



Echoes from Barkmere – April 2026

The following is a summary of the last ordinary Town Council meeting held on Saturday, April 11th 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the council meeting on April 11, Mayor Trépanier noted that the Town of Barkmere officially celebrated its 100th anniversary on March 24.

FOLLOW-UP ON THE LAST MEETING

The City Council has adopted a bylaw reestablishing the Environmental Advisory Committee. The new bylaw reduces the number of members and clarifies the committee's mandate and internal rules. New members will be appointed next month.

Councilor Marie Hélène Lemarbre will serve as chair of the committee.

LKE THAW UPDATE

Although the winter season is coming to an end, the lake remains frozen, and according to our source, "Richard O'Shaughnessy," it is not expected to thaw until early May.

We will send out a notice to all residents once the lake has thawed.

100TH ANNIVERSARY

Barkmere Celebrates 100 Years of History and Community

This summer, the Barkmere community is coming together to mark a milestone in its history: its 100th anniversary. For a century, generations of residents and vacationers have helped shape a unique community, built on friendliness, commitment, and respect for the environment.

Throughout July, a special program of events will punctuate the summer season, in a spirit that is both festive and unifying.

Here are a few dates to mark on your calendar now, subject to further details:

On July 4 at 4 p.m., a “Boat Bingo” is scheduled at Goulden Island, where participants will be invited to play directly from their boats in a friendly atmosphere.

On July 11 at 10 a.m., a nautical scavenger hunt will feature puzzles and challenges on the lake. Since space is limited, participants must register in advance. In the evening, all residents are invited to an informal gathering featuring s’mores, also at Goulden Island.

July 18 will be dedicated to exploring local heritage, with tours of historic cottages showcasing carefully preserved properties. The day will conclude with a floating concert in the evening.

The highlight of the celebrations will take place on July 25, during Centennial Day at the Community Center. From 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., a diverse program will feature activities, exhibits, and opportunities for everyone to come together, accompanied by a complimentary lunch. In the evening, the symbolic lighting of 100 lanterns will be followed by a concert and a dance.

In addition, Council members and the administration are continuing to develop other initiatives to mark Barkmere’s centennial. These include commissioning a work of art for the Community Centre, renovating the green spaces near the landing and City Hall, and designing a new sign at the town’s entrance.

We are also awaiting a response from the Ministry of Natural Resources in the coming weeks regarding the development of walking trails on the peninsula. If the response is favorable, these trails could be accessible as early as this summer.

Beyond the festivities, this centennial will leave a lasting legacy, notably through the publication of the book Barkmere100 Family Stories and the creation of a time capsule, both of which serve as witnesses to the community’s collective memory.

Please note the following practical details: As part of the Centennial Day celebrations, the areas normally used for parking at the Community Center—including the two oval lawns—will be closed to vehicles from Thursday, July 23, through Monday, July 27, inclusive. Alternative parking options will be announced shortly to facilitate travel. It will be important for parking lot users to start making alternative arrangements themselves for this weekend. Residents are also asked to moor their boats at their own docks to keep the main dock clear.

Finally, community participation remains essential to the success of these celebrations. Volunteers are needed to help organize the centennial. Any level of involvement is greatly appreciated.

COUNCIL OF THE RCM DES LAURENTIDES

The MRC Council recently adopted an inventory of heritage buildings located within its territory, including notably the former Jesuit monastery in Barkmere. However, this inventory will require further analysis to assess the historical and cultural value of the listed buildings, based on some twenty criteria.

Furthermore, the MRC has been very active this winter in its efforts with forestry companies to develop a “forest management plan.” This plan would aim to reconcile the industry’s supply needs with conservation objectives related to proposed protected areas, including those in Montcalm and Barkmere. Should an agreement be reached and approved by the Ministry of Forests, this initiative would provide greater predictability for contractors while contributing to the goal of protecting 30% of the territory.

Picture taken from the landing on April 15th
Photo by: Annie Larocque



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.