

Fall/Winter Bulletin

December 18th 2025

Vol 56, No. 1



WORD FROM THE MAYOR

First, I would like to thank the entire community for once again placing their trust in me to administer, represent and defend the interests of our beautiful little Town of Barkmere. With a renewed team, I am enthusiastically embarking on a fifth term. This makes me the second longest-serving mayor since Barkmere's founding mayor, Albert Richard Whittall, whose biography we enjoyed reading in the pages of the last newsletter, thanks to the research of former councillor Marc Frédette.



Whittall and five other Barklakers, Herbert Joseph Silver, Christopher Healy Goulden, Arthur Reeve, Seaforth Duff MacNab, Ernest Albert Bulley, as well as the House of the Immaculate Conception of the Jesuit Fathers established at the Lake, signed a petition in 1923 for the National Assembly of Quebec to form a Town with the territory around Bark Lake. A private bill was introduced in January 1924, but it was withdrawn from the legislative agenda in March of the same year due to a 'contradiction in the evidence presented.'

The petitioners, joined by Thomas Stansfield Worthington, returned to the fray in 1925. A second private bill, identical to the first, was introduced in January 1926 and finally passed in March of that year. Bill 80, incorporating the town of Barkmere, received royal assent from the Lieutenant Governor on 24 March 1926. Arthur Reeve, who died in early December 1924, did not live to see the birth of the town for which he had suggested the name.

It is therefore in 2026 that we will celebrate together one hundred years of municipal life. I have often said in the past that the idea of having our own town was the best initiative put forward to protect the lake and its immediate environment, the tranquillity of the village and the lake shores, not to mention the benefit of one of the lowest tax rates in Quebec. Barkmere is our best

tool to continue defending our common interests, protect the forest and the clear waters of the lake, and resist development and urbanisation. Despite the (no doubt humorous) vision of Arthur Reeve's son, Charles L., in his memoirs, that Barkmere would become a huge city after a hundred years, this is fortunately not the case.

In 2026, it will still be a small community, with enterprising volunteers and supportive local entrepreneurs, celebrating together the great success... of having changed very little since 1926. On their behalf, I invite you to the activities and festivities they are organising to mark the event.

I wish you a very happy holiday season and a very happy centenary year in 2026.

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Luc Trépanier,
Maire

Barkmere Council Meetings - The Power of in-Person Presence!

By: Stephen Lloyd

The world of big business has been grappling with a challenge / opportunity which has come up since the pandemic. At least once a year, public companies need to meet with all their shareholders and be accountable towards their sometimes pesky questions. It is now accepted practice to set up technological solutions to allow those shareholders to attend the annual meeting on-line.

The laws governing corporate meetings have also evolved to give to companies maximum flexibility and discretion as to the logistics they use to run those meetings.

However, corporate law now even goes so far as to allow corporate shareholder meetings to be “virtual only”. Guess what? Some big companies see that statutory flexibility as an opportunity. At latest count, at least 75% of S&P 500 companies were holding “virtual only” annual meetings. It is much easier to keep these meetings “on script”, when all questions are to be “placed in the chat function”. And for “virtual only” meetings, there is no chance of the CEO having to physically confront a chatty shareholder for a one-on-one discussion at the coffee and buffet table!



Fortunately, the municipal world, at least in Quebec, has taken a different approach. Our monthly Council meetings are required by law to be held **in person**, in Barkmere. The Cities and Towns Act even uses the words “public sittings”, instead of referring to “meetings” of Council. The law leaves it up to each municipality as to whether they **also** want to provide virtual access to its Council meetings. Barkmere of course does so.

Elected members of the Council are permitted to participate in the Council meetings virtually (“remotely”, as the law states) but only in limited circumstances: for health or safety reasons, or under certain prescribed rules associated with maternity or paternity leave. Somewhat arbitrarily, the law only permits Councillors to participate remotely if they are physically located within Quebec, New Brunswick or Ontario. No dialing in to the Council meetings from the ski resort in France!

