



Echoes from Barkmere – June 2026

The following is a summary of the last Town Council meeting held on Saturday, June 13th, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire on Goulden Island

The Acting Mayor announced that the municipality was affected by a wildfire on Goulden Island on June 3rd. Firefighters from the Ville de Mont-Tremblant and SOPFEU quickly fought and contained the blaze, which broke out near the trail on the southwest tip of the island. Once again, the assistance of Richard O'Shaughnessy and Shayne O'Shaughnessy greatly contributed to bringing the situation under control. The complete extinguishing of the fire then required continued intervention by SOPFEU on June 4.

In total, nearly one hectare of forest burned, and the cause identified by SOPFEU is recreational. The Acting Mayor reminds everyone that it is regrettable that this lack of caution persists, especially while a total ban on open fires is in effect. Although the region had been spared until now, which may have created a false sense of security, the risks must not be underestimated. The occurrence of two fires in five weeks—the first accidental, the second recreational, both despite restrictions—proves that the threat is very real. In light of this, the municipality intends to continue its awareness efforts.

The Acting Mayor wishes to strongly emphasize that the first reflex when witnessing the start of a wildfire is to dial emergency services (9-1-1). Even if in doubt, it is better to report the situation rather than delay the emergency response, as quick action is essential to ensure everyone's safety. The two recent experiences have also proven that a rapid call significantly limits the damage. Finally, while it is possible to help contain a nascent fire before firefighters arrive, this must be done without ever compromising one's own safety.

The Town is currently working to implement all necessary measures to clarify and optimize interventions by the fire department and SOPFEU within the specific context of Barkmere. The Town wishes to act in close collaboration with its partners, in the interest of all. To this end, the Acting Mayor will attend a Mont-Tremblant fire department meeting next week. This meeting will gather additional information and initiate the necessary steps to determine the best practices to implement for the community.

We also wish to increase our fellow citizens' awareness of the risks and how to behave in the event of a fire.

We would like to thank all citizens who shared their concerns with us, and we will be responding to them. The City also wishes to express, on behalf of the entire community, its deep gratitude to SOPFEU and the Mont-Tremblant Fire Department for the remarkable efforts they deployed to extinguish the fire on Goulden Island.

We will share all relevant information with you once all elements have been analyzed.

Public Safety Committee

Recent fires have prompted us to expedite the establishment of the Public Safety Committee, which was on our agenda. This committee will help define, implement, and communicate the actions to be taken in the event of a fire, as well as during other emergencies. Several people have expressed interest in participating. The committee's work will be communicated through the council meeting and the Echoes de Barkmere.

Parking closure on the weekend of July 25th

We would like to remind you that due to the Centennial celebrations taking place on July 25, parking in the dock area will be closed from Thursday, July 23 to Monday, July 27, and alternative parking arrangements must be made.

The organizing committee, municipal employees and volunteers need time before and after the event on Saturday, July 25th to set up and take down the necessary equipment.

It will be possible to drive to the municipal dock to bring your belongings and supplies, but unloading and loading must be done quickly to free up the area and park your car in one of the designated parking spaces.

As much as possible, we ask that you limit the number of cars per property by carpooling or arranging to park at a friend's house. Alternative parking locations are being considered. Due to the distance, we need to arrange transportation to the marina. To help us plan shuttle services, we will soon ask you to inform us, as far as possible, of your planned travel during this period.

Information session on the protection of riparian buffer zones

Contract:

Monitoring and removal of water milfoil will be carried out by a new team company, Fyto. Anne and Sylvain wanted to use their summer to travel a bit more, so we brought in a new, dynamic team.

Monitoring:

Once again this year, we invite you to participate in the CEAP citizen monitoring project. Although Eurasian watermilfoil is under control in Silver Bay, vigilance remains essential everywhere. We encourage each property owner to carefully monitor the lake in front of their home, between the property lines of their neighbors. Ideally in the morning or evening, when the weather is calm and sunny, inspect the shoreline by kayak, paddleboard, or while swimming. If you doubt any plant, please contact the Town. A simpler method for sharing your observations will be introduced shortly.

