

Carberry Newsletter

**This is Volume 4, Number 6
The issue for September 2025**

The Rummage Sale Returns!

Thanks to the efforts of the Health Action Committee, a mainstay of Carberry's social and economic life is back. On Monday, October 6, the doors of the Community Hall will open to accept donations, and on Tuesday and Wednesday October 7 & 8 you can cruise the many and varied tables and select clothes, books, puzzles, shoes, housewares, toys, jewelry — all the things you remember from past sales. And of course you will have taken any such things you no longer need to the Hall on Monday, won't you?

Drop off Day

Monday October 6, 9:00am - 7:00pm

Shopping Days

Tuesday, October 7, 9:00am - 7:00pm

Wednesday October 8, 9:00am - 3:00pm

The HAC is devoted to bringing Carberry and North Cypress-Langford the best locally available health care by advocating with the health region and the government for the

best services and the best care for those who provide it. They hope that the reborn Rummage Sale will be a fundraiser for their projects.

They pay homage to the IODE, which only recently had to close down after more than a century of service to the community. Veterans of past sales have been kind enough to help set this one up. The HAC hopes that community members will help their cause by bringing in clean and gently used items, by shopping when the doors open Tuesday and Wednesday, and by volunteering to help staff the event.

The lunch on Tuesday will be provided as a fundraiser for the Prairie Harvest Festival Committee. The lunch on Wednesday will be provided as a fundraiser for Carberry United Church.

Callie Sudak steps up

Callie Sudak has accepted the position of Assistant Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Carberry. She started as Manager of Leisure Services, before filling in as Manager of Parks, Facilities and Sanitation as a Joint employee. From there she was promoted to Manager of Joint Services, overseeing all jointly owned facilities in Carberry. When the opportunity to apply for Assistant CAO came up, she leapt at the challenge.

She looks forward to working with the new CAO along with the rest of the staff and the Council. She will continue to serve as the Municipal Emergency Coordinator, and take on additional responsibilities as Economic Development Officer. She is proud and honoured to serve the town and contribute to its ongoing growth. She thanks everyone who has supported her along the way.

It used to be Homecoming, now it's

PRAIRIE HARVEST FESTIVAL

...and you're going to love it

After a sudden reorganization, the Festival's organizing committee has pulled a rabbit out of a hat, and prepared a whole new festival for us! Save October 18.

It kicks off with a parade at 10:30, following the route used by Santa in winter or the Fair & Races in summer. The theme is Harvest, with a nod to October 31 as well — pumpkins and costumes. By 11:30 the Hall will be open for kids' pastimes and events. There will be a costume parade. It will provide another chance to see the kids in their Halloween finery. After that, Magician Ryan Price will be there until 4:00 p.m. The fun and games go on into the early evening, but by 9:00 there's a complete change, and on comes the band for a Harvest Social, catered and licensed by Callaghan's. Costumes welcome but not required. Donation at the door. The kids' events are free.

Across the parking lot, the CC gymnasium will be the site of the "Corner Market" from noon until 5:00 p.m. It will be a trade show for makers and bakers of all kinds. Down at the Drop In Centre, there will be serious arm wrestling; four weight classes for men, two for women, youth TBA. Curious about food? Spud City's parking lot will be a venue with (so far) six different food trucks, all with different specialities. The Library will host the celebrated children's author Leteisha Berry (of Glenboro) who will read and sign her latest book *Mouse's Perfect Tea* at 2:00 p.m.

Further south, the Fire Hall will be open for visits, and the museum may have a display appropriate to the season.

Main Street will stay open, but Second Avenue will be closed from Main to Ottawa until time for the social. By then, volunteers will be on hand to ferry revelers home.

It will be a fun and welcoming festivity, with something for everyone. Don't miss it. October 18 — got that?