Importantly, as well, decisions at Council meetings are taken by “the majority of the members **present at the sitting**”.

All this means that your Barkmere Council is **physically accountable** to you, the Barkmere citizens. If you show up to the public meeting, you will find us there! If you have not previously attended a Council meeting, we would encourage you to do so. They are usually lively, and sometimes even interesting, affairs. And the best part is that you can chat in person, informally, with the Mayor and Councillors, either before or after the meeting. We really look forward to that interaction. Not everyone is comfortable asking a formal question as part of the official question period during the meeting. Plus, it is easier that way to find out what is really going on, in a more relaxed environment. Contrary to federal or provincial government, this is local democracy in action!

So we look forward to seeing you, whether in person or virtually, on the second Saturday of each month, at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Hall.

Happy holidays!

Stephen Lloyd,
Councillor

2026 Barkmere Council Meetings

January 17th, 2026	July 11th, 2026
February 7th, 2026	August 8th, 2026
March 14th, 2026	September 12th, 2026
April 11th, 2026	October 10th, 2026
May 9th, 2026	November, 14th 2026
June 13th, 2026	December 12th, 2026



The pride of being in Barkmere

By: Marie-Hélène Lemarbre

It is with great pride that I now take on the environmental portfolio within our municipal council. My former colleague, Jake Chadwick, has done tremendous work over the past years, paving the way for those to come. This role is deeply meaningful to me, especially since our territory is a unique and well-preserved place. Being able to enjoy our natural environment is an exceptional privilege, and I am determined to continue protecting its precious character.

I had the opportunity to be part of a team of councillors during the last mandate who taught me a great deal, and I want to thank them. Their passion and love for our lake are undeniable. I consider myself fortunate to have started my journey alongside them. This is one of our community's strengths... knowledge and passion are passed down from Barklaker to Barklaker, allowing other shoreline residents and citizens to, in turn, protect this extraordinary municipality.

I will continue to support our fight against Eurasian watermilfoil. Over the past summer, we observed a notable decrease in the presence of this plant. This progress is the result of a collective effort: the vigilance of shoreline residents, the protection of your shoreline buffers, and the participation of many citizens in detecting invasive plants have had a remarkable impact. I sincerely thank you for this commitment. But we cannot take anything for granted when it comes to this invasive species. I am counting on you again next summer to continue our fight against Eurasian watermilfoil.

I look forward to working with you to continue protecting this territory that is so dear to us. We will soon be celebrating the 100th anniversary of a place whose natural beauty has been preserved and protected as much as possible for an entire century! Let's celebrate and hope for another century where Barkmere remains our little hidden paradise.

I wish you all happy holidays.

I look forward to seeing you at all the 100th anniversary festivities!

Marie-Hélène Lemarbre,
Councillor



Living in Barkmere

By: Chantal Baron

Having inherited the finance portfolio when I joined the city council team last November, at the end of this year, I should have been talking to you about the 2025 balance sheet and the 2026 budget. As I am not yet familiar with all the details, our mayor has agreed to present this section to you this year to give you all the ins and outs, and I will take up the torch next year.

However, I can tell you that it is nice to take on a file like this when it is in good shape. A big thank you to Marc, Martin-Paul,

Luc, and everyone else who has ensured that Barkmere's finances are in good shape. I thank them for trusting me to serve as finance advisor on the council.

That said, I have decided to talk to you about Barkmere from the perspective of a permanent resident. Few of us enjoy Barkmere year-round. Most of you are familiar with the joys of summer and its central, unifying attraction, the lake, but when the leaves fall, does Barkmere fall asleep?

The pace slows down, and gatherings become less frequent. Certainly, silence is more present. Nature takes over. The differences between the days of the week fade away.

As the mosquitoes have gone into hiding and we spend more time outdoors, the shortening of the days is less noticeable than in the city, but cocooning sets in nonetheless.