Silver Bay:

Once again, this year, I want to remind all lake users—whether you're a fisherman, a boater, a paddler, or a swimmer—to please avoid the bottom of Silver Bay. I know that curiosity and the urge to go all the way to the end of the lake are often strong, but please avoid this area. The residents of Silver Bay are working

hard to monitor and track Eurasian water milfoil to ensure their bay isn't overrun. So, let's support them and avoid the far end of the bay. The buoys are there, but they need to be repositioned—this will be done shortly.

Information session on the protection of riparian buffer zones

We would like to remind you that a presentation on riparian buffer zones took place on June 13th, 2026. It was recorded and will be on the [website](#).

Landing

We would like to remind you that the two buoys located in Miller Bay are not intended solely to indicate a speed limit. Their primary purpose is to reduce wake in order to protect the shoreline, docks, and residents' properties.

It is important to understand that a boat that slows down without sufficiently reducing its wake can sometimes create even larger waves, particularly when it moves forward with the bow rising and the stern dropping. We therefore ask boaters to pay special attention to their wake in this area and to adjust their boating behavior to keep waves to a minimum.

Barkmere Souvenir Book Pre-orders

A souvenir book documenting the past 100 years has been prepared over the last year. It will soon be available for purchase. We will launch a pre-order campaign shortly to prepare for and meet the demand.

DOCK ATTENDANTS

The summer employees hired have started work. The dock attendants will be present full-time starting June 21st.

COUNCIL OF THE RCM OF THE LAURENTIANS

The highlight of the last council meeting attended by the Mayor concerned the fire department. The Ville de Tremblant wishes to sign a fire service agreement with the municipalities it serves. Several municipalities have reservations, and at the same time, a proposal to create a regional fire board was underway. The creation of this regional board must now be reviewed due to the withdrawal of certain municipalities. Discussions will continue

BARKMERE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Beer order

To celebrate Barkmere's 100th anniversary, beer is available. Residents and visitors are invited to reserve theirs now by completing the form below: [🍺 Barkmere100 Commemorative Beer Pre-Order Form](#)

[Parking details coming soon](#)

Additional information regarding parking arrangements for the 100th anniversary will be shared in the coming weeks.



Picture taken by Mathilde Doyon-Pouliot on Jun 13, 2026

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.

CENTENNIAL SCHEDULE

Event	Date
Boat Bingo (4PM) at Goulden Island	July 4
*Boat Rally (10AM)	July 11
**Historical Cottage Visits, various locations (9AM)	July 18
***Centennial Day Celebration (10:30AM to 4:30PM, lunch served at 12:30PM) & Evening - Bromantics Concert and Dance Party (7:30PM to 11PM) all at the landing	July 25

****Registration is required via email to barkmere100@gmail.com
(more information on Page 12).***

*****Reserve time slots for your visits via the [Bark Lake House Tours website](#)
(more information starting on Page 5).***

******Registration is not required, but we kindly ask that you complete the participation survey [via this link](#). Even selecting 'Maybe' is extremely helpful, as it allows to better plan food, activities, and overall logistics (more information on Page 5).***

UPCOMING EVENTS

This summer marks a once-in-a-generation opportunity to celebrate the Town of Barkmere and a century of community, connection, and stewardship.

The Barkmere Centennial, which features four weekends of special programming, kicks off with **Boat Bingo on July 4 at 4PM**. Residents are invited to raft up at Goulden Island, where games will be called from the dock over the loudspeaker. Bring cash, your bingo daubers, and a sturdy surface to hold your cards (no RSVP required).

Festivities continue on Saturday, **July 11 at 10AM with the Boat Rally**, a friendly competition that will see crews follow clues and tackle a series of challenges around the lake. The event begins and ends at Goulden Island. **Registration is required**, and is limited to a maximum of 12 boats, on a first-come, first-served basis. Email barkmere100@gmail.com to reserve your spot. That evening, all residents are invited to Goulden Island for a community **S'Mores Night, starting at 7PM** (no RSVP required).

