



Press Release – Snow Removal Operations

Recently, there has been much discussion in our community about the effectiveness of snow plowing operations in Southgate, specifically in Dundalk.

Firstly, I want to assure that the safety of residents is the top priority of Southgate staff. Changing winter conditions present challenges for everyone and this winter has been no exception. The 2025/2026 winter season has been a steady accumulation of snow, coupled with high winds and extremely colder weather temperatures. These conditions can result in roads developing a snow-packed base where salt is ineffective.

Generally, Dundalk snow plowing begins at 4AM with routes usually wrapped up about 10:30AM. If snow falls throughout the day, plowing does not resume until the following morning, due to vehicles parked on streets, pedestrians and increased traffic. The vehicular traffic also contributes to streets becoming snow packed.

With milder temperatures, the road snow base softens with the sand/salt becoming effective and creates a thick, heavy, messy breakdown. Even if there has been no recent snowfall, plows will be deployed to bare down these situations.

The Township does not have equipment to provide driveway clearing operations. The windrow left by the plow is the property occupier's responsibility.

Additionally, more recently we have had to hire contractor blower services to remove snowbanks on roadside/curb accumulation build out in areas, to maintain road width for 2 vehicle lane travel and future snow storage.

The Township strives to maintain winter operations at the level of service reflected in the Provincial Minimum Maintenance Standards O.Reg 239/02.

Please be patient and allow snow plow crews to do their important work. Give yourself and everyone around you adequate space and time to get to where you need to be.

Embracing winter is a part of what makes us Canadian. Our community can handle it and be proud of our collective resilience. Nature cannot be hurried. No matter how long or chilly winter is, spring will, most assuredly, arrive.

Be safe and be kind.

Thank you. Merci. Miigwetch.

Brian Milne

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