

R.M. of Moose Jaw No. 161

Snow Removal Policy

Topic: SNOW REMOVAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY

1.0 MISSION STATEMENT:

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Moose Jaw No. 161 shall provide snow removal service at its discretion, and to the best of their ability with the resources at their disposal, on access routes to all occupied residences and on designated higher traffic routes in the Municipality.

2.0 SCOPE OF SERVICE PROVIDED

- (a) Snow shall be removed only on public roads in the municipality, subject to routes approved by Council and reviewed from time to time, with equipment owned and operated by the R.M. of Moose Jaw No. 161.
- (b) Snow removal service shall be performed at the discretion of, and to a level of service determined by, Council, the Road Committee of Council, administration and the public works staff. There shall be no service provided for lanes, yard sites, or on any private property.
- (c) Council may provide for snow removal on roads/road allowances within the municipality that have not been identified as an access route to an occupied residence or as a designated higher traffic route, either on a custom work basis or at no charge to the individual requesting the service, where the public works staff determines that they have the time and capacity to perform such work.
- (d) Regarding occupied residences that may be accessed by two or more routes, Council reserves the right to provide snow removal on one access route only as determined by the public works staff, administration and the Road Committee of Council.
- (e) Item (d) above shall apply to school bus routes, as well – access shall be provided to occupied residences via a route determined by Council.
- (f) Council makes no warranties or guarantees as to the level of snow removal service provided at any time, including timeliness of service, routes travelled, or amount of snow, if any, removed from the roads.

3.0 RIGHT OF COUNCIL TO ALTER OR TERMINATE SNOW REMOVAL SERVICE

Council shall retain certain rights regarding the provision of snow removal service, including:

- (a) Terminating the service to certain occupied residences where conditions and/or issues with owners or occupants of any residence exist to warrant such termination of service.

3.0 RIGHT OF COUNCIL TO ALTER OR TERMINATE SNOW REMOVAL SERVICE (Continued)

- (b) Increasing the services in severe conditions by hiring additional equipment or contractors.
- (c) Expanding the service to include other roads not originally identified for service, or not meeting the criterion of being an access route to an occupied residence or a designated higher traffic route in the municipality.
- (d) Suspend the service due to external factors.
- (e) Terminating the service entirely.

4.0 METHOD OF SERVICE PROVISION

Where practical, Council shall provide service via the methods identified below during the course of a winter or snow season:

- (a) Identified main transportation routes, access routes to occupied farm sites on roads approved by Council, and school bus routes on roads approved by Council, all as reviewed and approved by Council from time to time, shall have first priority.
- (b) Following a winter storm, or at any time, snow removal may not be performed pursuant to Section 2(b) above.
- (c) Where it is deemed practical or possible, public works personnel shall vary the order in which roads have the snow removed from them over the course of a one-winter or two-winter period, such that over that period or periods, where one road or route is serviced first following a storm, an alternate road or route shall be serviced first following the next storm and so on.
- (d) Should the combined air temperature and wind chill factor reach a sum of -25 degrees Celsius or lower, or should blizzard-like conditions prevail at any time, Council may at its discretion choose to temporarily suspend snow removal service until more favourable environmental conditions exist.

5.0 SNOW REMOVAL BY PRIVATE OPERATORS

Individual ratepayers, snowplow clubs, small business owners or corporations, community associations or others (hereinafter referred to as "snow removers") that so desire may voluntarily (without recompense), and are hereby authorized by Council to, remove snow from public roads in the municipality subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Snow removers shall be required at minimum, and pursuant to the terms of *The Traffic Safety Act* and *The Vehicle Equipment Regulations, 1987*, to ensure that the vehicle operated to perform snow removal on public roads is fitted with one or more amber beacons that emits a light that is visible from 125 metres on a clear night.
- (b) It is recommended and advised that snow removers, when operating a vehicle used for snow removal on public roads at a speed of 40 kilometres per hour or less, carry a slow moving vehicle warning device at the rear of the vehicle as near to the centre as practicable with one side parallel to and not less than 900 millimetres nor more than 1,500 millimetres from the ground and operate with hazard warning lamps.
- (c) There shall be no payment authorized by Council for such voluntary work on public roads, unless Council specifically contracts a snow remover to perform snow removal on public roads in the municipality.