at the Lanes on April 11. Thanks to Lanes Manager Sylvia Swaenepoel for a fantastic job.

April 2026 Town Council Meeting

The mayor welcomed Lisa Dobbin-Waters, the successful candidate in the by-election of March 17, to her first meeting of the Town Council.

Council approved the Town of Carberry Social Media Information Policy. Town use of social media platforms will only be for dissemination of accurate information as approved by council. No interaction with the public, no discussion or commentary.

Local Link Consulting Ltd. were hired as On-Call Project Manager for the Town of Carberry and the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford. They are to be engaged on an approved as-needed basis.

Council agreed to retain an HR firm to assist in hiring a Director of Joint Services.

A list of the rates to be charged for equipment and for gravel and topsoil has been updated and was approved.

The list of the Committees of Council was updated to include Councilor Dobbin-Waters.

A motion was passed formally requesting a reduction in the posted speed limits along Wellwood Road.

Council agreed to sponsor the induction of Derek Samagalski into the Manitoba Curling Hall of Fame.

Carberry Collegiate receives an annual \$500 for a scholarship to be given to a graduating student. The allotment for 2023 was not redeemed, so for this year Council agreed to offer two scholarships.

The CC spring Band Concert will be held on May 27, at which time they will premiere the work commissioned for the concert band.

The flower baskets have been delivered to Sprucedale Industries in Austin for planting.

U of M's Rural Week will be on May 25-29, and the Town will be hosting 4 medical students for whom the ACAO is planning activities.

The Waste Management Committee is considering upgrading the Town's dumpsters. Prices are being requested, and details of their deployment have to be settled.

CN sent announcement of their Right of Way Vegetation Management program. Council mentioned that some of CN's sidings in town do not seem to get the attention from the vegetation management program that they need.

Councilor Dobbin-Waters asked what help can or should be offered to sports teams that are successful enough to win a place at provincial competitions. How can the Town help them to put Carberry's name in front of a broader provincial market? Mayor Muirhead agreed that it was time to draft a policy for determining what requests for support can be entertained and to what extent.

April 2026 Joint Councils' Meeting

The Prairie Harvest Festival will be held Saturday, August 22. Joni Smyth and Amanda Dane came to ask to close Main Street from Third south, and Fourth from Toronto to Simcoe. There will be a beer garden and a selection of food trucks in addition to the usual amenities. There was a discussion of whether liability insurance would be covered under the municipal policies. To raise funds, they will produce the Farmers' Market, Wednesdays from June 3 to August 26.

The HR firm consulted still hasn't offered a candidate for Manager of Joint Services.

Local Link Consulting was asked to act a project manager for the Campground Project.

The Manager of Leisure Services will henceforth be called the Director of Arts and Recreation.

Chief McCallum's recommendation for the fire department's wages to follow OFC guidelines was a surprise to some NCL council members, who asked that the resolution be tabled.

A revision of the Pool Policy was approved.

Brad and Bernice Snyder were hired as Campground Attendants, effective at a date to be determined.

The choice of a supplier for the fire truck that must be purchased was delayed for lack of a recommendation from the chief. The most recent quote only just arrived.

Sodding or seeding the campground would be unexpectedly expensive. Regardless, there will have to be irrigation equipment installed, separate from the potable water to the campsites.

A truck suitable for the cemetery and parks staff has been sourced from a local resident. At \$13,000 it must be tendered, but no better offer is anticipated.

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. Garbage and recycling could then be sorted by source municipality.

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.

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. Water will be turned on at the Gingerbread House and at the ballpark canteen when the weather permits.

"The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits." - Albert Einstein

The Manager of Arts and Recreation has 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 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 earning the necessary P.R.A. [Practice-Ready Assessment] to begin practice in Carberry. They should be here in late August or early September.

The Fire Department 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 for their display shed and will be looking to the CACF to fund the displays and the interpretive materials. They plan to hold an opening ceremony in conjunction with the Prairie Harvest Festival on August 22.

The Daycare board has met with MLA Jodie Byram and the PC Early Learning Critic along with Reeve Drayson and Deputy Reeve Olmstead. 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 Splash Park Fundraising Committee is not sure if it has a viable path forward. The "Hoedown" will go ahead, but cost estimates have risen sharply.

