

NewfoundLUG - August 2026 General Meeting Minutes

Date: September 1, 2026

Location: Bricks & Minifigs St. John's

Time: 7pm Social, 7:30pm Official Start

Board Members in Attendance:

President: Christine Gillard

Vice-President: Justin Stone

Treasurer: Isabel Costa

Events Coordinator: Kira Whittaker

At-large Member: Sheila McDonald

At-large Member: Paul Dawe

LEGO CoLab Community Representative: Chris Mitchell

Members in Attendance: (Quorum reached; including Board Members, there were 22 members in attendance).

President's Report:

- Isabel and Christine summarized the August Board Meeting to general members.
- Update on the change to a tiered membership for NewfoundLUG active members (paid vs non-paid):
 - The board would like to make the annual fee for paid members \$25, due at the Annual General Meeting (i.e. May) with the exception of this year where it would be due at the September Meeting.
 - This fee would be used to cover all administrative and social-related expenses of NewfoundLUG.
 - With the first annual fee payment members would receive a new NewfoundLUG t-shirt and the option to order more at cost.
 - The benefits of being a paid-member would also include priority and no-cost for a display table at shows, participation in LUGBulk, free participation in all LUG hosted social events and discounted rates for a vendor table at shows.
 - The non-paid membership option allows participation in all general membership meetings. Participation in LUG hosted shows and social events for a fee and/or space availability.
 - The choice between the two-tier membership is completely optional. Tiered memberships are common within other LUGs across the country. This option is a necessity in order to continue to provide NewfoundLUG members with a standardized level of benefits as well as to be able to meet the LEGO FanColab requirements.
 - Members agree that documentation detailing this proposed change should be made available to the general membership for discussion at the September meeting.

- Update on the new t-shirt for the LUG:
 - The Board unanimously decided that the t-shirt will have one colour option, red, and one large NewfoundLUG logo in the front. This will cut on cost and provide a uniform and highly visible identification of members at shows.
 - Production quotes are being discussed and a final decision will be made at the September board meeting and presented to the general membership at the September meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

A projected annual budget will be finalized and presented to the membership at the September meeting.

Events Coordinator Report:

- Communication with potential venues to host Blocks on the Rock 2027 (BOTR7) are still ongoing. Dates for the show will either be April 9-11 or April 16-18. Meetings with Easter Seals and City of St. John's are scheduled for the coming weeks to finalize a venue.
 - An **Introduction Letter** as well as a **Partnership Agreement** documents are being drafted by the Board to clearly state expectations for both partners of BOTR. One major change from previous years will be the collection of a portion of the entry fee in order to cover all costs associated with running the show. A draft of this document will be made available to the general membership for input and comments.
- Train/Christmas Show at the GeoCentre - Paul (Dawe) reports on his meeting with GeoCentre staff. A large space will be made available for an interactive train display and non-interactive Christmas display that would be a collaboration built by NewfoundLUG members. This display would be protected from the general public. Members agree that a chat for this potential collaboration should be started over the NewfoundLUG Chat Hub.

LEGO CoLab Community Representative Report:

- Update on the LEGO FanColab program, now live, and associated application.
- Gifts provided by the program for community members and representative, new official language (e.g. Communities = LUGs; Ambassador = Community representative)

Ongoing Projects:

- Development of a NewfoundLUG member t-shirt (on going).
- "Member Shoutout" on NewfoundLUG socials, ideally with posts every 2-4 weeks (on going).
- "Themed Meetings/Presentations" and/or "Show and Tell" following each monthly meeting (on going).
- NewfoundLUG website update (on going).

- Development of supporting documentation for future events partnerships and tiered-membership for the LUG (on going).

Future Events:

- Trade Night - September 23rd at the Botanical Gardens
- “Geek Out at the Library” - Memorial University/Arts and Culture Centre, October 13-17th, 2026 - Evenings. Potential LUG participation on Oct 14th (Wednesday evening). Members agree that a chat for this potential participation should be started over the NewfoundLUG Chat Hub.

Other Business:

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Themed Presentation: Brickomanie 2026 - Attending a large scale Lego Convention, by Chris Mitchell.