Advice from the RCMP:



As the new school year has started, parents and motorists are reminded to be extra cautious in the school zones. Watch for students at pedestrian cross walks throughout the day. Also, ensure to stop for school buses that may be loading or unloading students. When a bus displays flashing overhead amber lights, it is about to stop, drivers must slow down and prepare to stop. Traffic must come to a complete stop in both directions. It is illegal to pass a school bus when it is displaying flashing red lights and the stop arm/sign is extended. Drivers must stop at least five meters from the bus and remain stopped until the flashing overhead red lights are turned off and the stop arm/sign is folded in.

This Month's Council News

July 2025 Joint Councils' Meeting

Mayor Muirhead apologized for any delays in the Town's work that might be caused by the recent departures of their CAO and EDO.

Joint Services Manager Sudak appeared before the meeting to update councils on her ongoing projects. The campground has stalled for lack of aggregate but will soon be ready for trees and turning on the power. Once there is power, the irrigator can be deployed on the grass being reseeded at the soccer pitch. To get the new grass strong enough, it must not be used this fall, and the school should be advised. Councilor Jardine offered the use of his haybine to mow the tall weeds and reduce the spread of the weed seeds. Councilor van Kommer offered the loan of a generator if power can't be brought in on time. Soccer may perhaps share the field between the diamonds at the ballpark presently used by lacrosse. Other work on the campsites awaits the results of water testing.

The cemetery road will receive patches of cold-mix asphalt, which may need to be reapplied often, but allows the situation to be assessed. Repaving could cost about \$300,000, while ripping up the paving, graveling, and calcium sealing would be about \$30,000.

The difficulty filling the position of Arts Director has been tentatively solved by offering the Director of Leisure Services the joint position of Recreation and Arts Director. To add the duties of a 24 hr/wk. Arts Director to what is already a full-time position, some of the Rec duties can be covered by a Joint Utility Working Foreman. Compensation will be increased, and the committee wanted to ensure that if the Recreation/Arts Director wishes to return to the single job, there will be no penalty or pressure to face burnout.

Lifeguard wages at the pool have come up for discussion. For a position that is vital in preservation of life, one that requires qualifications that are expensive to acquire, the pay is low. If the pay isn't increased, fewer young people will undertake the training, and the pool will be unable to operate. Also, when young people are required to work long hours unsupervised, there can be some disappointing behavior. Contract details like pay and discipline should be worked out before next season's hires.

Roll-off bin fees at the Transfer Station are now only electronic, but some are determined to pay by cash or cheque. Councils discussed the matter and remain convinced that no good can come of involving the staff in cash or cheque transactions. The only alternative might be to write an invoice to a taxpayer in special circumstances.

A firm in Alberta offers to perform detailed energy auditing and provide ongoing real-time monitoring of equipment and energy use. They receive the bulk of their funding from the government energy-saving grants they apply for to improve energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions. The Manager of Joint Services was encouraged to look further into this offer.

Detailed comparison among contractors' fees for Electrical, HVAC, and plumbing work has led to the choice of Sandhills Electric as preferred contractors.

There have been problems with people parking their cars blocking access to the EV charging station for legitimate users. Signs will be put up, and the curb painted green (the universal symbol for EV use).

The Zamboni is facing some expensive repairs, but the serviceman says it's a good machine with a long life expectancy. Nevertheless, replacement will eventually be costly. Ice fees can be increased or a sponsor found for it.

The CPCC will be outfitted for video streaming of games. Painting and bathroom upgrades are under way. New rink heating required an upgrade to the hydro meter.

At the hall new plugs are ready for the new coffee machine, and MB Hydro has signed off on upgrades to the natural gas equipment. The Drop-In is all painted and has new flooring in the office. The library is getting a new coat of stucco, and repairs to its ramp and steps are being tendered for spring. An arbour, posts and chains were purchased to be placed at the Carberry Bus Crash Memorial site, and more limestone is ordered for the path.

The summer camp program has been successful, and the pool will again host the Cardboard Boat Race on August 30.

Dr. Maharajh, who was instrumental in reopening the ER, enjoyed working with Carberry enough that he would like to site a clinic here to offer the latest technology in prostate biopsy to the province of Manitoba. He would require a space of at least 12' x 14', and an initial investment of \$200,000. The HAC will assist in the search.

