

# BRIERCREST

## NEW EMPLOYEE GUIDEBOOK

Created February, 2016

### Welcome

Welcome to Briercrest College and Seminary. Below is some information about the unique community we are located in. We hope this resource will help you navigate our distinctive characteristics.

### Brief Briercrest History

Briercrest College and Seminary was founded in the town of Briercrest, SK in 1935 out of a desire to teach the Bible to young people. When the school grew beyond the capacity of the town and no water could be located on land outside the town, a move was necessary. With the end of World War II, several air bases were being sold. Sinclair Whittaker, one of the school's founders, made connections with both the federal and provincial governments making it possible for the school to purchase the Caron airbase for \$50,000 – five percent of its value. The first years in Caronport were difficult but, through God's faithful provision, the school continued to attract students and supporters. For 80 years, Briercrest has been teaching students about God, His word, and His world.

### Village of Caronport

For several years, Briercrest owned all the land and provided all the services for the community of Caronport. A couple decades after its establishment, the village became its own entity with Briercrest as its primary corporate citizen. In essence, Caronport is a school town. In recent years, an increasing number of people who have no connection to Briercrest have bought homes in Caronport and have brought a new diversity to the citizenry of the village. Nonetheless, the majority of Caronport residents are somehow connected to Briercrest.

### Housing Options

**Caronport** has a number of privately owned homes and at any given time one or more may be for sale. While many are posted with real estate businesses with listings available through MLS, some home owners sell privately. As a result, if you are wanting to purchase a home (house or mobile home), it is recommended that you visit the village.

If you are not wanting to purchase a home, Briercrest has a number of rental units (duplex, 4-plex, 5-plex) for rent by employees and students. Additionally, some community members rent suites.

Rent for school-owned units and lots for mobile homes is paid to Briercrest. For more detailed information go to our [website](#).

Taxes and services for privately owned houses are paid to the Village of Caronport. For more information contact the village by [email](#) or phone (306.756.2225).

A number of Briercrest employees have chosen to live in **Moose Jaw** and commute. Options in Moose Jaw can be accessed through standard city means.

## Parking

If you choose to drive to work, there are several parking lots available. The primary one is on College Drive in front of the main entrance which also accesses the east side of the Hildebrand Chapel. For those who would like an electrical spot, there are a limited number available with first priority given to employees who live outside Caronport.

## Services

Given its rural nature and proximity to Moose Jaw, the services available in Caronport are limited. Those located in the village include:

- Canada Post Office (corner of Centre St and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave)
- [Dining Hall](#) – meals can be purchased individually at the door or meal packages are available. This service is primarily used by students but community members are welcome.
- Laundromat (school-owned and located on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave just west of the machine shop)
- Carl Sowden Massage Therapy (RMT) – 306-630-2260
- [Caronport Medical Clinic](#)
- Caronport Sports Physiotherapy Clinic – 306-756-2629
- [OK Tire and Automotive](#)
- [The Pilgrim Inn](#)
- The Point (306-756-3335) – school owned and located on the service road close to the TransCanada highway:
  - o Husky gas station
  - o Convenience store
  - o Subway restaurant
  - o Coffee shop

**Moose Jaw** is the closest city, 20 kms east of Caronport. Caronport residents travel to Moose Jaw for many services including:

- Groceries: There is a small convenience store in Caronport (at the Husky gas station) which carries standard c-store fare. All other [grocery](#) needs can be met in Moose Jaw. The main grocery stores are Co-op Marketplace, Real Canadian Superstore, and Safeway.
- Medical Services:
  - o [Caronport Medical Clinic](#) (Dr. Susan Bell)
  - o [Hospital and Medical Clinics Listing](#) (Moose Jaw)
  - o [Family Physicians Listing](#) (Moose Jaw)
  - o [Pharmacy Listing](#) (Moose Jaw)

## Campus/Community Safety

Caronport has a police service and a volunteer fire department

**Emergencies:** 9-1-1

**Campus Safety:** 306-756-3327 (concerns about building access)

**Caronport Police:** 306-756-2522

**SK HealthLine:** 8-1-1

**Hospital:** [Dr. F. H. Wigmore Regional Hospital](#) (Hwy #1 to Main St. exit. Turn left at first lights - Diefenbaker Dr.)  
306-694-0200

## Cell Phone Service

SaskTel, Telus, Bell, and their affiliates all work well in Caronport. Reception from other providers is limited.

## Caronport Recreation Board and community social media groups

The village has a [recreation board](#) that facilitates a number of activities for adults and children.

To keep up with the big and small happenings within Caronport, some residents find the recreation board supported community email list and/or the Caronport community Facebook page helpful.

## Ways to Connect

There are many activities going on in Caronport. Many are associated with Briercrest or one of the local churches. Accessing the activities and developing good social connections can be bewildering for newcomers. Here are a few tips:

- Initiate and take advantage of the opportunities that you become aware of
- Join a church and participate in the body life
- Watch bulletin boards in the academic complex for reading groups
- Get involved in [intramural sports](#)
- Sing, act, or play in the orchestra for the Christmas Musical, Opera Scenes (winter performance), and/or Summer Stage (May/June performances) – watch for Briercrest and community emails
- For those with children: connect with other parents as your children participate in activities

## Churches

[Caronport Community Church](#)

[The Gathering](#) (Caronport)

[Moose Jaw Churches](#)

## Elementary and High Schools

Community members can send their children to the schools located in Caronport.

[Caronport Elementary School](#) (Public school with the Prairie South School Division)

[Caronport High School](#) (Associate school with Prairie South SD – application and some funding required)

## Annual Rhythm

There are all kinds of variations on the themes, but there is an annual rhythm at Briercrest that follows the academic calendar. Here's a snapshot:

Early September: The campus is flooded with returning high school and college students

October: RETHINK conference – designed to help young adults seek the kingdom of God

December: Christmas Musical – designed to tell the Christmas story to thousands

February: Youth Quake – designed to draw teenagers and encourage them to seek God

March: Aboriginal Awareness Week – designed to provide opportunity for Aboriginal leaders to interact with students and the broader community

April: College graduation

June: CHS graduation

July – August: vacation time – the village gets very quiet with all the students away and many staff taking vacation

## **Weather**

Caronport, Saskatchewan is located in the heart of the Canadian Prairies. In the winter it can be very cold, and in the summer it can be very hot. Our summer season is quite short (typically July-August) and can be as hot as 30-35 degrees Celsius for a few of those weeks. Our winter season is quite long (typically November-March), and can be as cold as -30 degrees Celsius for a few of those weeks. Warm clothes and a hardy spirit are required.

## **Libraries**

Community members are welcome to access Briercrest's library. Staff members can have an ID card issued that will give them book-borrowing privileges. Other community members can request a community borrowing card at the circulation desk.

The [Moose Jaw Public Library](#) can be accessed by all local residents of the area (including Caronport). Simply visit the library with ID that provides proof of your local address.

## **Coming from outside Canada**

If you are coming from another country, be sure to ask for immigration information from our Human Resources office if you have not already received it.