Starry skies and meteor showers follow one another. In recent years, we have been particularly spoiled with several episodes of the Northern Lights.

It was in Barkmere that I learned to love winter, a winter that arrives earlier and leaves later than in the big cities, but which remains white after a snowfall. Can you believe that driving is easier? Yes, road maintenance is faster and more efficient.

The Barkmere ecosystem is located in a magnificent region that offers many attractions and is inhabited by authentic, charming people who always have stories to tell, love their environment, and want to preserve it.

That said, we always look forward to the return of spring and the seasonal Barklakers.

Happy holidays to all, and we look forward to seeing you at the Centennial Carnival.

Chantal Baron,
Councillor

Financial review of the year 2025

By: Luc Trépanier

The year 2025 was a little different than expected. In terms of revenue, the Town collected approximately \$6,000 in additional taxes due to the revaluation of certain properties during the year, and \$115,000 in additional property transfer duties, an exceptional situation caused by the unexpected number of sales and the increase in the value of the properties sold. At the same time, subsidies were lower than anticipated, including those for summer employees who did not work enough hours to be eligible.

The Town spent approximately \$9,000 more than anticipated on administration, including \$3,000 for reporting on the TECQ programme subsidy. The allocation of the administrative assistant's salary between administration and urban planning was done differently from the budget by approximately \$6,000 (which reduced those expenses artificially).

With regard to public services, the Town settled a dispute with the municipality of Arundel over the former first responder service and spent \$5,000 on this matter. However, costs related to eco-centres decreased slightly, and the campaign against Eurasian milfoil did not require as much effort due to the exceptional decrease in the number of plants to be removed. The Town had also budgeted for the collection and transportation of recyclable materials, but since January 2025, this expense has been covered by Éco-Entreprises Québec. We should therefore receive a refund of approximately \$15,000 from them for the year 2025.

The Town spent less than expected on planning and urban development, as professional fees were lower than expected because the regulatory review to comply with the new urban development plan of the MRC des Laurentides did not take place as the proposed new plan was rejected by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and postponed until 2027.

Finally, most of the \$20,000 in expenditures budgeted for 2025 for the celebrations of the centennial of Barkmere have been postponed until 2026. Prior to the final audit of the books, the Town expects to have a surplus of approximately \$68,000, without having used the portion of the accumulated surplus budgeted for 2025 in the amount of \$88,500.

In terms of capital expenditures, due to thefts at the landing and the reprehensible behaviour of certain individuals in the container area, the administration invested \$15,000 to install new surveillance cameras. It also purchased a computer to replace one that broke down during the year.

The most significant asset purchase was made in the parks. First, the Town spent \$62,000 to finally complete the installation of the washroom block on Goulden Island, but this expense will be fully reimbursed by the TECQ programme grant. Then the Town acquired the residents' park in Miller Bay for \$70,000.

Income

	2025 Budget	Est. Results	2025 Budget
Taxes	\$479,132	\$485,320	\$488,660
Other Income	\$120,194	\$230,077	\$143,617
Subsidies – Operations	\$26,469	\$14,650	\$8,055
Allocations – Surplus and Reserves	\$88,500	-	\$114,504
TOTAL INCOME	\$714,295	\$730,047	\$754,836

Expenses

Account	2025 Budget	Est. Results	2026 Budget
General Administration	\$275,894	\$283,515	\$273,213
Public Security	\$157,498	\$162,490	\$167,979
Transportation	\$55,578 \$	\$54,541	\$65,463
Waste - Environnement	\$67,914	\$43,907	\$47,697
Health and Welfare	-	-	\$1,962
Urban Planning	\$116,863	\$97,767	\$126,623
Leisure and Culture	\$31,778	\$10,753	\$63,749
Financial Expenditures	\$8,770	\$8,770	\$8,150
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$714,295	\$661,743	\$754,836

SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-	68 304 \$	-
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Capital Expenditures and Long-Term Debt

	Budget 2025	Estimé 2025	Budget 2026
Purchase of Assets	\$147,972	\$149,992	\$72,950
Debt Reimbursement	\$23,600	\$23,600	\$24,100
Subsidies	(\$76,736)	(\$86,204)	(\$64,100)
Accumulated Surplus	(\$94,836)	(\$87,418)	(\$32,950)
NET EXPENDITURES	-	-	-

Budget projections for 2026

The Town expects to spend \$40,000 more than the 2025 budget. Administration should cost approximately \$2,500 less than last year's budget, with the removal of minor expenses that were never incurred. However, public safety is expected to cost \$10,000 more due to increased costs for the Mont-Tremblant fire department, following the negotiation of a new collective agreement and the addition of permanent firefighters to the Montcalm fire station.

The MRC des Laurentides has significantly increased its budget, including a \$750,000 contribution for the establishment of a homeless shelter to be built in the Town of Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts. Of this amount, \$500,000 will come from municipal contributions. For Barkmere, the increase in contributions to the MRC will be nearly \$3,000, or 6.8% compared to 2025. On the other hand, contributions to the Rouge Environmental Complex will decrease by 14%, or \$2,500, mainly due to our tonnage of buried materials, which has dropped from 52 tonnes to 41.

As usual, salaries will increase in line with the consumer price index, estimated at 2.4% as of 31 December 2025. Finally, a non-recurring budget of \$52,000 has been set aside for the festivities surrounding the centennial of Barkmere (the unspent budget for 2025 was \$20,000).

To finance the increase in expenditures, the Town plans to draw \$112,000 from its accumulated surplus. This amount will cover the centennial expenses, the share of Barkmere for the homeless shelter, possible changes to the urban planning by-laws that were postponed in 2024, and legal expenses related to the upcoming lawsuit on the issue of the illegal road built in Cope Bay. A sum of \$2,200 is also being drawn from the Jesuit Road reserve to cover part of the 2026 expenses related to this road; the reserve is funded by taxes collected from property owners in this area.

The Town expects to generate miscellaneous revenues of approximately \$143,000, which is more or less the same amount as projected for 2025. An increase in transfer duties of \$28,000 is expected, but the elimination of the recycling subsidy since Éco-Entreprises Québec took over has reduced projected revenues.

The Town will still have to increase the general tax to be collected by \$10,000 compared to the 2025 budget, but only \$4,000 compared to the 2025 results, in order to offset the increase in regional and fire service expenses. This represents an increase of approximately 0.5% over the taxes collected in 2025. It should be noted that the Town reduced its general tax by 1.5% in 2025 compared to 2024. While the transfer tax revenue is unpredictable, falling short of the budget would not affect the Town's financial health.

Financial health and outlook for 2027

The Town of Barkmere has an enviable financial balance sheet. This puts us in a good position to continue protecting our community and environmental heritage in the future.

Although financially protected by its surpluses and reserves, the Town will have to be very cautious in the near future, as the provincial government continues to shift its responsibilities to municipalities in the areas of health, education and social services while cutting subsidies to RCMs. Expenditures related to the police, fire prevention and first responder services will continue to grow at a rate exceeding inflation.

We will undoubtedly have to continue to draw on surpluses to meet non-recurring expenses without reducing the level of services to the population and keeping taxes at a reasonable level.

