

May 2026

Meeting Minutes

Tofield and District Chamber of Commerce

Meeting date: May 6, 2026

Start time: 12:00 pm

Meeting location: Beaverhill Lake Nature Centre & Museum, 5020 46 Ave, Tofield, AB

Meeting purpose: Monthly meeting

In attendance: Kari Janzen (Tofield Mercury), Greg Litwin (eXp Realty), Barbara Ferguson (Royal Canadian Legion Branch 91), Sandy Brolly (food bank), Tonya Davison (Tonya Davison Photography), Trelaine Young (World Financial Group), Jim Robichaud (Tofield Golden Club), Emily Sjursen (Tofield Municipal Library), Tom Keller (Tofield Golden Club), Tigris Nosella (Material Moon Refuge).

1. Meeting called to order at 12:02 pm.
2. Welcome and Introduction
3. Spotlight – Tofield Golden Club *Tofield of Dreams* – Jim Robichaud
 - a. When I came to the club, I discovered that nobody really wants to be labeled a senior. But being a senior is not a disease or a limitation. It's a credit of life. Three years ago, I was asked to take over the seniors club because they were going to shut the building down and repurpose it to something else. From that time, we've gone from a handful of people to nearly 200 members. The reason is simple. We stopped focusing on age, and we started focusing on energy, involvement, and purpose.
 - b. We got a shuttle. This wasn't about transportation. It was about getting attention. It opened a lot of doors at a provincial level, it helped us secure grants, it led to recognition and awards, and, most importantly, it's connecting us to community. When people come out, they don't just come to the club. They stop and get fuel, they grab a coffee, they shop local, and they stay in town longer. This isn't just a cost, it's an investment in our community, we're dedicated to it, and there's a place for all of you in it, whether that's supporting what we're doing, partnering with us, or simply spreading the word. So here's my ask: come and see it! You don't have to act your age. You can just show up. We're building something special in Tofield, a real Tofield of Dreams, where, if we build it, they will come.
 - c. Greg Litwin asked Jim to provide an update and overview of what the expansion project entails. It's 3,200 SQFT, 40 by 80, that will have occupancy for 200, though we're trying to push it to 250. It's going to be set up as an arts and entertainment centre. We're going to have two stages, floor curling, pickle ball, and it will be available for rent. We're going to have a parking lot, which will eventually be paved. Our shuttle will be parked inside a garage. We'll have new kitchen going in, but that'll be phase two. We'll probably have three or four phases. Fundraising has stopped for the building itself, we've secured more than enough money to do that, but there's other elements that will be fundraising in the future.
 - d. Greg asked about the timeline of the phases. It's going to go up quick. I'm digging right now. We're using local talent. I'd say, in a month, you'll see the building up. The first phase will be completed before Christmas, for sure we'll be in there. There will be some things that aren't quite finished, like flooring, so we'll probably work off concrete and paint for a bit. Emily Sjursen asked if the build is expanding off the current Golden Club building, which was confirmed.
4. Sandy Brolly moved that the agenda and April 1, 2026 minutes be approved as presented. Carried.

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5. Financials – Greg Litwin – attached to minutes.
 - a. Right now, we aren't breaking even. Part of that is we are down in membership. We have about 37 paid members and we used to be around 50. Worst case scenario we'll have to raise our membership fees but if we get back to the 50 members, this will carry itself. Expenses for the Easter Egg Hunt haven't all been paid out yet, but it is nearly a \$2,000 event.
6. Updates – Greg Litwin
 - a. Easter Egg Hunt – We had about 80-85 kids. Those 9,500 eggs were gone in 20 minutes. We had excellent turnout for volunteers this year. People from the community really stepped up. It was a nice event for the community. Tonya Davison said she can send the photos she took to the Chamber.
7. Upcoming events – Greg Litwin
 - a. Promenade – Letters of sponsorship have started to go out. New committee members welcome. Things have really gone up in price. To make it free for the kids, we work on a budget of around \$14,000. We will need volunteers for all the activities. Bouncy castles need two people at each one for the four hours. Trelaine Young asked if there was a preferred deadline for commitment from volunteers. It would be nice to have in place at the beginning of July, just so we know how many bouncy castles to order.
 - b. Western Days - Sponsorship on rodeo has gone very well. The goal is to have it fully sponsored without a single person coming through the gate. Hoping to get more local teams in for the wild ponies.
 - c. Trunk or Treat – Usually get a 12 to 15 businesses out, had 20 one year. Had about 250 kids last year. Good dress rehearsal for kids. Barrier free, great for disabilities. Pet friendly, some have dog treats as well as treats for the kids.
 - d. Snow Goose Festival – A member in attendance asked if the Committee suffered a loss due to the cancellation of the festival this year, and the answer was yes.
 - e. Jim Robichaud asked about the August long weekend car show in Tofield. The Tofield Golden Club helped out to keep the car show going last year with Jesse Malica-Hare when the Lions club folded. Does it belong with us? The Golden Club can continue on, that's fine, but if there's a desire for the Chamber to want to take it on, we'd step back. It was noted that the car show is the Monday before Promenade, and agreed that it would be best if the Golden Club could continue on with it.
8. Round Table
 - a. Barbara Ferguson (Tofield Legion) – 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion, Tofield branch is 96. Veteran's supper, free for any member of military, police, and their escort, Sat. May 23. Public welcome to RSVP by May 16, \$25 each. Service at the cemetery, weather permitting. Meat draw this Sat. May 9. Doors open 1pm, draw starts at 2pm, over by 4pm. Come check it out.
 - b. Sandy Brolly (Food bank) - Don't have statistics today. Food bank considering a Christmas in July program idea. No hard details yet. The community market is planning a turkey dinner, open to the public, so partner with them.
 - c. Tonya Davison (Tonya Davison Photography) - This weekend I'm going to be in Hay Lakes at their spring market. Just finished doing an event for the Kids Help Phone, BMO walk so kids

