

**RECREATION, SPECIAL EVENTS CULTURE & TOURISM  
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Town of Carbonear  
Council Chambers, January 14, 2026 @ 4pm

**Present:**

Chair Councillor	Wendy Penney
Deputy Mayor	Fred Earle
Councillor	Malcolm Seymour
CAO	Cynthia Davis
Director or Recreation	Rob Button
EDTO	Kerri Abbott
EA	Janice Green

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Chair Wendy Penney reported the Recreation Meeting will be at 4 pm starting today.

1. Business arising from minutes
  - Cost of Expropriation – The CAO stepped out the meeting. Deferred.
  - Inspection Template / Maintenance checklist. Electronic copies attached. The committee was satisfied with the information provided. No further action required.
  - Q-R Code - Further information specific to the questionnaire is required before implementation of the Q-R Code.  
The CAO entered the meeting  
Cost of Expropriation  
This was discussed with the lawyer, who confirmed that legal costs would exceed \$10,000; however, an estimated total legal cost could not be provided at this time as it depended on the time involved. It is likely in this situation due to the possible number of heirs involved that this will be a time-consuming process. The assessed value of the land is \$123,000. Committee felt it would not be unexpected for the payout for the land and the legal fees to be in the vicinity of \$200,000. The proposed expropriation is intended to allow for future expansion of the Town’s recreation facilities. Deferred the matter for further consideration and discussion with Council.
  
2. Special Events, Culture & Tourism
  - a) The Special Events Committee wishes to continue holding the Bring the Light Parade and the Tree Lighting on the same evening. The Committee is willing to adjust the start time to improve the flow between the two events. The event will take place on December 1 of this year.
  - b) The Winter Carnival is scheduled for February 12-21, 2026. The plan is to have the schedule of events to be available by January 30. Organizations and businesses have been contacted regarding event advertising. The EDTO is working on a newsletter and the schedule will be included.
  - c) Coldest Night of the Year

This is a family-friendly fundraising walk in support of local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. This year, SSVP Carbonear is the local partner. It takes place on February 28, 2026. Chair Penney reported she is forming a team and inviting other members of Council and Staff to participate.  
The CAO left the meeting

3. Correspondence

a) Landscape NL

- 2026 Membership – The membership fee is \$188,73 plus HST. The committee recommends to renew the membership.
- Project Awards submission deadline: January 15, 2026  
Staff will submit the Community Garden Water Collection system and Solar Light system project for consideration.
- Recognition Awards submission deadline: February 20, 2026  
Staff will further review and submit nomination if appropriate.

b) Recreate Consulting Services, Report attached

The report was placed in Dropbox for review. Deferred for further discussion once committee has the opportunity to review.

4. EDTO Report

- Canada Connects Mural Mosaic Host Community  
A potential cost shared project with Canada Connects was reviewed with anticipated costs under \$10,000. The Committee expressed strong support. As more information becomes available it will be shared with committee.
- CIB Atlantic  
Following a 5 Blooms rating in the 2025 Atlantic Edition, the Town was invited to take part in the 2026 CiB National Edition. There was some discussion on whether the town was prepared for this competition. The cost is \$975 to register. The committee recommends entering the competition. Staff (Director of Recreation, EDTO and the Director of Operations and Public Works) will schedule regular meetings to start planning and organizing early in the year.
- Nuit Blanche event  
A potential date of February 21, 2026 for this event to happen during Winter Carnival week. The event is intended to become an annual, free arts and culture event. Further details will follow.
- CNA Proposal  
The College Administrator has proposed partnering with the town during Harvest Festival. The proposals are being reviewed.
- Community Garden Winter Sessions  
Plans are underway to promote the Community Garden for the 2026 season including workshops and agreements.
- Crafters Circle Events  
The Crafter's Circle is continuing to grow and meet weekly on Thursdays at the Princess Sheila Building. An exhibit showcasing participants work is planned. Outings to St. John's are also being discussed.

5. New Business
6. Action Items
7. Ongoing items
  - RFP Recreation
  - Sign Pike's Field
  - Locomotive Report
  - Claude Garland Memorial Playground concerns
  - Pedestrian Bridge – staff to check on status of application
  - Fence, Quinn's Playground – Spring project
  - Accessible playground funding initiatives
  - Strategic Plan
  - 2026 Harvest Run – meeting with stakeholders
8. Adjournment 5:15 pm