On **July 18, from 9AM to 4PM**, **Historical Cottage Visits** will offer a rare opportunity to step inside

some of Barkmere's most storied homes. Eleven properties – ten on the lake and one in the village – have been selected for their historical significance and the preservation of their original characteristics. Visitors will receive a printed history of each property, offering a glimpse into the families, traditions, and stories that have helped shape our community. As space is limited inside these historic homes, registration is required via the [Bark Lake House Tours website](#) (more information, including a map of locations, on next page). That evening, all residents are invited to gather at Goulden Island for a community **Floating Concert at 7PM**.

Celebrations will culminate on **July 25 with Centennial Day, a full day of events** taking place at the landing. From 10:30AM to 4:30PM, residents and visitors can enjoy games, historical exhibits, and a delicious lunch. Following a brief intermission, festivities resume at 7:30PM with the symbolic lighting of 100 lanterns, followed by a live Bromantics performance and dance party.

[Click here to RSVP for July 25](#)



HISTORICAL COTTAGE TOURS

Once in a century – an iconic **Barkmere cottage tour** that can't be missed! Pack a picnic lunch, load the kids in the boat, and spend the day enjoying a blast from the past on **Saturday, July 18, from 9AM to 4PM.**

Eleven families have graciously agreed to open their doors to welcome neighbours and share the history of their unique and iconic Bark Lake cottages. These historic homes maintain the original integrity of their design from the early 1900s. Amazingly, seven of the cottages are still owned by descendants of the original families. During your visit, you will be given a personal tour and learn about the history of each property. This is a rare opportunity to take a peek inside that cottage that has always intrigued you – but, you'll miss it if you don't sign up!

Space is limited inside these homes, so all visits must be reserved in advance. To accommodate as many visitors as possible, tours are offered in 45-minute time slots throughout the day, allowing time for each cottage visit, travel between properties, and boat parking.

Participants are responsible for planning their own itinerary by reserving the cottages they wish to visit ([click here](#) for the reservations website) and ensuring they have sufficient time to travel between them. Before making your selections, please consult the interactive map ([click here](#)) showing the location of each participating property and click on the pins for additional information. Participating cottages will be marked with a balloon on the wharf to help you navigate on the day of the tour. Please note that only visitors with a reservation for a specific time slot will be able to visit a cottage. (If you live in the village and do not have access to a boat, please contact Donna Florence at 819-217-7405 when making your reservations, so that transportation arrangements can be made.)

Let your curiosity guide you – you may reserve visits to as many properties as you like, but reservations will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Trying to decide which cottages to visit? The following is a brief introduction to the 11 participating properties to help you plan your day.



1. Robert Bellerose Home (circa 1940): 115 Chemin Barkmere

A gem, which many of us will have admired hundreds of times on our way to and from our cottages. Take this rare opportunity to visit a summer cottage right in the heart of Barkmere Village. Built in 1940, the Bellerose family is still the proud owner. Learn about the story of village life through a treasure trove of historical photos.



**2. Whittall Cottage (circa 1912),
St. Louis & Loiselle families: LDE 1861**

This is truly a grand and iconic Bark Lake cottage. It has been maintained and restored to keep the original integrity of the 1912 design. In order to keep the cottage and the grounds in pristine condition, its first owner, Albert Whittall, also built a cottage next door for his staff. Don't miss this treasure.

[Click here to explore the interactive map and see where these historic homes are located before booking your time slots](#)





3. **Carruthers Cottage (circa 1923): LDE 2760**

Since 1923, six generations have been making family memories at this beloved cottage. While it has undergone some small changes to accommodate the needs of a growing family, it still has all the charm of yesteryear.



4. **Popes' Point (circa 1913): LDE 2826**

Designed by architect Captain Morley Pope, this cottage was completed in 1913 for his family.

Little has been done to alter its original charm and spirit. Come and feast your eyes on the photo wall, trophy collection, wool bathing suits, and thunder mugs. This cottage remains the pride and joy of the Pope family.



5. **Zum Wilda Maa (circa 1933), Wileman & Hopkins families: LDE 2860**

While comparatively small, this original log cabin doesn't lack warmth or charm. Built in 1933, the massive fieldstone fireplace is very impressive, as is the use of space in under 700 square feet. While it has had several owners, the present ones couldn't believe their luck in finding the perfect cottage and community to enjoy their retirement.



