

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday February 4th, 2016



PR TOK 002-16

RE: DOWNTOWN KENTVILLE SNOW REMOVAL

KENTVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA – Kentville Town Council received a report at the February 1st meeting of the Council Advisory Committee from CAO Mark Phillips recommending changes to the current procedure as dictated by the Streets Bylaw for clearing sidewalk snow in the downtown core. The recommendation report referenced comments and concerns about sidewalk clearing brought forward from local business owners and made mention of discussions with Kentville Development Corporation Limited (KDCL) on the matter.

The recommendation Town Council through his report that the Town assist business owners in the downtown C1 and C2 zones with sidewalk snow clearing using sidewalk machines when possible as part of a pilot project. The recommendation is still subject to Council approval at the next meeting on February 29th, however Director of Engineering and Public Works, Fred Whynot, confirmed that the change in operation will occur immediately. “Our crews have been advised that starting immediately we will assist the business community after snowfalls by sending the sidewalk machine around to clear snow and ice as part of our regular operations.” Whynot explained that not every piece of sidewalk is passable by machine, however the majority of the core can be done and will be when possible. The responsibility for snow and ice removal still lies with business owners, the measure is meant to be an assistance, not a substitute for owners clearing their own frontages. “We are committed to assisting business owners as part of our snow and ice removal routine, and of course that is subject to available resources including staff and working machinery. Business owners should continue with their current practices and should not wait for the town to clear ice and snow from sidewalks, but rather expect to see crews helping with the process as much as possible.” Whynot says, “We look forward to working with the downtown community during the pilot project.” The full recommendation report is available on the Town’s website.

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