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

May 2026 Town Council Meeting

Amy Denbow, of the Property Assessment Services of Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations, was the first delegation. 2027 is a reassessment year, which happens every other year in Manitoba. All property has been assessed at its market value on April 1, 2025. The two year wait is to do the necessary research. Reassessment does not relate directly to the actual amount of taxes to be paid, because mill rates are set based on the municipality's needs, divided into its total assessment base. Overall, the values of property rose 11% over the province, 10.4% in rural areas. The Town of Carberry specifically saw an average increase of 10.6%, 11.2% for residential properties. Ms. Denbow reported that in the Town, 397 properties were assessed higher, and 407 lower. Assessment notices are in the mail, and you can get the information from [MyPropertyMB](#) which has been set up. There will also be an 'open house' here in town on June 23 from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. where members of the Assessment Services will be on hand to discuss and explain the procedure. If you have objections to your assessment, you can appeal any time before September 28, and the Board of Revision will sit on October 13, 2026.

Amanda Dane and Joni Smyth of the Prairie Harvest Festival came to formally request the closing of Main Street from Third Avenue to Fourth Avenue; Fourth Avenue from Toronto Street to Simcoe Street; and the parking lot at the end of Main Street from 10:00 p.m. Friday August 21 to 11:59 p.m. on August 22, 2026, to prepare and hold their event. Council passed a resolution approving the requested closures, on condition that the committee provide confirmation of liability insurance, a business plan and a financial plan.

The third delegation was from Harold Tolton and Jessie Van Den Bosch. Each spring, Tolton has for years sold bedding plants from a temporary greenhouse at Simcoe and First but has lost access to the site and set it up on Van Den Bosch's front yard, located in an RG zone in town. As this is a zoning violation, they were ordered to take it down — with the May long weekend coming up fast. They had made verbal inquiries about the project and thought they were within the regulations. A similar problem had been met in Brandon, and Planning there had accepted that their sale greenhouse was in principle a tent, over whose placement Planning had no say except to ensure that they weren't impeding traffic. Council countered that they were indeed impeding the access of emergency services to their dwelling and stood firm on refusing to allow the sale "tent" to be set up in the RG zone. That said, they agreed that Tolton's flowers were a much-appreciated amenity for gardeners in the Town and wanted to find a permitted location, bearing in mind the need for water. After some discussion, they offered a site on Town land between Fourth Avenue and the tracks, near the fire protection pump house (where the Parks & Recreation truck fills up).

By-law 02/2026, the Financial Plan, which establishes the rates of taxation for 2026, was given its second and third readings, passed unanimously, and became law.

It proved necessary to rescind the resolution from the previous meeting to sponsor Derek Samagalski's induction into the Manitoba Curling Hall of Fame, because the induction had already been secured by Curl Carberry. Congratulations to Derek nonetheless.

Acting on the recommendation of Chief McCallum, Council approved that the wage rates of the Carberry North Cypress-Langford Fire Department be set in accordance with the rate structure of the Office of the Fire Commissioner. The rates will be paid retroactively to January 1, 2026, and attendance at Fire Department meetings will be compensated at the OFC hourly rate to a maximum of two hours.

Council examined a proposal from a Gladstone firm to address the pigeon problem at the pool and at the old bank. They concluded that the value offered did not justify the costs, and that they would prefer to seek a local service.

A community focus group (*without* council members) will be held at the Hall facilitated by consultant GovFox on June 6, 2026.

Council hired Christine Robinson as a Transfer Station employee effective May 20, 2026, and took on three Green Team employees, two for P&R and one for Public Works

As the AMM convention approaches, there were several motions of support for the programs of other municipalities:

AMM was asked to lobby both provincial and federal governments to extend the Temporary Foreign Worker program.

AMM was asked to lobby the provincial government to restore funding to the Assiniboine River Basin Initiative because the threat of drainage issues and flooding continues in the 162,000 square miles covered by the basins of the Assiniboine, Souris and Qu'Appelle rivers.

AMM was asked to lobby the Manitoba Government and the College of Paramedics to expand the training and licensing of Primary Care Paramedics (PCPs) and the introductory qualifications of EMRs and MFRs.

AMM was asked to lobby the Manitoba government and Shared Health to review and amend the directive that EMS units undertake Priority 2 interfacility transfers without consideration of the need for a minimum local ambulance coverage.

AMM was asked to lobby the Province of Manitoba to advocate with Health Canada to ease the restrictions on strychnine-based pest control products needed to address gopher infestations. Council declined to sign on to this one. In a town's lands, it would also be a hazard to pets and other desirable wildlife.

AMM was asked to lobby the provincial and federal governments to work with financial institutions and economic development agencies to incentivize financial institutions to increase rural lending to help startups and succession plans.

