

Barkmere Echo – June 2025

The following is a summary of the last Town Council meeting held on Saturday, June 14th, 2025:

ANNOUCEMENTS

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Joan Meyer on June 1st, two months short of her 100th birthday.

Councillor Jake Michael Chadwick shared the following reflection.

To say that Joan was a fixture of Bark Lake is an understatement. She was a remarkable woman who inspired all those who knew her. She was born the only child of Ella and Fritz Erzinger in Winnipeg on July 30, 1925. She moved to Montreal with her parents as a young woman and attended Trafalgar school.

Joan was a very accomplished skier. She skied with the famous Wurtele Twins and was at the Dominion Ski Championships with Ken Read's mother, Dee, in 1948. She skied into her 90's with the Twin Ski Club, all over Canada and Europe, and lamented not being able to continue with her Wednesday Twin Ski days in St. Sauveur.

Golf was another of her passions which she also played well into her 90's.

Above all though, Joan loved Bark Lake. It was her get away, her passion. She and her husband Dick Meyer built the Panabode cottage in Cope Bay well over 50 years ago and brought up her three children, Heather, Jamie and Jon to love the lake. Thanks to the help of her neighbour Ryal Cosgrove, she was able to enjoy the lake safely while going to and from the landing solo in her boat. Only her recent falls and mobility issues prevented her from coming.

A favourite personal story of my wife's describes Joan to a "T". Mimi was escaping the zoo of our young children one evening in the canoe. While passing Joan's dock, Joan asked her how she was doing. Well, Mimi said she was frustrated and fed up with the kids. Joan's quick reply, "well you'd better get out of that canoe and onto the dock while I fix you a gin and tonic". That was Joan. The right answers all the time. She was not shy to tell you her opinion and I had many lectures from her on lake and council politics.

Joan's celebration of life was held yesterday at her cherished Mount Royal United Church where she was a very active member. Bark Lakers were there in great numbers to celebrate her life.

We send our condolences to Heather, Jamie and Jon, their combined eight children and five grandchildren.

LAST COUNCIL OF THE MRC

CAUCA, the company that provides 9-1-1 service in our MRC, is forecasting significant increases over the next five years, up to three times the current amount. The fire departments will look into less expensive alternatives, but it is likely that the costs will be similar with other companies. The problem seems to be the new services to

be offered (text messages, etc.), maintaining communication during interventions that require more resources, and the cuts announced by the provincial government in subsidies for these services.

Speaking of fire services, the Mont-Tremblant Fire Department (which serves Barkmere) is still in negotiations with its firefighters. The firefighters plan to use certain pressure tactics this summer, including not attending the Ironman event and not conducting any home inspections to check for hazards. The department's director, Mr. Mathieu Darmana, remains optimistic about the outcome of the negotiations.

We would like to remind you that we do not need the fire brigade to ensure that we have smoke detectors in our homes and to check that they are working. A 9-volt battery is inexpensive and saves lives. It is also important to have a portable fire extinguisher for small fires, especially in the kitchen. And of course, you must follow SOPFEU guidelines before lighting open fires.

FIRST AID COURSE

There are still a few places available for first-aid training on Saturday, June 21st. If you would like to register for this one-day course, please send an e-mail to communications@barkmere.ca. This course is offered in French only but the teacher is bilingual and will be able to answer questions in English, if needed.

AED-QUEBEC APP

We have installed 3 new defribrillators around the lake, to add to the one at the Town hall and on Goulden island. They have been registered on the AED-QUEBEC app. Once downloaded, you'll be able to see in real time where they can be found.



You can also view a map of where each of them are located by clicking on this link.

REMINDER – ELECTORAL LIST

Don't forget to register on the electoral list if you haven't done so yet. To exercise your right to vote, you must be registered on the electoral list. If you have already voted in the Town of Barkmere in the past, your registration remains valid and no further action is required on your part.

Here are the forms for registering on the list:

- SMRC-9.2 If you are the <u>only owner.</u>
- SMRC-9.1 If you are a <u>co-owner</u>.

Please send us your completed form to dg@barkmere.ca.

ANNUAL MILFOIL SURVEILLANCE

We continue to seek volunteers from the lake who have their scuba diving credentials to assist in our milfoil removal programme this summer. Those who have already showed interest will be contacted in the upcoming weeks.

We'd like to take this opportunity to remind you not to go northeast of the small island of Silver Bay, and not to enter the inlet.

TAXES

We remind you that the last payment for 2025 taxes is due on July 1, 2025. If you need help with the payment procedure or have any other questions regarding your taxes, please do not hesitate to contact us.

BIKE STORAGE

Cyclists can now store their bikes in the municipal garage. This free storage service avoids the need to transport your bike in your boat, for those who don't have direct access to roads. If you are interested, please send an e-mail to communications@barkmere.ca.



Picture taken in Silver Bay, on June 18th *Photo by: Peter Kalil*

For more details, please consult the minutes of the Council meeting that will be posted on the Town's website once they are ratified, generally at the next council meeting.