6. Woodwind Cottage (circa 1914), Hackett family: LDE 2990

Built between 1910-1914, this glorious cottage and property is considered by many to occupy one of the most ideal locations on the lake. The Hackett family has been enjoying majestic sunrises and sunsets there since 1984. The huge wrap-around porch and expansive lawn have been used to host many memorable family regattas. This is truly a Bark Lake treasure.



7. Westwinds (circa 1933), Raymond & Barbe families: LDE 3770

This beautiful cottage was built by an employee of Arthur Neale and was later bought by the Neale family. In the 1950s, its owners transported a prized piano to the cottage, and it is still on display. This cottage has been lovingly maintained, and the screened-in porch acts as an elegant entertainment area. The views are spectacular, too.



8. Treetops (circa 1934), Neale family: LDE 3890

Treetops is a grand old cottage built in 1933 for Arthur Neale. It has a rich history, which includes being sold, then bought back by the present Neale generation. While John Neale pursues many hobbies, such as electric train sets, Lego, toy soldier reenactments of historic battles, and – of course – puzzles, perhaps his happiest times are spent organizing his expansive library. Yes, a library! You can't miss this one.



9. Kingan-Dugan Cottage (circa 1903): LDE 4902

It is believed that the Kingan-Dugan family has the longest residential history on Bark Lake, dating from 1903, and extending through six generations until present day. The current cottage replaced the original one in 1938, assuming its exact footprint. It has been lovingly maintained while respecting the original integrity. Situated on a point, the cottage is afforded magnificent views of the Narrows and Wentworth Bay. This part of Bark Lake history shouldn't be missed.



10. Camp MacNab (circa 1911): LDE 5235

Originally, this property was set up as a camp in 1910 for Seaforth MacNab and a fishing buddy. Over the years, the camp was expanded, as was the MacNab family. In 1968 the original 'camp' was replaced by a fully functioning Pan Abode. While this structure is not considered historic, Seaforth's legacy of recording history and preserving artifacts will make a visit to Camp MacNab a worthwhile step back in time.

Once you've decided which
properties you want to see,
click here to access the
booking website and reserve
time slots for your visits





**11. Cairncliff (circa 1936-1940),
Jack family: LDE 5756**

This elegant cottage, with a rich history, has been in the Jack family for six generations. Originally a 5-bedroom cottage, it has been expanded and altered over the years. Between 1948-1952, Rupert Jack and family added to the compound and built next door. The Jack family has long played an active role in the Bark Lake community.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to step inside some of Barkmere's most historic and beloved homes. If you've ever found yourself wondering what lies beyond those iconic boathouses and cottage porches, July 18 is your chance to find out. For one day and one day only, being a nosy neighbour is not only acceptable – it's encouraged!

Questions? Text event
organizers Barbara
Pope (819-421-2006)
or Donna Florence
(819-217-7405).

**COMMEMORATIVE
BEER:
PRE-ORDER**

The Barkmere100 commemorative beer is back! Available in pale ale and amber, and brewed especially

for our Centennial in Sainte-Agathe. Get your collector cans, which feature classic Bark Lake scenes, via the pre-order website (click here), with pickup at the Centennial Day Celebration (July 25). The cost remains \$5 per can, payable by Interac at the municipal office on the day of pickup.

BARKMERE100

ARTIFACT DISPLAY

On **July 25, the Barkmere100 Artifact Display and Interpretation Committee will present a showcase of artifacts**, both physical and digital, in the town Community Centre. Many artifacts are already featured in display cabinets at the Centre, and the Committee is searching for residents to lend any additional artifacts that may enhance the Centennial Day exhibit. Artifacts should date from the early years of Barkmere, up to the 1950s, and can be in either physical or digital form, depending on the lender's preference and/or the size of the items. The items should be accompanied by a brief description.

Volunteers will be on hand to act as guides during the Centennial Day Celebration, and to ensure the security of the items on display. Artifacts can include but are not limited to the following categories:

- Everyday and household objects (tools, kitchen utensils, crockery, ceramics, glassware, etc.)

