

Friday, March 13, 2015  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BE PREPARED FOR THE THAW**

**Welland, ON** – Warmer weather brings melting snow, which is why City of Welland crews are preparing for the spring thaw. Niagara has been in a deep freeze for quite some time and has accumulated snow build up due to a long harsh winter. As warmer temperatures settle over the region, the ice and snow is beginning to melt, resulting in city crews currently clearing snow from catch basins throughout the city. “Keeping catch basins clear will help with the run-off and guide the water flow into the storm sewers,” said Jerry Boc, Manager of Public Works.

Warmer temperatures could potentially bring rain to Niagara, which could create a greater potential of flooding and water damage. Boc is requesting public participation in clearing catch basins in front of properties. “Clear them as long as it isn’t a hazard to do so in a safe manner,” said Boc. Keeping eaves-troughs and downspouts clean of snow and ice would also enable draining water flow away from the foundation walls to prevent basement flooding.

Thawing frozen water lines remain a priority for operations staff. A lengthy deep freeze has inconvenienced several Welland residents with frozen water services. Residents with frozen water lines are asked to call at 905.735-1700 ext 3000 for more information or assistance.

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