

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
**Date:** 1/15/2020 6:14:36 PM  
**Subject:** snow fight and winter weather update

Good Evening Mayor and Council:

All day we've had a full complement of salt and snow units working to clear major routes following last night's substantial accumulations across the city. Hundreds of additional staff from branches across Engineering Services have been hard at work hand shoveling throughout this afternoon. With such substantial and widespread accumulations across all areas of the city, it's been taking our crews some time to clear all major routes. The same scenario is playing out across our neighbouring municipalities in the Lower Mainland as crews work hard to catch up.

The expected snowfall has begun this afternoon and we can expect up to 12 centimetres across the city before the snow turns to light flurries around 10pm. If the break in the snow holds through the night as expected, the 30 salt and snow units on duty will have a much better chance of clearing the major routes in time for the morning commute. We will have 40-50 trucks out for tomorrow's daytime shift to continue to the work.

For Thursday, we're expecting rain and also a risk of freezing rain which we'll be treating with salt. Currently we've used 2,500 tonnes of the guaranteed 8,000 tonnes from our local supplier.

Currently the City's total forecast expenditures on snow response including tonight is approximately \$1.5 million, with approximately \$500,000 spent on salt.

### **Warming centres**

- Three warming centres are open tonight (see details attached):
  - Britannia Community Centre, 9pm to 8:30am
  - Powell Street Getaway, 9pm to 7am
  - Overdose Prevention Society, 11 pm to 8am
- All are welcome and people can bring their carts and pets. People with their own bedding may choose to sleep at the centres and hot drinks and snacks are available.
- Since Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, more than 900 people have visited the City's warming centres
- Carnegie Community Centre and Gathering Place are opening at 8am to accommodate guests leaving EWR and warming centre sites and serve hot drinks (details also included in the PDF attached).
  - During the early opening yesterday, around 50 people visited Gathering Place and 35 visited Carnegie Community Centre

### **EWR shelters**

- Last night Evelyne Saller Centre took in 62 people (over the 55 EWR beds available) but had to turn seven away to Powell Street Getaway.
- Gathering Place took an extra 5 people into the shelter (from 30 to 35) and also let about 20 additional people (and pets) stay in the centre lobby so that no one was left outside.
- Over the weekend, Evelyn Saller Centre was full at 55 people on both Saturday and Sunday. Six people were turned away one of the nights.

Best

Sadhu

**Sadhu Aufochs Johnston** | City Manager  
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver  
[sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca](mailto:sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca)  
604.873.7627

Pronouns: he, him, his



*The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.*