- Means of transport (boats, horses, sledges, snowmobiles, etc.)
- Hunting and fishing
- Lighting and heating equipment
- Clothing
- Musical instruments and/or games
- Agriculture and the harvesting/processing of maple syrup
- Gardening
- Crafts (woodwork, stonework, blacksmithing, etc.)
- Water sports (windsurfing, sailing, water skiing, etc.)
- Objects that bear witness to Indigenous/First Nations occupation

Please note that not all items may be chosen due to duplications, space constraints, etc.

If you have any questions or an item of interest to share, please contact committee member Bruce MacNab at 438-969-6223, or via email at bmacnab62@gmail.com.

BARKMERE100 MERCHANDISE: PRE-ORDER

Barkmere100 **commemorative merchandise is now available for pre-order**, with a wide selection of items including hats, t-shirts, sweatshirts, activewear, and more, featuring the Barkmere100 logo.

To ensure that your order is available for pickup at the July 25 Centennial Day celebration, **all orders must be placed by July 1.**



[Click here to pre-order
your Barkmere100
merch!](#) 



Ready for an adventure? The **Barkmere100 Boat Rally** takes place on **Saturday, July 11 at 10AM**, an exciting lake-wide scavenger hunt that will challenge crews to decipher clues, complete creative missions, and explore Bark Lake from a whole new perspective. Whether you're competing to win or

BOAT RALLY: RSVP

simply looking for a fun day on the water, this is an event not to be missed! Registration is required and is limited to 12 boats. **Send an email to barkmere100@gmail.com to reserve your spot today!**

PRE-ORDER “FAMILY RECOLLECTIONS: AN ANTHOLOGY”



Created as a lasting legacy of Barkmere’s centennial year, “**Family Recollections: an Anthology**” weaves together cherished memories, historic photographs, and personal stories from the families who have shaped our community over the past 100 years.

The result is a rich tapestry that celebrates not only our history, but the enduring spirit of Barkmere. Pre-orders are now open through the Centennial Day survey link. As the book reminds us, “Bark Lake represents far more than just a place to spend our summers. It’s a feeling. A rhythm. A sense of home.”

Pre-order your copy today!

[Click here to pre-order “Family Recollections: An Anthology”](#)



“One of the most special parts of the lake
is the people. The friendships we have
built here have become an important part
of our lives.”

—Robin Trudell

BARKMERE100 BOAT BINGO

Bring your friends, your family, and a little bit of luck to Goulden Island on **Saturday, July 4**, for an afternoon of **Boat Bingo**! Hosted by the Lefebvres and the Hewletts, this centennial celebration gets underway promptly at **4:00PM**, with games called over the loudspeaker from the dock.

Five exciting games will be played over approximately two hours, with cash prizes awarded to the winners. **Bingo cards are \$2 per strip of three cards and will be available for advance purchase at the BLPA's Season Opener on Saturday, June 27**, from 4:30 to 6:00PM (cash only).

Players are encouraged to bring their own bingo daubers, or to use a highlighter or light-coloured marker to play their cards (remember, the

organizers will still need to see the numbers in order to confirm a winning card). Taping your bingo sheets to some cardboard, a cookie sheet, or something rigid is recommended. This will make it much easier to play if it's windy.

Each game will be different as outlined on the "Game Patterns" printout you will receive when you purchase your cards. Use it for reference while you play!

When someone yells "Bingo!," the game will be put on hold, the winner will text a picture of their winning card for verification, and the cash prize will be collected on the dock at the conclusion of all five games.

Event organizers Joan, Steve, Marc, and Christine look forward to spending a great afternoon together.

PARKING NOTICE

Centennial Day (July 25) will take place at the landing on the two grassy ovals normally used for parking. As these areas will be unavailable for vehicles during the event, the Town of Barkmere will provide information on alternative parking arrangements in advance of the celebration. In the meantime,

residents are encouraged to consider their parking needs and make any alternative arrangements available to them for the duration of the event. Those planning to attend are also invited to complete the [Centennial Day Celebration RSVP survey](#), which includes an option to indicate whether they want to sign up for parking updates directly from the Town.