

To the Acting City Clerk, Nicole Rubli

Dear Madam Clerk,

My name is Anton Plitko, and I am the owner of the property located at 344 Fares St., Port Colborne. I am urged to contact you because of the enormous bill I have received from the city of Port Colborne for snow removal services. I am trying to dispute the costs being added to my tax bill; however, the city is not as cooperative as I expected.

Facts and timeline:

February 7, 2022 – A city officer inspected the said property and observed a violation of failing to clear snow from the sidewalk. An order with the due date of February 10, 2022, was sent to me and delivered on February 10, 2022. My property manager contacted my tenants the same day, asking them to remove the snow, and they confirmed they did it the same day. Furthermore, one of my tenants called the city because it was a bus route, and the city would clear the sidewalk. A city representative confirmed it was a bus route but added that, at the least, a small path still needed to be shovelled so people could walk. The tenant was also told they would clear the path since it was a bus route. My tenants did shovel a small path as per the direction they were given from the city.

February 11, 2022 – According to the city, their officers attended the property for re-inspection. Snow was still covering the sidewalk based on the photos that were allegedly taken at the time of re-inspection. The dates in the pictures the city provided are not verifiable, rather, they are written in and receiving this bill almost three months after the fact reduces all traceability of the events in question.

April 19, 2022 – I received a letter from the city informing me that the amount of **\$848.63** had been added to my tax account.

Since then, I have been trying to obtain any proof that could substantiate the enormous amount the city charged for the snow removal service; however,

- the city failed to provide an invoice from the vendor indicating the amount the city is adding to my tax bill. They instead provided me with a web page that shows the Snow and Ice Removal fee of \$11.00/metre;
- The photos they provided are not time-stamped and lack credibility;
- The city representatives are unable to comment or explain why they confirmed the city would clear the path since it was a bus route but still charged me. Instead, they just stated that the City of Port Colborne does not clear out the windrows and corner snowbanks regularly.

In conclusion, I want to add that I understand that as the property owner, I am ultimately responsible for the snow removal, and I will comply as I always have. However, this issue is not being handled properly.

Considering all the facts stated above, I kindly request this case to be heard by Council.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns or need additional information. I would also appreciate it if you could advise whether I need to bring this issue to the attention of **Councillors Eric Beauregard and Angie Desmarais**.

For your reference, I have attached the following documents to this email:

1. Photos to show the amount of snow;
2. Recharge to Tax Account;
3. Snow Removal Order.

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anton Plitko

344 Fares St, Port Colborne
Contractor Clean-up Photos (Snow Removal) – February 12, 2022



02/12/2022: Contractor pre-clean up
photo # 1



02/12/2022: Contractor pre-clean up
photo # 2



02/12/2022: Contractor clean up
photo # 1



02/12/2022: Contractor clean up
photo # 2



PORT COLBORNE
City of Port Colborne

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL - RECHARGE TO TAX ACCOUNTS

DATE:	04/11/2022
OWNER INFORMATION	PLITKO ANTON
NAME(COMPANY):	
MAILING ADDRESS:	
CITY:	
POSTAL CODE:	
PROPERTY LOCATION:	344 FARES STREET
ROLL NUMBER:	2711020009062000000
ACTION DATE:	02/17/2022
RECHARGE DATE:	04/11/2022

ITEM DESCRIPTION	G/L NUMBER	UNIT PRICE	SUB-TOTAL
Snow Removal Order	0-300-90515-8330		\$539.00
Admin Fee			\$212.00
	HST		\$97.63
	RBT		
	HITC		
TOTAL INVOICE PRICE			\$848.63

APPROVED BY:	
PRINT NAME	Carter McCall
SIGNATURE:	

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
COMMUNITY, SAFETY & ENFORCEMENT



PORT COLBORNE

Community Safety & Enforcement: 3 Killaly Street West
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T 905-835-2900 ext. 209 F 905-835-1020
E Travis.Morden@portcolborne.ca

SNOW REMOVAL ORDER

Inspection Date:	Monday February 7, 2022	Inspection Time:	4:27 PM
Address:	344 Fares St		
Due Date:	February 10 th , 2022		

Snow Removal By-law# 5383/137/09 provides for the removal and clearance of all snow and ice from sidewalks abutting the highways in front of, or along side, or at the rear of any occupied or unoccupied lot or vacant lot. The by-law requires property owners to remove all snow and ice from these sidewalks within 24 hours of the end of a snow or ice event.

Every occupant or owner(s) of property with City sidewalks across the frontage and/or along the side or rear yard of their property have an extra responsibility.

Whenever any part of the surface of such sidewalks become slippery due to snow and ice that have not been completely removed, immediately upon any such slippery condition, the owner shall sprinkle upon such portion of sidewalk, sand, salt, or other suitable material in such a manner as to thoroughly cover such slippery surface.

Failure to comply with this order and clear the sidewalk adjacent to your property may result in further action which may include a fine under the Administrative Penalty (Non-parking) By-law for \$202.00 for "Fail to clear snow or ice off a sidewalk" and/or City contractors to address the outstanding infractions by clearing the snow and ice from the sidewalk with all costs being added to your tax account.

Therefore, you are hereby given an Order to Comply. To avoid fines and snow clearing costs you have until the above noted due date to remove the snow and/or ice from the sidewalks abutting your property.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Signed,

Travis Morden
Municipal Law Enforcement Officer
By-law Enforcement Division
Community Safety & Enforcement Department