

# NEWS RELEASE

Distributed February 8, 2017

## Residents encouraged to prepare for winter storm

### Summary

With the recent winter storm warning issued by Environment Canada, the City of Nanaimo is encouraging residents to prepare in advance.

Snow is forecast to begin early Wednesday afternoon with it becoming heavy in early evening and transitioning to heavy rain later this evening through Thursday. The heavy rain added to the snow increases the potential for localized flooding and flooding in and around homes.

The City encourages residents to prepare by gathering essentials, such as food, medications, personal needs and other critical supplies, and have them on hand in the case of power outages or the weather prevents them from leaving their homes. Residents can also ensure the areas around the outside of their homes are free of snow, ice and debris to prevent potential flooding.

Please watch the City website, Facebook page and Twitter feed for up-to-date information. Public Works is currently receiving high call volumes, please only make a call if the matter is an emergency. For non-emergency matter, please email [publicworksinfo@nanaimo.ca](mailto:publicworksinfo@nanaimo.ca).

*Strategic Link:* n/a

### Key Points

- City crews have been preparing for the predicted storm by clearing snow and ice from storm drainage inlet structures and catch basins.
- Sand and sand bags are available at the Public Works Operations Yard, 2020 Labieux Road.
- Please consider your neighbours needs in the event they are elderly or may require assistance clearing their private drains.
- Avoid non-essential travel.

### Quotes

"There are a number of things residents can do to reduce the risk of flooding around their homes. Please check rain gutters, move snow away from your home, clear drains, check trees around your house to prevent potential flooding and/or damage and ensure driveway culverts are clear of snow, ice, debris and things such as recycling bags."

John Elliot  
Senior Manager of Public Works  
City of Nanaimo

### Quick Facts

- Be prepared with the Emergency Call Alert System - In an emergency we can automatically telephone or email you with details of the situation and instructions to follow. Click on the link provided in the online version of this news release to learn how to sign up for this program.

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