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can talk. First time they had a photographer for that. My next big event is the Bare Knuckle Ice Wars at River Cree. I am planning of doing a fly-by of Tofield with my drone sometime.

- d. Trelaine Young (World Financial Group) - Independent and working from home so not out in the community, much but have been brainstorming ideas. Learning sessions for parents and Gr. 11-12 students, small groups of people to get my name out there and what I do. There is a bit of a stigma around finance, may be misconception of what exactly I do. As a business WFG, a lot around investments and insurance, but on the teaching end of things, there are simple concepts that people don't necessarily know have a huge impact when you're young, planning for retirement, estate planning, etc. I worked in the bank for a number of years, and I find that at the branch level, education is tiered. The more you've accumulated, you'll move up into your level of planning, options, but with me, no matter where you fall, you get the same education, product, and opportunity. It's about filling in that education hole.
- e. Tigris Nosella (Material Moon Refuge) - My store opened up in December, I left work from home desk job, and now I'm ready to step into the community more. I'm doing free intention packs for grads for the month of May. The 8ft tall glass two-seat booth I brought in from Estonia does red light therapy and halo (salt) therapy. Red light helps with skin health, inflammation, muscle pain, nervous system care, mental health, boost the circulatory system. Halo therapy is not very well known, but it's based on research that began in Europe. They realized the salt miners had really good respiratory health from inhaling salt. Good for allergies, asthma, COPD, to pull out impurities in lungs or sinuses, clear air flow. On the store side, that is more gifts, cute things, crystals, candles, books. We talk about taking care of your overall health; emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual health.
- f. Kari Janzen (Tofield Mercury) – In today's edition of the Mercury all the Tofield grad portraits were published along with all the businesses' congratulatory ads. Grad is this weekend, so next edition will have the coverage of the ceremony.
- g. Tom Keller (Tofield Golden Club) - We have new membership forms. We are now insured with the Golden Wheels to do special events and offer rides to people of all ages. We are only operating Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9am-4pm, weather permitting. The reason we picked those days is because the Tofield shuttle runs Tuesday and Thursday.
- h. Emily Sjursen (Tofield Municipal Library) - Every Thursday the Living Backwards Medieval Society meet to do crafts with the community. Working on garbs now. Book bedazzling just ran six weeks for teens and adults. Partnered with FCSS for Mother's Day brunch. Started a baby lap time today. Partnering with Claystone, they brought in compost baggies and other fun things, also did a story time. We have 76 kids in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program, had for two years now. We will last money-wise until end of 2026 hopefully. We are trying to organize a Friends of the Library for people who will be able to raise money for us through fundraisers and decide what the library does with its funding. Also have open application for summer programmer to run kids programs. Also looking to partner again with Jesse Hare from Home-time Realty for the book bingo.
- i. Jim Robichaud (Tofield Golden Club) - Shared the story of how the Golden Wheels shuttle came to town. Asked friend Laine Hooper for 200 lanyards, and while in the giving spirit shared idea for shuttle service for seniors in Tofield. Asked cost, Jim said \$31,500, and Laine said if you really think that is going to work, let's do it. Eight months to get here. Came on a

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ship from China. Assembled it in Tofield from the box, took over 6 hours. If you don't ask, you don't get, that's my message.

- j. Greg Litwin (Phoenix Group) – We've got new houses going up. There have been 10 development permits issued by the town. We got a few builders in construction through Montario Homes.

Next meeting is on June 3, 2026 at the Beaverhill Museum and Nature Centre **featuring Wild Oats & Notes Music Festival.**