

Happy New Year Grand Forks!



Settle down.

From Council Chambers

- Council would like to remind everyone that Council Meetings are open to the public. If your organization is interested in providing an update to Council, consider attending a Committee of the Whole Meeting. For an up to date calendar of Council Meetings, visit www.grandforks.ca.
- The Budget process will begin at the next Committee of the Whole meeting on January 27th. Staff has aligned the process with the Committee of the Whole Meetings so that a discussion may ensue between Council, Staff and members of the public.

- ° Jan 27, 2014 COTW Operations budget presentation by Managers. Draft operating budget presented to Council
- ° Feb 11th, 2014 COTW Capital Budget Presentations by Managers Strategy session to identify Council's prioritization of capital items presented by management and direction of new capital items by Council.

Please watch for more information on the budget process.

- Council is hosting an open house for Water Meters on January 22nd, 2014 from

2pm – 6pm at Gallery 2. We would love to see you there! Council and staff will be available to share important information regarding water meters including: process and timelines

- The Wildsafebc program, that City Council and the provincial Government have provided joint funding for, is underway. The program's mandate is to reduce human-wildlife conflict through, education, innovation and cooperation. The Wildsafebc program coordinator is Laurie Grant who can be contacted at Grandforks@wildsafebc.com



Save the Date: Come on out and celebrate Family Day

in Grand Forks

This is a weekend long event that offers free activities for the whole family.

Saturday February 8th - Monday February 10th.
Mark your calendars.



Utility Bill Payment Schedule

MAILING DATE	BILL DUE DATE
By the last working date of the month below	First Thursday of every other month
December 2013	February 6, 2014
February 2014	April 3, 2014
April 2014	June 5, 2014
June 2014	August 7, 2014
August 2014	October 2, 2014
October 2014	December 4, 2014
December, 2014	February 5, 2015

PUBLIC NOTICE



THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK REGARDING SNOW REMOVAL IN THE COMMUNITY. Below are commonly asked questions we receive after a heavy snowfall.

Why does the snow plow leave a windrow in my driveway? Plow operator must plow snow to the curb or right hand side of the road, and has limited control over the amount and direction that comes off the blade. The plow blade is at a set position, and does not have the ability to swivel around driveways and crown of the road. When clearing your driveway, try to pile the snow on the right side (standing in your driveway and looking towards the street). This can help reduce the amount of snow that is pushed onto your driveway when a snow plow passes.

Can the snow plow operator lift the blade at every driveway? In order for our snow plow operators to provide the most efficient and cost-effective snow removal, continuous movement is required. With hundreds of driveways in the City, it is not practical or cost efficient for plow operators to lift their blades at every driveway. Since our main goal is to safely open roads as soon as possible, lifting the blade at each driveway would slow down the snow removal operation significantly and would leave snow in the road that may in turn be a hazard to motorists.

Can the snow plow trucks plow all the snow to the other side of the street where there are no sidewalks or driveways? The snow plows are designed to plow snow to the right hand side of the road. In order to plow all the snow to one side, the equipment would have to drive on the wrong side of the road creating an unsafe traffic situation and this would take more time which means the streets not serviced yet would have to wait longer. It is not an effective cost method based on the current level of service the City of Grand Forks provides.

Can I place the snow from my driveway or parking area onto the traveled portion of the street? Residents are encouraged to avoid pushing or blowing snow from their sidewalk or driveway into the street because it is potentially creating a dangerous situation for motorists.

By placing the snow back onto the roadway after a plow truck has gone by creates issues for our snow removal crews. The plow will need to make an additional run down your street to clean it up which increases City's costs with additional staff time, fuel and equipment wear and tear, not to mention delays in getting to other areas of the City that also need to be plowed.

When will our street be plowed? After a snowfall the streets are prioritized based on our snow removal policy No. 1103 and 1104, which outline the priority areas. Within the standard, the Priority 1 streets include such streets as main arteries, bus routes, hill areas and streets leading to schools and public buildings, and emergency services; once Priority 1 is complete, then the City will clear Priority 2 and Priority 3 streets. In such circumstances, some residential streets may not see a plow for an extended period. These situations are the exception and we ask for your patience.

To view a copy of the Snow Removal Policy adopted by Council, please visit our website at www.grandforks.bc.ca for further information.

Can the City's snow plow operator plow my driveway? The City of Grand Forks does not perform work on private property.

Clearing snow is the responsibility of the City Public Works department and the community; help keep the community safe this winter! Here's how you can help:

- The City will ensure that all roads are passable as soon as possible. This is our number one priority.
- Park your vehicles in your driveway as opposed to the street.
- Stay back a safe distance from the rear of a plow truck so the driver can see you.
- Please avoid passing or driving beside plow trucks.
- Please avoid placing snow from your driveway back into the street. Less snow will be pushed into your driveway by passing plow trucks.
- If you can, help your neighbour with snow removal.

The City is committed to providing great service to our community and appreciates your feedback.

Media Contact: **Sarah Winton** Phone: 250 442 8266 Email: swinton@grandforks.com

SAMMY
SAYS
BE ALERT!!!



SAMMY the SNOWPLOW

**When there's snow,
PLAY AWAY
from the road!**



**The snow is white,
so wear something
BRIGHT!**

**The plow will be there,
so you better
TAKE CARE!**