Evergreen Environmental has finally accepted that the gasifier is not going to be a viable project. They will acquire a new shredder and compactor.

The Fire Department have been servicing, upgrading and repairing their equipment. The ATV and rescue toboggan have been taken off their light trailer and put in the reorganized enclosed rescue/

hazmat trailer. They hope to upgrade truck #107 to a 1-ton crew cab which will be strong and safe enough to haul the snuffer unit to bush fires, and vehicle and dumpster fires. One of the members is to receive a 25-year long service medal at the emergency services conference in Brandon in early September.

The Museum has been open for the summer and displays are being revamped. There is a new section featuring Fox Memorial Hospital artifacts; a donation of arrowheads and other finds from the area updates the Indigenous display, and donations from local participants add material from Afghanistan to the military display.

The daycare committee have chosen a logo for their 'Tiny Taters Daycare' and have secured a tax holiday from the Town for 25 years and anticipate a 5-year grant from NCL. Work carries on at a pace that promises opening early in '26.

Mayor Muirhead wanted to determine whose responsibility was the Daylily Park. It is a Town property, not jointly owned. He feels it needs some attention. He also wished to hear whether NCL had any interest in employing a Community Safety Officer and was advised that NCL does not feel such a service would be helpful to them.

August 2025 Town Council Meeting

A delegation from Norman Kerr expressed concern that young people were being turned away from the pool for lack of funds. He was assured that that is never a reason for refusal, but that the staff must refuse anyone without a signed clearance from their parent(s). His second concern was that charging fees at the Transfer Station would lead to people dropping garbage in fields and ditches as he has seen in other communities. Kerr was advised that no fee is charged for household garbage, recycling, composting or anything clean enough to be burnt, but that larger items and construction waste which must be loaded into the roll-off bins are charged a small cost recovery fee by weight.

The Homecoming Committee came to ask that Main Street be closed for their festival on August 23. Council had a letter from Dave Meyers of Meyers Meats who complained that his customers are inconvenienced, and sales are below normal when the street is closed. The committee maintained that Third Avenue remains open, and his customers can reach him there.

Council asked the committee where any profit made by the festival went. They replied that it is simply ploughed back into the next year's festival. Council further asked what the committee had for insurance, whether the food trucks would be taking out permits, and what provisions had been made for security. Would Callaghan's license properly cover any liquor sales at the event? Who would be servicing the portable toilets during the event — the Town's Public Works?

Mayor Muirhead interjected that he had been personally seriously offended by posts on social media by Homecoming's principal, Jolene Balciunas, to the point that he was unwilling to support any project of hers; it took a certain duplicity to ask and expect favours from a municipality and administration she had so thoroughly slandered.

After some discussion, a motion to close Main Street from Second Avenue to Fourth Avenue on August 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Midnight was proposed, with conditions that proof of insurance cover be provided, a business plan and financials be presented, and a plan to cover security concerns. It passed by a narrow majority.

A by-law exempting Tiny Taters Child Care Cooperative from all municipal taxes was given its third reading and passed into law.

At the instigation of a resident, Council discussed whether it was possible and desirable to create a Light Pollution by-law. They asked the ICAO to research and draft such a by-law for discussion.

Council appointed Bart Witherspoon as Deputy Fire Chief of the CNCL Fire Department. They also accepted with regret the resignation of Karra Burney as EDO.

A trial operational agreement between the Town, NCL and the Arts Council was approved.

OnPoint's quote for the three billboard signs remains in effect, even though only two permits have been granted. Because the project is relying on grant money, and the grant will not pay anything already purchased, the project is on hold until word comes. It is important to pick a new location for the eastern billboard and reapply for a permit for it.

A tender was accepted from Dickson Custom Contracting to renovate the exterior of the garage at 615 Fourth Avenue. Work is to be completed before December 1, 2025.

Tenders for similar work at the "White House" at 337 Toronto Street were tabled until more information was available as to the state of the building envelope.

