



PUBLIC SERVICE ADVISORY



City of Welland Closes at 12:30 p.m. Today

For Immediate Release – December 19, 2008 – 12:30 p.m.

Welland – In tandem with surrounding municipalities in our area, and for the safety of City of Welland employees, the Mayor, in consultation with senior staff, has announced the closure of Welland Civic Square immediately to allow staff to pick up children from schools and daycare centres that have announced closures and to get home safely before the effects of the storm impedes safe driving.

With the Winter Storm Warning issued by Environment Canada continuing for Niagara Region and beyond, City of Welland residents are encouraged to stay off the roads and not venture out during the inclement weather.

City of Welland road crews are being dispatched to clear and sand roads in accordance with the City's Snow Clearing Policy. Updated recorded information on the progress of the City's snow clearing operations is available by calling the City's Public Works Information Line at (905) 735-1700 ext. 3637. You can also sign up to receive updates electronically to your desktop by signing up for RSS Feeds on the City's website at www.welland.ca/RSS/index.asp. In order to receive RSS Feeds, you may need to download an RSS Reader, which can be found by performing a web search for "RSS Reader".

Information about being prepared for winter storms, power failures, and winter driving can be found on the City's website at www.welland.ca/Fire/EmergenciesPlan.asp. It is important that you and your family are ready to care for yourselves for a minimum of **72 hours** in the case of an emergency. For more information on how you can prepare to be self-sufficient for **72 hours** visit either the above link on the City's website or visit Emergency Management Ontario at <http://www.emergencymanagementontario.ca/english/home.html> and click on the "Be Prepared" icon.

To report an emergency with respect to water or sewer, roads, and/or downed trees, City crews can be contacted at its emergency line at (905) 735-1700 ext. 3000.

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For further information contact:

Jerry Boc, Manager
Public Works
(905) 735-1700 ext. 3003

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