Since the Chamber of Commerce has withdrawn from hosting the Town-Wide Yard Sale, and the community has grown to love it, the ACAO will put together a poster to announce that it will again be held on June 20, along with the Firemen's Breakfast.

Candidate registration for the position of Mayor is now open; councilors may register after June 30.

The Splash Park Committee has decided to cancel the Hoedown for this year but hopes to try again next year. They are awaiting the report from the feasibility study to see if their project can ever fly.

The Fire Inspector and the Building Inspector visited the building at 44 Ottawa Street at the instigation of the by-law officer, and both reported that the building is structurally unsound and infested by rodents. They did not feel it was restorable, and recommended condemning it and demolishing it.

The town-wide cleanup will be taking place on May 19-22.

—30—

Want more detail? Sooner?

...then give your contact info to Tricia at admin@townofcarberry.ca, and she will put you on the distribution list for the full reports. You could even call her at (204) 834-6628



We are excited to move forward with the Neepawa Chapter of Habitat for Humanity Manitoba to bring a new home build right here to our community!

To support this initiative, a local board is being formed, with positions including Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Coordinator, Family Selection Committee, and Building Lead. We are currently seeking individuals to fill all roles. Additional information about each position is available upon request.

If you are interested—or know someone who might be a great fit—please contact Callie at:
acao@townofcarberry.ca

We are incredibly fortunate to have the support and guidance of the Neepawa Chapter as we work toward a successful first build in Carberry.

Carberry
Plains
Archives



Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and
Thursdays

BLENDING 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

This Newsletter is brought to you by the

TOWN OF CARBERRY

SUBMISSIONS MAY BE MADE TO
admin@townofcarberry.ca

Carberry Service for Seniors DAY DASHERS

May 25:- Brandon - Shop 'til U Drop

June 4:- Neepawa - Scott Woods

June 12:- Kelwood to the Barn for
lunch, (Greenhouse Stop)

June 22:- Brandon - More Shopping

July 14:- Boissevain or Bust -
Bakery stop included

August 12:- Winnipeg,

Prairie Dog Central Train Ride
(cut off early for ticket purchase) Sorry,
once tickets are purchased, no refunds.

August 25:- Join us and other
communities/coordinators for
lunch at Shady Lane Tea Room

PRAIRIE Harvest FESTIVAL
 A DAY OF COMMUNITY, MUSIC & HARVEST > FUN! <
 SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST 2026

- A STREET MARKET**
ON MAIN STREET
FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
- A STAGE WITH LIVE MUSIC**
IN THE VICINITY OF THE LEGION
FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 11:00 P.M.
- A BEER GARDEN**
HOSTED BY THE LEGION
- A KIDS' AREA**
AT THE CP PARK
FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
- FOOD TRUCKS**
IN THE PARKING LOT
OPPOSITE THE BAR
FROM 11:00 A.M.
- AN ARM WRESTLING COMPETITION**

Good Times. Great People. Strong Community.
EVERYONE WELCOME!
 SUPPORT LOCAL. SHOP LOCAL. CELEBRATE TOGETHER.

Advice from the RCMP:

It's that time of year where thefts and break and enters are increasing!

Many crimes that have been reported in the last 2 months were crimes of opportunity where doors are left unlocked, items left in unlocked vehicles that are easily viewable and accessible. Protect your property. Report any thefts promptly so that we can identify owners should items be recovered.

Have a safe summer!



at the Library

Summer Reading Program – Starts
Tues June 30, prereaders, readers,
teens/adults all welcome!

Register to participate.

Kids' Summer Weekly Events

Story Time Wednesdays, 10 am
for ages 3-5. Stories and crafts

Library Adventures Tuesdays,
1:00-2:00 p.m. ages 5-8

Library Explorers Thursdays,
1:00-3:00 p.m. ages 8-12

Monthly Events

Seniors' Tea Tuesday, 2:00 pm
June 2 (first Tuesday this time)

second Tuesdays: July 14, Aug 11

Garden Club third Saturdays

March 21, April 18, May 23 @2:00

Fibre Arts Nights second Thurs.

Jun 11, Jul. 9, Aug. 13 7:00-9:00pm

Drop In Book Club, Thursdays

Jul. 2, Jul. 23, Aug. 6, Aug. 27

talk to a librarian for details.

We will be closed on:

June 9 — for training

July 1 — for Canada Day

August 1 — Lughnasadh

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

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

Carberry North Cypress-Langford
ARTS & RECREATION

**JOIN US FOR
CANADA DAY**

FREE Swim & BBQ
at the Carberry Pool
July 1st 11 AM - 4PM