Three-year capital expenditure plan

The Council has proposed the following investments:

	2026	2027	2028
Parking Lot Extension	-	\$12,000	-
Securing Resident's Park	\$9,650	-	-
Peninsula Trails	\$2,000	-	-
Improvement of the 6-hour wharf	\$4,800	-	-
Charging Stations	-	\$5,000	\$25,000
Garage - Motorcycles and Bicycles	\$40,000	-	-
100th Artwork	\$10,000	-	-
Computers	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Fire Protection Waterpumps	\$5,000	\$5,000	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$72,950	\$23,500	\$26,500

In 2026, we plan to implement a system to reserve and secure access to the park for residents and reduce the external traffic, improve the footbridge leading to the 6-hour wharves, which becomes dangerous when the lake level is low or when it rains, and replace some of the water pumps around the lake. We expect that the mini garage for motorcycles and bicycles will finally be completed. We believe that the peninsula trails will also be developed. As part of the celebrations of the 100th anniversary of Barkmere, there are plans to acquire an outdoor work of art to commemorate the event.

In 2027, we expect to have to expand the parking lot at the landing and continue replacing the water pumps. We may also have to add charging stations for electric cars.

In 2028, we are setting aside funds for the possible installation of one or more charging stations for electric boats.

Luc Trépanier,
Mayor

At your service!

By: Charles Morgan



As a relatively new resident of Barkmere, I am deeply grateful to the lake's residents who, for generations, have preserved its natural beauty and maintained a sense of community with shared values that encourages mutual support. This is rare and precious; it must be preserved!

Living on the lake year-round, "off the grid" and without road access, gives me a relatively unique perspective on the challenges of living here in winter (it's beautiful, but complicated!). It has also deepened my gratitude to the lake's residents, who are always there to help those in need.

I hope that both of the factors will help bring a valuable perspective as I begin my new roles on the municipal council assisting Stephen Lloyd with the urban planning portfolio, as well as leading the Infrastructures and Services portfolio. As regards the latter, the most notable projects for 2026 are likely to include the construction of a small shelter for motorcycles and bicycles in the municipal parking lot, as well as work to help clear the new nature trail on the peninsula. In addition, we will start evaluating the status of the dam at the lake outlet this year, reviewing its capacity as regards the increasingly fluctuating water levels we are experiencing on the lake as a result of climate change.

I look forward to participating with you in the extraordinary series of activities planned to celebrate Barkmere's hundredth anniversary and am so glad to see that so many of you have already contributed to the book that will be published this Spring to mark this historic event. All best wishes for the holidays and the new year!

Charles Morgan,
Councillor



Barkmere Winter Carnival

By: Grant Elliott

In 2026, the Town of Barkmere will proudly celebrate its 100th anniversary. Volunteers on the Barkmere 100 Committee have been hard at work organizing the upcoming Winter Carnival, scheduled for February 7th (with a weather-day of February 14th).

This year's carnival will feature a variety of outdoor activities, including a skating oval, shinny hockey game with boards, and Suffolk Punch horse-drawn wagon rides on Miller Bay. Visitors can also enjoy a sauna and cold-plunge station, as well as an introduction to snowshoeing.

A warm selection of food and refreshments will be available, including chili, grilled cheese sandwiches, cupcakes, maple taffy, soda, juice, water, and hot chocolate topped with marshmallows and whipped cream.

To keep everyone comfortable, the event will include tents for shelter and warming, and the Community Centre will be open for washrooms and additional space to warm up. Music will fill the air to help round out the winter fun.

Barkmere is ideally situated in the Laurentians for residents to enjoy healthy, active lifestyles in the great outdoors. Supporting leisure, recreation, and social activities helps foster a safe, inclusive, and welcoming town for all. The municipality is committed to encouraging and supporting events like festivals, cultural celebrations, and outdoor activities—opportunities where our community can come together.

Our town thrives when every resident feels valued and included. These celebrations strengthen community bonds, build civic pride, and give us all a chance to connect with our fellow residents.

Grant Elliott,
Councillor

Spark to a Flame

By: David Castonguay



There is a social phenomenon called the bystander effect, which refers to the tendency for individuals to be less likely to offer help during an emergency as the number of bystanders increase. Perhaps you have never personally found yourself in such a situation, which would be a common experience for most individuals.

