

DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE**SNOW REMOVAL POLICY**

Established by Council on March 29, 2010 – Resolution No.27134
Amended by Council on January 13, 2014 – Resolution No. 28889

Purpose of this policy

Within the limitations of the District's financial resources and Council-approved budget, it is the policy of the Council of the District of Mackenzie to maintain the airport, parking areas, streets and walkways of the District during the winter months by the removal of snow and the control of ice conditions so as to allow the District to function under normal winter weather conditions. This Policy states the intent of the District snow and ice control operations and establishes the priorities within which limited manpower, equipment, and finances will be applied to this service.

Policy

The intent of snow and ice control operations is to maintain the District airport, parking areas, streets and walkways in a reasonably safe and passable condition. Snow removal and ice control operations are not intended to eliminate all hazardous conditions at all times. They are intended to assist vehicles which are properly equipped for winter driving and are being operated in a manner consistent with good winter driving habits. The degree of clearing of snow and ice will depend on the availability of personnel and equipment, as approved through District Council's annual budget approval process and operational requirements and limitations.

Priorities

It is expected that under winter conditions that can prevail in the Mackenzie area, there will be situations when the immediate demand for snow and ice control measures will exceed the available resources of the District. In order to maximize the use of the available resources, operations shall be conducted according to the priorities as shown on the attached maps and as detailed below. Priority given to certain areas may be subject to change in the event of an emergency requiring use of District manpower or equipment. Note that operational priorities may be subject to variation to try to provide as wide a range of service as possible during ongoing operations.

Priorities

Priority '1' Main arterial routes, emergency services and areas critical to the operations of the District of Mackenzie.

Priority '2' Secondary arterial routes, main school routes and areas important to the ongoing operations of the community including airport.

Priority '3' Residential areas and all other areas not shown or defined.

Maps

Grader A Map of routes and priorities.

Grader B Map of routes and priorities.

Loader A Map of routes and priorities.

Loader B Map of routes and priorities.

Street Sanding Map of routes and priorities.

Walkways & Sidewalks Map of routes and priorities.

Operations

Operations will begin at the discretion of the Director of Operations, Public Works Manager, On-call Supervisor or as may be requested by the RCMP, Ambulance or Fire Department.

Normal snow clearing operations shall commence when snow depth reaches exceeds five centimeters and will be cleared during the regular hours of operation of the District employees. Snow clearing on weekends will commence when snow depth exceeds seven centimeters. When snowfall conditions warrant (for example, wet and heavy snow or icy conditions) clearing of snow may commence prior to reaching these depths and may be cleared outside of stated parameters.

It is the intention of this policy that the airport, streets, parking areas and walkways be made reasonably safe for passage following a snow fall, while recognizing the fact that the District has limited resources in manpower and finances and is situated in an area where winter snow storms can be frequent and prevalent. The policy is not to clear to bare pavement but only to remove excess accumulations within the limitations of the equipment's capabilities. The intent is to keep our airport, streets, walkways and parking areas as safe as reasonably possible throughout the winter months, given the limitations of the District's available resources.

Sanding and/or salting will be carried out after streets, walkways and parking areas are cleared of excess snow. Generally sanding will be applied at stop signs, grades and corners on streets. Extra sanding will be applied on any straight stretches of road only during extreme icy conditions. All walkways will be sanded based on priority and limitations of the District's available resources.

Intersections, high corners and fire hydrants will be plowed for visibility and access as required, after all priority snow clearing is accomplished.

The District will respond to public complaints about snowy or icy conditions by investigating and being dealt with as resources permit, with the area complained of being dealt with in accordance with the priorities established for routine operations as soon as overall priorities of operations permits.

Inclement weather conditions notwithstanding, winter hours of operation will commence and terminate:

November 1st through March 31st

Monday to Friday, from 0400 -1800 hours in two shifts

Saturday and Sunday from 0600 – 1800 hours as needed

Winter conditions outside of the above-noted hours will be handled on an as needed basis as determined by prearrangement by the Director of Operations or Public Work Manager or at the discretion of the on-call supervisor.

The District will not clean private driveways unless it is determined that District equipment, during its normal operations, has filled the driveway to a level which precludes hand shoveling. This consideration is based on the District's operational requirements and available resources.