

CAROLE F. MACKINTOSH

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November 22, 2017

Fort Frances Town Council  
Fort Frances Civic Centre  
320 Portage Avenue  
Fort Frances ON P9A 3P9

Dear Mayor and Council:

This letter is being submitted as a matter of public safety; for your edification and, hopefully, action in the near future. I refer specifically to snow removal practices in the Scott Street business district. The local downtown merchants are very good at clearing their stretches of sidewalk but are limited by the street side snowbanks. Many of them (merchants) cut access gaps in the snow but these are often rendered inaccessible by vehicles parked on the street.

Attempting to climb over these banks is extremely hazardous for all, but especially for persons with diminished mobility. Moreover, these snow banks also form miniature ice dams which impede drainage from the sidewalks and, upon freezing create doubly treacherous clear ice on the backside of the banks.

I write as a recent casualty of the snowbanks on Scott Street and - in the interests of reducing the risk of additional accident and/or injury to the public from the current inadequate approach - respectfully submit the following: for the designated downtown blocks, when clearing the main street, municipal crews should remove the snowbanks concurrently with their formation by the grader. While this may admittedly prove more costly than the present system, it might very well prove to be considerably less so than any potential lawsuit directed toward the town resulting from injury. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Carole F. MacKintosh