



# DISTRICT OF WEST KELOWNA

## COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

Pages: 1 of 2

Approval Date: October 14, 2014

**SUBJECT: SNOW CLEARING POLICY FOR SIDEWALKS, WALKWAYS, AND STAIRWAYS**

### **Policy Statement:**

This Policy addresses snow clearing for sidewalks, walkways, and stairways. In accordance with the Good Neighbour Bylaw, residences and businesses shall be responsible for clearing snow from sidewalks and walkways bordering their property within 24 hours of any accumulation of snow and/or ice. The District will be responsible for maintaining the exempted sidewalks listed in the Good Neighbour Bylaw.

On an annual basis, the sidewalk, walkway, and stairway priority classification shall be reassessed by staff, and revisions made where warranted. Following the street priority classification review, a map will be prepared reflecting the revised priorities.

### **Purpose:**

To address the snow accumulation hazard for pedestrian traffic on sidewalks, walkways and stairways.

### **Procedure:**

Emphasis on snow clearing operations shall generally be in order of the assigned classifications priority as noted below. When necessary, the order of priority for the service may be altered.

- Priority 1:** Sidewalks/Walkways/Stairways surrounding District owned property, Good Neighbour Bylaw exempt sidewalks on arterial and collector roads, Rapidbus transit exchanges.
- Priority 2:** Selected District Sidewalks/Walkways/Stairways, Good Neighbour Bylaw exempt sidewalks on local roads, transit shelters.
- Priority 3:** Other District Sidewalks/Walkways/Stairways and transit bus stops.

Should any walkways or staircases be deemed hazardous to pedestrian use, staff reserves the right to close them for the season or as needed until such a time that the hazard has passed.

Notwithstanding the snow removal requirements of the Good Neighbour Bylaw for residences and businesses, staff may provide an in-kind service to clean sidewalks fronting residences or businesses after a snowfall event. Such in-kind service will only be provided if the District has the resources available to do the work, and under the condition that there is no expectation created that the District is obligated to provide the service during future snowfall events. Sidewalks may not necessarily be plowed to bare concrete.

All inquiries will be will be handled by staff during normal working hours and a call-in number will be provided for after hours, weekends, and holidays.

Complaints of an emergent nature are to be transmitted to appropriate field personnel for action.