Fortunately, this article has nothing to do with critical emergency situations. However, it does address a looming issue in our environment, one that I am certain, like myself, many Barklakers may concern themselves about each year due to the rising

publications and statistics on wildfires in our woodland-rich country. Of course, I am referring to forest fires. Every year, we notice our beautiful country be ravaged by immeasurable forest fires, often feeling helpless as these unfortunate events unfold through our television and mobile phone screens. Is there something we can do? While there are significant external factors at play such as longer, drier, and hotter weather, it is easy to assume that one person alone cannot make a difference.

This brings us back to the concept of the bystander effect. For those residing in urban city centres, it may be harder to feel personally connected to this issue, or at best, to know how to help minimise the risk of forest fires. However, as Barklakers, already being well concerned about our surrounding nature, it may be unclear as to your potential to help reduce the risk of forest fires.

This is the spark!

With the continued involvement of all Barklakers over the next four years, I hope to achieve three goals, all to challenge our collective behaviour. Together we will learn and understand the risks of forest fires, ensure these risks are clearly communicated to our fellow citizens, and establish a roadmap for ongoing risk management and firefighting.

Through the restoration of the long-unheld Consultative Committee for Public Security (CSP), one topic will be to aim to brainstorm ideas, hold discussions, and share plans on how to reach all citizens about the real threats of forest fires through awareness campaigns, while still enjoying our summer night bonfires (under dutiful compliance to the fire index and fire bans).

In addition, as part of 2026 activities, Barkmere has allocated funds for the reconditioning and continuous maintenance of the Barklake fire pumps. The way forward has yet to be determined and will be discussed during CSP sessions and shared through council meetings.

In conclusion, for those concerned as much as we are, we invite you to join us during the monthly council reunions to voice your concerns and ideas on this topic. We all have a role to play in the conservation of our land. If forest fires are now a real threat to our territory, I believe we will all work together to put in place the right measures to extend our conservation measures to this new threat.

David Castonguay,
Councillor

The Director General's Column

By: Martin Paul G  linas

And here we are again at the end of another year! Or, at the dawn of a new year, depending on how you look at it! What is certain for a town manager is that this is the right time to take stock of municipal administration.

It is worth remembering that the role of the director general is first and foremost to ensure that you, the citizens of Barkmere, receive the services you expect. All members of staff, including the young people who spend their summers monitoring access to the lake, are committed to providing you with the highest quality of service.

But since no one can refuse to improve, myself included, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to let us know if there is anything that is not to your satisfaction. For example, we have been told that access to the containers is a little difficult. We will therefore take advantage of the winter to have small steps built. This is just one example, but of course you can tell us about anything you wish. The purpose of this request is to convey our desire to serve you as best we can. We want you to be happy at Barkmere when you are there.

For 100 years now, the citizens of Barkmere have been taking care of this part of the Laurentians, and I can assure you that, compared to many other lakes in our region, Lac des   corces stands apart. And that is to our credit. But all this action would not be enough if it were not accompanied by the great friendliness of the people who live here.

I therefore wish for all of us, for the coming year and even for the entire next century that will begin in 2026, to maintain this great friendship and respectful joie de vivre that our environment creates.

Happy New Year, and Happy century!!!

Martin Paul G  linas,
Director General



Gordon Miller (1932-2025)

By: Luc Trépanier



Rosario Gordon Miller was born on October 18th, 1932, in the newly established Town of Barkmere. He was baptised in Huberdeau five days later. He was the second son of Rosario (Rosie) Miller and his wife Elsie Katherine Craig, the grandson of Andrew Miller (who died in his thirties in 1915) and Malvina Patry on his paternal side, and of Matthew James Craig and Rachel Dubeau on his maternal side. He grew up in Barkmere, during the depression years, probably leaving school at an early age to help out his father as the family grew rapidly with many more brothers and sisters born after him.

