

#### WINTER SAFETY TIPS FOR GROUND & TRANSPORT EMPLOYEES

## What to do in an emergency

- \* Call 911, Safety and Security, Supervisor
- \* First aid

#### Working in the cold

- \* Dress in layers and for the weather.
- \* Take Breaks and get warmed up.
- Hand warmers available.
- \* Winter Jackets available to order for staff who don't have any.

#### See and be seen

- High viz on or near roads.
- Head lamps available (this became a thing at Dal where staff struggled after being called in after a prolonged power outage (Fiona) and emergency lighting did not work in buildings.)
- \* Glasses to help with UV and glare of sun and/or snow.

# **Shoveling safely**

\* Shovel layers when snow is heavy. Use snowblowers where you can. Take breaks when you need them.

## Winter driving

- Drive slower.
- \* Stopping distance increases.

#### Walking on ice

- Use cleats when icy. We have them available.
- Watch for ice.

## Using the right tool for the job

Snow blowers, when possible and when it makes sense, will save backs and reduce fatigue.

## No Go Zones for heavy equipment.

- \* Bloomfield front entrance. The ramp cannot support trackless.
- Nicholson tower near stairs. Roof.
- Jimmy may know of other areas.

#### **Personal Protective Equipment**

\* Rubber salt gloves, high viz vest, ear protection for snow blowers. Boots.



## **Grounds & Transport Driving Safety -Winter Snow clearing**

Driving safely on and around Campus is essential. With the vehicle congestion on campus in vehicles, utility vehicles and pedestrian traffic; safety and caution are critical. This is especially true in the winter months during snow clearing operations, when we are working late at night or early morning, in stormy dark conditions with limited visibility. Extra caution is required this time of year.

In Grounds & Transport we use several different types of vehicles, each one with their own unique safety features. Make sure you are trained and familiar with the vehicle you are operating and follow the manufacturer's instructions for operation.

Please follow these basic safety guidelines to ensure a safe campus and please **REMEMBER**, the pedestrian always has the right of way.

#### **Safely Share Campus Streets**

- Look and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.
- When possible, stop and pull over to give them the right of way.
- Watch for pedestrians and vulnerable individuals in parking lots.
- Watch for pedestrians when entering campus streets from parking areas and driveways.
- Note the potential for individuals on the sidewalk or nearby areas to dart across your pathway.

# **Eliminate Distractions When Driving**

- Do not allow technology [radios, cell phones, text messaging, web browsing, adjusting equipment] to divert your attention.
- Do allow cell phone calls to go to voicemail, or pull over to take the call, if you can do so safely. Same
  with radios.
- Never read notes, write reminders, or take down numbers.
- Avoid eating, drinking or other such distractions.
- Never look for lost or reach for fallen items.
- Stay focused and alert at all times.

#### Watch for the Unexpected

- Pedestrians, even university students and employees, can be unpredictable, so expect the unexpected.
- As a motorist, you are more likely to be charged and held liable for damage and injury.
- Don't drive distracted or after consuming medicines or other drugs.

### **Drive the Speed Limit and Avoid Congested Campus Areas.**

- Obey speed limits and come to a complete stop at stop signs. Note that the speed limit on campus streets is 30 kmh. This speed should be a lot slower on sidewalks and in parking lots.
- Allow extra time to travel across campus when classes are in session. Some intersections and crosswalks are extremely crowded during class changes.
- Often these risky congested areas can be avoided by taking an alternate route or waiting for a less congested time.

### And last, but not least, ALWAYS wear your seatbelt!