



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
3400 – 30 Street
Vernon, BC
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: December 31, 2019

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City crews respond to major snow event, public encouraged to stay off the road

Environment Canada has issued a snowfall warning for the North and Central Okanagan, with 20 to 30 cm of snow expected today.

This morning's heavy snowfall mixed with temperatures hovering around zero has led to icy road conditions in Vernon. With this, the Vernon North Okanagan RCMP is encouraging the public to stay off the roads, if possible.

The City is responding to the snowfall with all equipment and available City crews clearing Priority 1 Roads.

Roads in Vernon are addressed on a priority basis in compliance with the City of Vernon Snow and Ice Control Policy. All City roads are divided into priorities as follows:

- Priority 1 Roads - include arterials, collectors, bus routes, school zones and selected problem areas.
- Priority 2 Roads - include all remaining roads except lanes and cul-de-sacs.
- Priority 3 Roads - include lanes and cul-de-sacs.

Depending on the volume and duration of the snow event, response times will vary to allow work crews the appropriate time to respond. Priority 1 Roads are expected to be cleared within 12 hours after the end of the snow event. Priority 2 and 3 Roads are expected to be cleared within 36 – 72 hours after the end of the snow event, respectively.

Although City manpower and equipment are out in full force, drivers are reminded to please use caution and drive according to the road conditions, if you must travel.

Sidewalks and walkways maintained by the City are also cleared on a priority basis in compliance with the Snow and Ice Control Policy.

Sidewalks adjacent to residential and commercial properties are the responsibility of the resident or tenant. Residents and tenants are reminded to please keep the sidewalks safe for pedestrians by shoveling the snow and removing the ice from the sidewalks and foot paths

adjacent to their property. Please do not pile snow on travel lanes, storm drains, fire hydrants or bus pickup/drop-off areas.

Motorists are also encouraged to avoid parking on the street, if possible, in order to allow snow plows to clear the roadways.

For more information, please see the Snow and Ice web page on the City of Vernon website (www.vernon.ca).