



District of Wells Press Release

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District of Wells awards contracts locally, and “based on need” for snow clearing in 2022-2023.

The District of Wells is pleased to announce it has approved a snow-clearing Service Provider Agreement with local contractor E.A.Works Construction, owned by Eric Andersen.

The decision was made at a Special Council Meeting November 4, 2022. The agreement took effect that day and expires May 31, 2023.

Council also approved a Service Provider Agreement with Two Boys Contracting, owned by Fred Schmode, as a Supplemental Contractor for when additional snow-clearing services are needed.

In making the decision, Mayor Ed Coleman said: *“The District is trying to support local contractors, a sentiment endorsed by all of Council.”*

A key difference from previous years, is that snow-clearing will be provided when needed based on 10 centimetres (about four inches) of snow, with call-out determined by Public Works Supervisor Niel Doerksen. This is a change from the previous municipal weekly schedule of Wednesdays and should provide improved service, as it is based on need.

The District of Wells service agreement with local contractors is for clearing streets, lanes, driveway berms, hydrants, and stop signs. It also includes District properties, such as: Wells Barkerville Community and Recreation Centre (includes the school), Municipal Office, Community Hall, Fire Hall, and other properties.

Highway 26 through Wells will continue to be cleared by the Provincial Contractor, Emcon. We thank Emcon for their previous years of service for the District of Wells.

Given the change from weekly to ‘as needed’, the District is committed to providing good communication to residents about snow clearing plans and activities.

The contracts are based on Provincial Blue Book equipment rates, within an overall snow-clearing budget of \$185,000 for this winter.

Thanks to everyone involved in making this important decision, including the Municipal Insurance Association of BC, which helped the District work through the challenges of liability coverage for snow-clearing services.

For additional information, contact Mayor Ed Coleman at 250-991-9034 or edcoleman@wells.ca.