CAO Parker of NCL has sent a spreadsheet outlining the discrepancy between what each municipality has paid to TAC Ventures for dumpster rental and service. She maintains that

"It is said that your life flashes before your eyes just before you die. That is true, it's called Life." — Terry Pratchett

Carberry owes NCL over \$70,000. The ICAO was tasked with finding out more about the ownership and use of the dumpsters in question and bringing the information to Council. She was also asked to do an RFP for a project manager for the lagoon expansion.

To provide by-law enforcement until the Town clears all the hurdles to hire a Community Safety Officer, an agreement has been made with Commissionaires Manitoba.

The Carberry Collegiate office will reopen on August 18, and classes will start on September 3. With the retirement of Principal McCallum, the school will be led by Principal Ryan Robson.

A main pump at the lift station went out of service and left us with just one for a few weeks. The new pump will be installed soon. Public Works asks residents not to park on the boulevard during snow season.

The Health Action Committee is working with Dr. Maharajh to interest investors in his proposed advanced technology prostate clinic to be sited in Carberry. They report that the renovations to the doctor's office in the clinic are complete.

The Child Care Committee is working on plans for their new building. The subdivision and rezoning are in hand. To hook up to the sewer will require changes to the overall system which ought to allow for the further demands of the Rec Lands as well — the public bathrooms and other facilities. The holding tank on Dufferin Street will perhaps have to be upgraded to a lift station. Their sprinkler system will be fed from the fire control system which will have to be checked for capacity at the nearest hydrant.

The U of M Aggies advised of their intention to push beds through the town on September 26 at 5:00 p.m. in support of STARS and the Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program.

September 2025 Town Council Meeting

First, a public hearing on a Variation Order to allow a 30' x 40' pole shed on Fourth Avenue west of Redfern's. There were no problems raised, so Council approved the VO on condition that CPKC also approved.

Next, a delegation from the RCMP. S/Sgt Wikander and Cpl Campbell presented their statistics and took questions. They undertook to monitor the use of ORVs speeding along the walking path along First Avenue. They were advised that the Commissionaires had been contracted to enforce Town by-laws until a CSO can be hired. Because of the number of steps, this may take some time. Even when approved and an applicant is found, there are considerable set-up costs. To address one of these, S/Sgt. Wikander offered to go through his channels to see if a decommissioned cruiser could be saved from the crusher and offered to a community setting up for a CSO. Wikander and Campbell explained that restricted schedules and maternity leaves were affecting their detachment strength, but that they should be back up shortly. They were thanked for their visit.

The second delegation was from the Willow Family Resource Centre. Their president, Sarah Friesen, has a BA in Child Studies, Child and Youth Care Counseling from Calgary. She moved to Neepawa last year and started looking for ways to support families. She realized that in rural centres there isn't the depth of support services and resolved to establish Willow FRC to create a safe space for families. The vice president is Kayla Sampson, a graduate of Carberry Collegiate with a degree from U of M in Psychology and Sociology, who knows how little is available in rural Manitoba. Treasurer is Christine Robinson, who combines an interest and experience in practical childcare as an Educational Assistant, a mother and grandmother, with a firm grounding in the practical side of an organization from partnering in businesses with her husband. Secretary is Stacey Riddoch, born and raised in rural Manitoba, who raised four children in Edmonton, learning the difference between rural and urban types and levels of care.

They have done extensive research on the needs and availability of help for families in the area, finding that local service providers are overextended, but that services that require trips to urban centres are difficult or even impractical for working parents. What they feel is needed is a "third space" — a community space that is not a client's workplace nor their home — where they can find support, ask questions, access resources and connect with others. It would serve as a hub for social services to come out into the community instead of requiring visits to urban centres.

The challenges faced start with finding initial funding; until established, there is less opportunity for fundraising and grant applications. They need accessible space in which to operate consistently, and that is scarce in rural communities. And of course, like all such ventures, it will be subject to high turnover of staff and the difficulty of finding and retaining volunteers.

