

TOWN OF STETTLER

Prepared By: Risk Management Committee Number: XV-3(a)
Adopted By: Town of Stettler Council Original Policy: 1999 01 19
Previous Policy: N/A
Current Policy: 1999 01 19

Title: **SIDEWALK AND PATHWAYS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE POLICY**

Purpose: To create and preserve evidence as well as to prevent accidents on sidewalks and pathways due to an early and systematic identification and rectification of hazards. In the event of a claim resulting in a law suit, the ability of the Town of Stettler to create and preserve evidence which shows that it took reasonable steps to ensure the safety of all users of the Town's sidewalks and pathways.

Risks: **1. IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMS:**

- Trips on cracks
- Trips on uneven sidewalks due to heaving or settling
- Incorrect sloping on sidewalks
- Pathway heaving or settling
- Low hanging branches
- Snow and ice on sidewalks and pathways
- Wheel Chair Inaccessibility

Policy: **2. STATEMENT**

The Town will ensure that the municipal sidewalks and pathways are maintained in a reasonably safe condition insofar as the Town's financial resources will allow.

3. STANDARDS

TRIPS AND SLIPS

- An annual inspection of all sidewalks and pathways will be completed and recorded for future reference.
- Sidewalk or Pathway cracks which are larger than ½" wide are considered for repair or replacement.
- The condition rating of sidewalk lifting/settling is that from a ¾" lip and up to a 2" lip the sidewalk will be ground down and if there is more than a 2" difference, removal and replacement of the affected area will be scheduled.

- When a sidewalk has begun sloping in such a way as to prohibit proper run off, the town will consider it for repair or replacement.
- There is no conditional rating for pathway heaving or settling due to the fact that construction of the pathway uses the lay of the land and encompasses hills and valleys into its construction.

TREE BRANCHES

- The annual tree inspection which includes overhanging branches will be completed in or around July of each year. Locations will be prioritized with trimming and pruning of the branches to be completed as personnel and time permits.
- Trees and hedges on private property will be dealt with as per Bylaw 1596.

SNOW AND ICE

- Snow and Ice will be dealt with according to Policy No. XV-1(b) entitled Snow Removal and Clearance.

WHEEL CHAIR ACCESSIBILITY

- Wheel chair accessibility will be incorporated into the sidewalk replacement program and with sidewalk repairs when ever possible in order for the Town's sidewalk system to become wheel chair friendly.

PUBLIC INITIATION

- Upon public initiation of a sidewalk or pathway problem, a green sheet (Concerns and Request Form) will be filled out and the situation will be assessed immediately and acknowledged within a reasonable length of time.