

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 2/3/2017 3:24:12 PM  
**Subject:** Snow Update

Greetings Mayor and Council-

City staff have been responding to snowfall throughout the day, with more snow anticipated for this evening and possibly through the weekend. Here's an update of our current activities and the current conditions:

**Weather reports:**

As of noon, Environment Canada is predicting snow overnight, turning to rain on Saturday, with possible snow or rain starting again Sunday night. WeatherNet, which provides more localized weather reporting for Vancouver specifically, predicts 5 to 10 cm of snow. City staff are monitoring the weather reports 24 hours a day from both networks, as well as from local meteorologists from local news outlets.

**Current snow removal and response work:**

City crews are currently bringing and plowing, where required, on priority routes such as arterials and bridges. Street operation crews have been assigned to pre-determined areas to clear sidewalks, wheelchair ramps, and bus stops. Crews are also working to clear sidewalks on bridges and overpasses. Waterworks and Sewers crews have been redeployed to hand salt key areas of concern, including Granville Street.

Coast Mountain Bus Company busses are experiencing issues, and we have called in additional salters and reallocated them to salt and help support movement of busses. Engineering DOC is communicating with Coast Mountain on an hourly basis.

**Garbage, Green Bin, and Recycling Collection:**

Crews from street cleaning have been redeployed to do manual salting on priority laneways in advance of garbage collection for Monday and Tuesday. Extra crews are being called in for garbage collection on Saturday and Sunday to assist in garbage collection. We are working with MMBC to ensure that they can benefit from sanding or salting that takes place.

**Warming Shelters:**

The City, in partnership with the Park Board and supported by staff and volunteers, will continue to provide additional warm and welcoming space for anyone who needs to get out of the cold as this unusually cold and snowy winter weather continues.

Currently three community centres are planned to be open Friday, February 3: West End (11pm-6:30am), Britannia (10pm-9am), and Carnegie (11pm-7am).

**Snow Angel Program:**

Registrations for the Snow Angel program are starting to pick up this afternoon.

**Communications:**

Communications on current conditions is ongoing. Communications team responding to media inquiries and working to address issues and questions through social media.

- **News Release:** Issued Thursday in advance of snow [[link](#)]
- **Information Bulletin:** Issued mid-day Friday in advance of afternoon commute [[link](#)]
- **Web:** Yellow banner and COV Update widget updated on [Vancouver.ca](#)
- **Web:** [Vancouver.ca/snow](#) has been updated to include a route map and a link to traffic cameras.
- **VanCollect:** A push message went to ~74k residents with tailored messages for each zone.
- **VanConnect:** A push message went to ~22k residents with "Get updates on our snow response efforts and volunteer to become a Snow Angel."
- **Facebook:** We posted at 8:30am and 1:30pm with an update on anticipated/current weather and response. We will continue to do so through the weekend.
- **Facebook:** We will post to Facebook each evening at 7pm to confirm which warming centres will be open.
- **Twitter:** Ongoing twitter content on what the city is doing, what residents can do & encouraging sign ups for the Snow Angel program

All the Best

Sadhu

**Sadhu Afochs Johnston** | City Manager

City of Vancouver | 453 W 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Vancouver | BC V5Y 1V4

604.873.7627 | [Sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca](mailto:Sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca)

Twitter: sadhuajohnston