Council was impressed by the care and research that the group had shown and was willing to do what could be done to support

them. There are spaces owned by the Town or jointly with NCL (the Hall, the Old Town Hall) that could be used in the short term, for such things as focus groups and meetings, but they are in regular use by several other organizations. The United Church Hall was suggested, but Willow FRC is concerned that they not be thought to be church affiliated.

The group were asked about their insurance cover — work of this kind is going to need liability insurance, and they are working with Guild Insurance to develop a plan. Council was asked if they would agree to provide letters of support to funding organizations and were pleased to do so.

Willow Family Resource Centre were thanked and complimented for their efforts.

The third delegation was from Nishelle Clow, Manager of Leisure Services, who has put together a provisional tender to farm out the work of the rink booth. The winning tender would pay a monthly rental, and the rec director would be spared the staffing and scheduling, the ordering of supplies and food. The applicant would hopefully make enough profit to make it worthwhile without gouging and also pass on the saving that McCain's freely supplied fries bring the joint municipalities. The vending machines would remain the CPCC's concern, and the applicant would be obliged to sell only Pepsi products as agreed by the Rec Board. Council agreed to the tender but noted that there is a captive market for the booth, and it is unfair to exploit it. Prices must be reasonable.

Clow advised that among the contenders would be Karla McCorquodale, who has managed the booth in the past, and is at present the principal of the Summer Shack. Since Clow is a supplier of baked goods to the Summer Shack she would have a conflict and could not be responsible for selecting the successful tender.

The fourth delegation was from the committee organizing what is now called the Prairie Harvest Festival. On October 18, 2025, a wide variety of attractions have been laid on. The Hall is to be a kids' area until some time before 9 p.m., when the band will come, and the bar open, and a fall-themed social will take place. Costumes will be welcome but not required. Children can come (free) to the hall at 11:30 for a costume parade and entertainment featuring Ryan Price until 4:00 p.m. There will be events at the Drop-In, a "Corner Market" in the Collegiate gym, and at the Library a book reading and signing by Leteisha Berry of her "Mouse's Perfect Tea" for ages 2-6. Six food trucks will take over Spud City's parking lot for a wide choice of culinary styles. Licensing, security and insurance are covered.

The committee had come to present their plans, and ask for the closure of Second Avenue from Main Street to Ottawa Street for the day. They don't want to close Main Street. They are also asking permission to stage a parade along the usual route used at Christmas and the Fair. The theme will be Harvest, with the chance of some costume previews for the 31st. They were also hoping for the use of some barricades to direct traffic. Council had no problem with any of these requests. They congratulated the committee on the changes and improvements they have made in the short time since their reorganization and promised whatever support they might need.

The committee presented what they had done as a minimum created in some haste, and they are already looking to next year's festival. They have the year in hand and expect to hold a public AGM to solicit ideas and recruit volunteers and new board members. They won a Westman Tourism award for the Homecoming Festival and hope to recapture it with the rebranding. They feel a festival for a farming community should best be held after harvest, but nothing is firmly decided. Even the venue is undecided — downtown or at the Fairgrounds? They hope to hear at the AGM what the community would like.

The committee were asked how long they expect to close Second Avenue. They replied that as soon as the children have left the hall the barriers can come down. They expect to have drivers on hand to take patrons of the social home safely.

Council approved the closure of Second Avenue on October 18 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. pending the presentation of a financial plan, proof of insurance, and a security plan. They also agreed to grant the usual rental fee for the hall and the Drop-In (a \$425 value).

Council finally passed into law the amendment to the Traffic Control By-law, and gave a first reading to a draft of a Light Pollution Control by-law, which will need careful study.

Members of both councils met with the contractor to discuss delays in delivering aggregate for the campground. When done, a building will have to be erected to provide an office and the water treatment that will be required. It would also house a canteen. A project manager could draft the necessary RFP and follow through.

Continued from page 3

Council accepted with regret the resignation of Callie Sudak as Manager of Joint Services, effective September 9, 2025. They also hired Callie Sudak as Assistant Chief Administrative Officer effective September 10, 2025.

Stefanie Lynch of Local Link Consulting was hired as Project Manager for the Carberry Lagoon Project.

