

Barry Fraese

1942 to 2021

Barry Fraese was first elected to the Rural Municipality of Morris Council in October of 1998. He served eight years until October of 2006. He returned to Council in October of 2010 and served as a Councillor until his passing on July 30th, 2021. In total he served the municipality for just over 18 ½ years.

During his time as a Councillor Barry showed his passion for a number of things. He eagerly reported on the Morris & District Handivan, serving on that Committee for numbers of years, including serving as Chair of the Committee. He was also very passionate about ensuring that his 'friends' in Sperling were represented around the Council table.

Barry was a friend to many, and we recall his stories about whom he would meet at a recent fly-in event, or he would talk about people that he and Marion would meet on some of their travels.

He was passionate about his family, and we heard many times about the adventures of his two children and also his grandchildren. Barry will be missed around the Council Table.

Following are quotes by some of our Municipal Councillors and Staff:

"RM of Morris Council will miss Barry's quiet, thoughtful, cheerful and dedicated approach to the responsibilities of Council work. Barry was very aware of the expectations of residents and ratepayers and made every effort to advocate and support projects and initiatives of all residents in the RM of Morris. Barry was quick to remind Council of our responsibilities to all residents and he had a very special relationship with the community of Sperling. We will miss Barry's contribution around the Council table, and we offer our sincere condolences to Marion, family and friends."

Ralph Groening, Reeve

"Barry was a friendly outgoing person who would visit most if not all the communities in the RM. That's how I first met him, when he dropped in at the Lowe Farm Coffee Shop on his somewhat regular drives to and through the community. He was always willing to engage in conversation and discussion of various topics and events and his passion for the RM was clearly evident."

Richard Giesbrecht, Councillor/Deputy Reeve

"Barry was always happy and friendly; it was nice when he came to visit with us at the office. Although he had cancer, he was always optimistic and happy; I really admired that about him. He will be very missed."

Jennifer Taylor, Administration Staff

"Barry was always friendly and accepting. When I first met him, he always had a bit of a twinkle in his eye and loved to joke around and be the 'Grandfather' to whomever was around. I will miss his optimistic outlook and cheerfulness!"

Larry Driedger, Chief Administrative Officer

“Barry was always such a joy to work with. Barry was such a kind gentleman and was so proud of his family who were the light in his life. He will be dearly missed by all who had the pleasure to know him.”

Kim Robert, Administrative Staff

“I first met Barry in January of 2018 when I started employment with the municipality. He was such a friendly gentleman and made me feel quite at home as a newcomer to the area. His knowledge of and commitment to the residents of the municipality was clearly on display as he helped to educate me on the local issues of the day. His dedication to his family and community were truly remarkable. He seemed to me to be like an elder uncle, trying to help me to understand the community and how I could contribute to making it a better place for all.”

Trevor Dackow, Fire Chief/Building Inspector

“Barry was someone who took his municipal experience seriously. He would always wear a shirt with a breast pocket where he kept his handy date book, where all meeting dates were recorded. No need for a phone calendar. He would also always be at meetings well in advance. If we were car pooling, I had to be ready at least 15 minutes ahead of agreed to time, or he would come walking up the street and wait on my driveway. So long to my fellow "Brandt Street boy " companion. I have already missed you since you got unwell and will always remember you.”

Mervin Dueck, Councillor