University of Toronto Mississauga

2022-23 Snow and Ice Removal Strategy

ISSUED BY: The Grounds group (hereafter ‘Grounds’), a unit within the Facilities Management and Planning Department (FMP) as the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM)

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of this Snow and Ice Removal Strategy are as follows:

1. to define snow removal priorities and procedures, and
2. to communicate how Grounds will organize and execute snow and ice removal during weather events to minimize hazards for the safety of our campus community.

Grounds staff intend always to meet or exceed the City of Mississauga Winter Maintenance Standards.

MONITORING:
Conditions are monitored 24 hours a day by Grounds senior staff and Campus Safety. Weather forecasts from Environment Canada are utilized as a proactive and ongoing approach for the decision-making process.

Occasionally, when staff are not on campus, Grounds may contact the Campus Safety office to inquire about the weather conditions on campus in order to assist with accurate and appropriate evaluation of site-specific conditions.

STAFF SCHEDULES:
Grounds staff are on campus seven days a week, Monday to Friday 6 am to 8:30 pm and Saturdays and Sundays 8 am to 4:30 pm. Staff schedules and hours are adjusted based on weather conditions and current campus conditions to provide 24-hour coverage, if necessary. During statutory holidays and the holiday closure Grounds is available on a call-in basis.

Available staff and equipment are scheduled, assigned, and reassigned to ensure winter hazards are mitigated as conditions dictate.

UNEXPECTED WEATHER EVENTS:
When unexpected snow or icy conditions occur, Campus Safety will report current campus conditions to the Grounds Supervisor, or designated, who will schedule Grounds Staff to begin removal process/work.
SNOW and ICE REMOVAL PROCEDURES:

Grounds follows a detailed process for systematic snow and ice removal:

- When surfaces become icy, salting begins.
- When depth of snow on surfaces exceeds 5 cm, plowing begins.
- During an extreme weather event, it may be necessary to continually return higher priority areas while other areas with lower on the priority list may have to wait for the event to subside.
- Senior Grounds staff members keep a snow log, detailing the date, staff present, staff start times, vehicle assignments and weather conditions to assist with debriefing following a weather event.

TIMELINES:

Snow is cleared in the most proactive way possible as soon as possible after the weather event (and during a continuous weather event which produces large accumulation of snow/ice). Most clearing is to be completed 24 hours after a weather event has ended.

During extreme weather events, the ability to progress through the priority areas will be reduced which include large amounts, continuous or extended periods of snowfall, heavy snow, drifting snow, ice accumulations.

PRIORITIES:

Ensuring that all fire routes and barrier-free pathways and entrances remain open and de-iced throughout the snow/ice removal period is always Grounds’ first priority. Once priority areas are complete, a final snow clearing from curb to curb will occur with consideration of a number of factors including: current campus conditions, campus status (open/closed), projected weather forecasts, etc.

Priority #1

- Campus roadways:
  - Outer Circle Road
  - Inner Circle Road
  - Middle Road
  - Principal’s Road
  - Residence Road
  - The Collegeway
  - 5 Minute Walk

- Parking ramps:
  - P4, P8, P9 to CCT garage entrance door

- Barrier-free building entrances:
  - Academic Annex: Main
- Alumni House: Rear
- Culture, Communication & Technology: Main, Link, Connection with DV
- Deerfield Hall: Main, Field side
- Early Learning Centre: Main
- Erindale Studio Theatre: Main
- Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre: Main
- Health Science Complex: Main, Rear
- Instructional Centre: Main, North, South
- Maanjiwe nendamowinan: Main, Field side, Lot #1
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness: Main
- Research Greenhouse: Main
- Student Centre: 5 Minute Walk side, Academic Annex side
- William G. Davis: Main, End of 5 Minute Walk, Connection with CCT
- Erindale Hall: Main, Rear x 2
- Oscar Peterson Hall: Main, Rear
- Roy Ivor Hall: Main

- Barrier-free parking spaces – All locations
- Emergency exits

**Priority #2**
- Secondary pathways/sidewalks – heavily used
- Secondary stairs/stairwells
- Parking lots *(in order of priority)*:
  - P9, William G. Davis (short term), P1, P4 (deck), P8 (deck), P8 Extension

**Priority #3**
- Convenience pathways/sidewalks – lightly used
- Parking lots *(in order of priority)*:
  - P5, P6, P7, P10, P8 (lower), P4 (lower), P11, Alumni House, Lislehurst – nature trail parking spaces

**BACKGROUND:**
Grounds begins preparations for snow removal in late October/early November, servicing trucks, plows and equipment, ordering deicing materials and planning routes and schedules in order to be prepared for the first snow of the season:

- **Equipment service/preparations** – plows, salters, vehicles
- **Place and fill salt boxes across campus**
- **Material orders** – bulk road salt, non-chloride containing de-icing materials, etc.
- **Closing off areas that do not receive winter maintenance**
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