

Joint Councils' Committee, September 28, 2026

The Committee of Joint Councils met in the council chambers of the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford at 7:00 p.m. on Monday September 28, 2026, with Mayor Muirhead in the chair and with Councilors Rea, VanDamme, Kalinowich and Dobbin-Waters from the Town, and Reeve Drayson with Councilors Jardine and Olmstead for the RM. Also present were CAOs McConnell and Pasco and Director of Joint Services Creighton.

Unfinished Business:

Councils were asked to approve the request of the Christmas Kickoff Committee for a letter of support and to approve the wagon ride route and the general event layout map. Approval was granted with the proviso that the wagon ride route be further discussed.

The Library's step and ramp are to be repaired and restored, but the contract has been awarded to a contractor from Mitchell, who has suddenly suffered a medical problem and doesn't feel he will be able to start the work until spring. Councils agreed that if he will honour his originally quoted price for the work, he should be allowed the delay. There isn't time to re-tender the work before winter anyhow. Repairs to the top step, however, must be completed before winter for safety reasons. A local contractor will be contacted to make the necessary repair.

General Business:

The committee passed a Joint Policy (JS 02-2026) that covers the CPCC booth. It specifies the wages and responsibilities of the booth staff. The Committee passed the policy on condition that the CAO ensure that the regulations for young workers be aligned with the Manitoba Employment Standards Code.

Standards for the work of volunteer committees who propose capital projects were set out in three policies to be presented to the committee. The meeting discussed them and felt that the regulations and their presentation were so extensive and admonitory as to scare off much wanted volunteers. They were tabled, and the CAO was asked to reframe them to be less intimidating.

Committee Reports:

This was the first meeting for the new Director of Joint Services, Chris Creighton. His extensive report showed that he has quickly appreciated the many details he will be expected to supervise. At the CPCC, all is in readiness for the upcoming season, and much painting and detailing have made the rink a showplace. The committee suggested putting a spread of

photos on Facebook to show the place off. In response to Committee questions, he explained that rink rentals are handled by his foreman Shane. Complaints about the Pepsi machine's tendency to take more money than it was entitled to will shortly be addressed when it is to be replaced at the next delivery. He will make sure that booth staff can properly handle issues with the machine. At the Community Hall, work has been done on the storage room. At the Drop-In, the new tables and chairs are set up, and the place is looking its best. The Campground's water lines are blown out, and the site winterized. The new washroom facility is well under way, with concrete poured and water line arriving. The library's stucco is almost complete, and work is being quoted on the central vacuum system. The ball diamonds are being winterized. At the Transfer Station, new processes are under development, and signage put up.

The Manager of Arts and Recreation reports that her Zumba trial class was successful enough to be extended to November. She is trying out a paint night event with a kit from an artist from Dauphin. After school she runs a free art program for students for which she has a full line of projects developed. For preschoolers and their families, she has a weekly program from 9 a.m. to noon at the Community Hall starting on October 5. She has a couple of events planned over Halloween, one of which is at risk of cancellation for lack of volunteers. The Harvest of Hobbies takes place November 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. She has fall and Christmas craft evenings planned for both Carberry and Wellwood.

The Archivist has created a Visitor's Map of the town and area, and history brochures for Carberry and the cemetery. She has done three oral interviews and is starting a series of school cairns with one for Castle Point.

The Health Action Committee reports that the new doctor is staying at the White House while she finds permanent accommodation. She is happy that her children have been enrolled in school and extra-curricular programs. Unfortunately, Dr. Maharajh has withdrawn from siting his clinic in town and has settled on an office in Selkirk. He is refunding any investors who supported him here.

The fire department had a busy month with four calls, including a structure fire that was successfully mitigated without losing the structure. Coming up in October is Fire Prevention Week with the theme being "Charge into Fire Safety, Safe Charging is a Superpower" during this week they have 6 grade 4 students from 3 different schools in our catchment area participating in Brandon with "Fire Chief for a Day". The new pumper arrived on September 28, and the old one was picked up on September 29.

Service for Seniors goes into fall with a line of regular activities and some special ones as well. The board are looking into contracting a provider for daily delivered meals and researching the possibilities for setting up an assisted living establishment.

The Cemetery has installed two handsome new signs at each end of the tree line. The flowers are being removed from the plots, and a tender has been issued for next year's. The portable toilet will be emptied and winterized.

Tiny Taters Child Care Cooperative now have title to their land and wait only for ministerial approval. The delay has meant that the price quote for their building is very close to aging out.

The Campground Project Manager reports that work to get water to the campground building is almost complete, and ready for pouring the foundation.

Around the Table:

Councilor Kalinowich welcomed Chris Creighton to the role of Director of Joint Services and noted that this will be his own last meeting of the Joint Councils, as he is not seeking re-election. He thanked his fellow members for their company and support.

Councilor Olmstead relayed the thanks and praise she has heard for the grass on the soccer field, which has been a pleasure for the kids to play on. It seems all it needed was irrigation and mowing when people had thought to give up on it. She suggested grading the paths that are showing weeds.

Councilor Dobbin-Waters reminded that the Rummage Sale will take place in November with intake on the 19th and sales on the 20th and 21st. Food and refreshments will be available all three days.

Mayor Muirhead commented that the rink is in particularly fine shape, well worth taking photos to show and put on social media. He also noted that this will be the last Joint Councils' meeting for Reeve Drayson, whom he thanked and congratulated. He wished everyone good luck in the upcoming election.

Director Creighton suggested that Joint Services could make very good uses of a skid-steer for all manner of work around their bailiwick. He suggested that it might be possible to acquire one as an exchange for advertising rights on the Zamboni and was encouraged to look for opportunities. There is a small reserve fund for such a purchase, available as "top-up" for a deal he might find.

Delegation:

Leah Bryant appeared before the committee to present a recreation opportunity she is promoting — a circuit of health/fitness machines or stages that would be available for kids older than the usual play structure patrons. Her idea is to site it next to the zipline (another of her promotions) to add to the attraction to youth up to age 12 and even beyond. She has done the research and had brought a rendering of the project and a costing. The manufacturer will provide and install it for \$42 thousand, of which she anticipates being able to source all or a considerable part through granting agencies promoting healthy living. She particularly mentioned Westoba Inspire, which grants up to \$10 thousand, and whose closing date for applications was impending on September 30. What she needed was the permission and support of the Joint committee, and some names to include as her board members. She was given both. She will also be approaching the Red River Co-op and Stride Credit Union, who offer \$10 thousand and \$20 thousand respectively. Stride might even consider paying the whole cost in exchange for naming rights. The meeting wondered about liability insurance for the facility and suggested that signage be placed advising that you play at your own risk. On the subject of the Zip-line, Bryant mentioned that she needs a new, higher launch pad for it, and has been asking Gabler Welding to fabricate and install it.

Bryant was congratulated and thanked for her work and promotion, and with that, the meeting went *in camera* to discuss personnel and preliminary matters.