Public Works has taken on the care of the Daylily Park which has added to their workload, and another 40 hr/wk. tending the grass along First Avenue. With the extra duties, he asks council to consider going to four full time public works employees. The Cemetery is starting to close down flower beds and perishable tributes for the winter. They are researching the costs to seal coat their roads and paths.

The HAC's meeting held to present Dr. Majaraj's plan for an advanced prostate biopsy clinic was successful; he has secured his needed funding. Now to find a location for it. To start, there is space in Super Thrifty Pharmacy, but a purpose-built clinic would be preferable. It is possible to commission one from an RTM builder, but where to put it?

Councilor Sudak suggested that we keep up the pressure on government to make improvements to the intersection of Highways 1 & 5. With the RCUT ruled out, nothing seems to be happening. Our considerable lobbying skills and opportunities should be brought to bear.

The plaques commemorating the generosity of the McDonalds who donated the Daylily Park lands are now ready for installation.

The mayor will meet with Minister Glen Simard of the Ministry of Municipal and Northern Relations on September 19 and intends to discuss amalgamation issues, and talk about how municipal administrators, CAOs and CFOs are required to be extensively trained, and no such requirement affects councilors. The possibility of ill-advised decisions being made shortly after an election is alarming. Some sort of training should be mandated.

— 30 —

Craft & Coffee at the Drop In Centre Make a pinecone bouquet

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Starts October 7

Or just come and have coffee with us!



Karate

runs from
September 18 to
November 20.

You can register
by scanning
this QR code:



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, \$12

Everyone welcome!

"The average person thinks he isn't." - Father Larry Lorenzoni

Manitoba Theatre for Young People will be putting on PD Day Camps

on October 24,
November 14
and November 28.

You can register by
scanning the QR code.



Preventing Elder Abuse: Protecting Older Adults

Join us for a free educational presentation
to learn how to recognize, respond, and
take action against elder abuse

Drop In Centre,
10 a.m. Thursday October 9



Calling all Makers!

The Handmade Market will be on
November 15th,
and we are still
accepting
applications.

You can use this



Hometown Fitness Centre Senior Open House

Monday Nov. 3, 10:30-Noon

Check out the new Quick Fit Circuit
At Hometown Fitness!

BONUS!! We have funding secured
through the Carberry and Area
Community Foundation to offer reduced
membership rates to seniors in attendance.

This Newsletter is brought to you by the

TOWN OF CARBERRY
SUBMISSIONS MAY BE MADE TO
admin@townofcarberry.ca

at the Library

Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays, 10:10 a.m.

Stories and crafts for toddlers

Weekly Programs

Chess Club - all ages and skill levels. Whether you're a curious beginner or a future grandmaster there's room for all. Wednesdays at 1:00 pm

Magic the Gathering - Join us for casual games of MTG. Bring your own cards or use some of ours. Fridays 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Monthly Programs

Readers' Teas - Oct. 14, Nov. 4, at 2:00 p.m. Enjoy conversation with other readers, treats, tea, and a story read aloud.

No registration necessary.
Everyone welcome.

Chess Tournaments Saturday Oct. 4, Dec. 12 12:00 - 2:00 pm.

All ages and skill levels welcome - including beginners!

Fibre Arts Meetup Join us as we explore knitting, crochet, sewing, and more. Share what you're working on, learn a new skill, or just sit and chat with other people who love to make things. Oct. 9, Nov. 13, 7-9 p.m. All ages and skill levels welcome. Children under 12 should be accompanied by an adult.

Any day, any time

Crochet, play chess, play Magic the Gathering, solve a Rubik's Cube - we'll teach you how!
Dungeons & Dragons - Ready to embark on an epic quest? We're looking for new players. Open to all experience levels. Speak to a librarian to learn more.

Misunderstood Creatures

October 8, 2025, 1:30 - 2:30

Join us for this presentation by Prairie Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre. We'll be debunking myths about misunderstood Manitoban creatures.

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

Lunch at the Drop-In

I'm pretending I don't see it

