



Echoes from Barkmere – JULY 2026

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Trépanier opened the meeting by expressing his hope not to offend anyone this time. His comments during the May meeting regarding the late April fire had indeed sparked some controversy.

He thus offered his apologies to anyone who felt targeted by his remarks regarding the difficulties raised during that event, particularly the firefighters of the Ville de Mont-Tremblant Fire Department. The mayor specified that he personally admires the work accomplished and the dedication of these professionals. He stressed that his statements were rather intended to highlight deficiencies to be corrected, both within the department, the Town, and the equipment, as well as regarding response plans on the lake and the preparedness of citizens themselves when facing emergencies. He reiterates that his primary objective remains the general safety of our citizens and their property, rather than targeting individuals who are doing their job to the best of their abilities.

The mayor also returned to the matter of boating on the lake. First of all, he reminded everyone that one of Barkmere's unwritten rules is to greet people when passing another boat. Beyond being a courteous and friendly gesture, it is an essential recognition of the other's presence on the water.

He also invites the population to review the basic rules of boating acquired during the training to obtain the Pleasure Craft Operator Card. Finally, it is highly recommended to obtain the APLÉ pamphlet concerning boating on Lac des Écorces. This document is available at Town Hall and will be published on the municipality's website if it has not already been done. The mayor will also ask the municipal administration to distribute it to out-of-town visitors.

BYLAW REGARDING COUNCIL RULES

Council has adopted a by-law governing the internal procedure for the conduct of its meetings, in accordance with the requirements of the Cities and Towns Act. You are invited to consult this final by-law, which will be published shortly on the Town's website. Reading it is highly recommended, as several of these rules directly govern public participation during meetings.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

Following the adoption of the new by-law concerning the CCE, Council has appointed the following individuals as members of the committee: Ms. Lindsay Ackroyd, Ms. Lea Hardcastle, Ms. Marie-Hélène Lemarbre (Council representative), and Ms. Tanya Nietzert, as well as Mr. Stuart Jack and Mr. Luc Trépanier (Mayor, ex-officio member).

There is currently one position remaining to be filled. Interested individuals are invited to submit their names to communications@barkmere.ca or to contact Councillor Lemarbre directly.

2026 WATER MILFOIL CAMPAIGN

The firm Fyto carried out its first intervention of the season in Silver Bay. Four biologists were present and conducted dives, transported on the Town's pontoon boat by summer employee Justin Walker. Only seven milfoil plants were discovered and pulled up. This is excellent news, but the mouth of the lake has yet to be visited, and this is where the largest number of plants has been found in recent years. Fyto will return later this month to complete the harvesting. We are reminding everyone that it is prohibited to fish in this whole highly sensitive area, in view of not propagating the milfoil.

Furthermore, Councillor Marie-Hélène Lemarbre urges the population once again to monitor the shoreline in front of their property this month, to ensure the absence of invasive species, including Eurasian watermilfoil. The best time to conduct this inspection is in the morning, on a paddleboard, in a kayak, or in a canoe. If a plant appears suspicious, simply place a small buoy and contact the Town. Finally, do not forget to report the surveillance completed on the website designated for this purpose.

To access the PACE program form, click on this [link](#).

JULY 18TH (100TH ANNIVERSARY)

Historical Cottage Tours (advance reservations required)

A rare opportunity to step inside eleven historic Bark Lake cottages and learn about the families and stories that helped shape our community.

 [Reserve Your Tour Here](#)

CELEBRATION DAY ON JULY 25th (100TH ANNIVERSARY)

As part of the 100th anniversary festivities, the area surrounding the parking lot underwent a rejuvenation, restoring plants and shrubs that had been neglected over the years. In addition, the tree honoring the memory of the late Mayor Douglas Lloyd was replaced and relocated to ensure its longevity.

Furthermore, the Town has issued instructions regarding parking options for July 25. Indeed, the usual lot will be occupied by the setups planned for Barkmere Day, which will take place there all day. This event will also require setup time in the preceding days and dismantling in the following days. In addition to the alternative sites identified by the Town and the 100th Anniversary Activities Committee, citizens are invited to find their own parking spaces with friends during this period.

Regarding boat parking, spaces will be particularly limited for those who do not own a slip at the marina. The Town therefore invites people to organize with neighbors and friends for "boat pooling", or to check with their acquaintances to see if they have available spots to offer assistance. To accommodate citizens, the dock at Parc des Jésuites will be exceptionally accessible for mooring boats during the day on July 25. Furthermore, a reminder that the 15-minute dock must absolutely be reserved for stops of a maximum duration of 15 minutes, with no exceptions, in order to allow for fluid movement.

The Mayor hopes that the population will come out in large numbers to celebrate the 100 years of existence of this wonderful tool that the citizens of 1926 bequeathed to future generations, of which we are a part. This is an opportunity to preserve a way of life, a corner of the country, and a wonderful community of people who appreciate nature, the lake, and living together in harmony.

Further improvements in the landing area

The long-awaited motorcycle and bicycle shelter is now almost complete: all that remains is to add a bike rack for securing bicycles. Motorcycles will therefore no longer be permitted in the people shelter near the six-hour dock. This dock is now equipped with a new access walkway that is much safer than the old one, with a gentler slope and a non-slip surface. Emergency repairs to the large hole in the road around the parking lot were carried out by City employees, but more permanent work will be done later this year, following the receipt of a grant from the Ministry of Transportation for this purpose.

COUNCIL OF THE RCM OF THE LAURENTIANS

The Mayor thanks Deputy Mayor Chantal Baron for replacing him during the June MRC council meeting. Few files directly concerning Barkmere caught her attention. However, the MRC is currently reviewing the funding for public transit, which could lead to increases in shares and, consequently, municipal taxes in the short term.

Ms. Baron also participated in a tour of municipalities along with the other mayors. She learned, among other things, that many municipalities share our difficulties regarding the attendance at beaches and municipal parks by individuals from outside. We know that the residents' park has often been "invaded" by visitors from elsewhere who take advantage of the free access to party, often noisily, preventing our own residents from accessing it.

On the other hand, we received a letter from CRE Laurentides, the organization that conducted the public consultations for the study of protected area projects in the MRC sector. The letter mentioned that the joint project of Barkmere and Montcalm, with a few modifications, will be recommended to the Ministry of the Environment. This is another important step in the right direction!



Picture taken by Justin Walker on July 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.