Gordon was still fairly young when his dad passed away in 1964, at the age of 56. He took over the “business” on the lake, building and fixing cottages. His mother was taking care of the general store in the village, where anyone walking in was welcome and could find anything and everything. Together, they formed a “company” named R.G. & E.K. Miller. Gordon had gotten married earlier with Lillian Desjardins, and together, they raised their own family of four children, Lynn, Michel (Mike), Johanne and Pierre (Pete).

Gordon was not interested directly in the Town’s politics, but he was still the most important man in Barkmere, more so than any mayor before or since. In the days before the Quebec government imposed the Sûreté du Québec as our local police, Barkmere had its own police force... that is, Gordon as Chief of Police. And before the MRC decided that we could no longer have our own fire service and fire truck, Gordon was also the Fire Chief. He was maintaining the roads, the wharves, while taking care of most of the business around the lake, building and renovating cottages. He was the go-to man, for anything one needed, from stoves, refrigerators, etc.

On a more personal level, it is Gordon with his sons and nephews who built our cottage. Not an easy task. My father-in-law had purchased a kit house, which came by train which had to be carried to Barkmere, then across the lake on Gordon’s barge, along with the rest of the materials, including the bricks and concrete blocks for the fireplace and the chimney. The house had to be

built all at once, laying and hammering logs row by row of logs to raise all the walls of the house as one unit, without mixing up the pieces, without using nails. More than 50 years later, the house is as solid as it was when assembled, and it never moved, anchored to the bedrock by the huge chimney.

As chief of police, he was more efficient than any SQ agent. One year, my in-laws got robbed in the middle of the winter, and the house, along with others in Green Bay, was completely emptied: the thieves took absolutely everything, even the dishes out of the cupboards. Gordon kept his eyes opened, and ended up in a barn a few months later, where someone wanted to show him all kinds of items that he was selling. Gordon noticed a blue ice auger in one corner of the barn. Remembering that my father-in-law had one just like that, he did not say more and came back later with the provincial police, to arrest the thieves and recover all the stolen property.

A few years ago, as a similar event happened in Green Bay. We called the SQ, now the local police. They did not even bother to show up.

When I myself came to Bark Lake, Gordon was already nearing his seventies. But I could see him working hard around the lake like he was still in his thirties. He cared about HIS lake very much. One day, a water plane came down and alighted from the Narrows into Green Bay. I was infuriated and was wondering what to do, who to call. Then I saw Gordon, who was working on one of the cottages in the bay, get into his boat and speed up to meet the plane near Blueberry Island. I could not hear the words he told the pilot, but it must have made it very clear that he had no business here, because the plane departed as quickly as it had come.

I visited Gordon and Lillian during an election year, doing the door to door in the village. They welcomed me even if they did not always agree with our politics at the Town Hall. Gordon took the time to show me a picture album, where he had kept photos of all the cottages he had built, including ours. He was so proud of them, and rightly so. We would not even have a cottage without him, and so do many other people around Bark Lake.

Gordon Miller was such a great part of the history of Barkmere, just like his mother and father before him. He lived almost as long the Town, just seven years less. He clearly inherited his longevity genes from his mother! I would have liked so much, next summer, as Barkmere is turning 100, to give him the honour he deserved and tell him how much the "Lake Heads" loved and respected him, instead of just writing this eulogy after he took his leave from the place he made, too early. Gordon will be dearly missed but will never be forgotten. Thank you, Gordon, for all what you accomplished during your long and productive life.

Luc Trépanier
Mayor

Information on the Town Hall

OPENING HOURS

The Town hall will be closed from December 19th to January 5th inclusively*

January to May 2026

Monday to Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mayor	819-681-3374, poste 5100	maire@barkmere.ca
Director general	819-681-3374, poste 1	dg@barkmere.ca
Finances	819-681-3374, poste 2	finance@barkmere.ca
Communications	819-681-3374, poste 2	communications@barkmere.ca
Urbanisme	819-681-3374, poste 3	inspecteur@barkmere.ca



Northern lights in Barkmere
Picture taken by: Chantal Baron