



Stratford Town Crier

Town Crier, December 6, 2025

Public Information, Notices and Meeting Schedule

RECYCLING CHANGES – NEW CARTS

Starting January 1, 2026, Ontario will switch to a new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) recycling system. This means that the companies that make or import products will take full responsibility for collecting, managing, and recycling their packaging materials, rather than the municipality. In other words, the cost and responsibility for recycling will move from municipalities (and taxpayers) to the producers.

This shift will also see local recycling shift to a cart-based automated collection system, using 360-litre wheeled recycling carts.

The collection contractor, Emterra, has begun delivering those carts in Stratford, and you should receive one within the next few weeks. Please do not set these carts on the curbside until after December 31, 2025.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Emterra at 1-888-597-1541 or email customerareont@emterra.ca.

For more information about the recycling changes coming January 1, 2026, visit www.stratford.ca/recycling or circularmaterials.ca/stratford

RECYCLING UPDATE – SMALLER CART OPTION

At its November 24 meeting, Stratford City Council approved a resolution asking Circular Materials – the organization responsible for the new recycling program – to provide Stratford residents with the option of a smaller recycling cart.

Circular Materials received that request from Council, and has now confirmed that a smaller cart will be provided as an option here for those who find the 360-litre cart too large.

An online Recycling Cart Exchange Request Form is expected to be available on the Circular Materials website at circularmaterials.ca/stratford by mid-December.

That request form will allow residents to exchange their current 360-litre cart for a 240-litre cart at no cost to the resident. This will be a one-time free cart exchange.

CLEARING SIDEWALKS OF SNOW AND ICE IN THE CORE AREA AND CLEARING OVERHANGING SNOW AND ICE FROM ROOFS IN THE CITY OF STRATFORD

The purpose of this notice is to advise you that under the conditions of the City of Stratford By-law #225-2005, the owner, occupant or person in charge of any property in the core area as designated in the By-law is required to clear the sidewalks adjacent to their property of all snow and ice throughout the winter.

The sidewalks shall be cleared of snow and ice prior to 10:00 a.m. everyday, except Sundays and Holidays as defined in the Retail Business Holidays Act. Sidewalk conditions must then be monitored between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., and to continue to keep the sidewalks cleared at all times. The By-law also requires that icy conditions be treated with sand and/or salt or other suitable substance.

Also, the owner, occupant or person in charge of an occupied or unoccupied building is required to clear away and remove snow and ice from the roof of a building where such snow and ice may fall on a sidewalk or street. All snow or ice from roofs must be removed by 10:00 a.m. every day except Sundays and Holidays as defined in the Retail Business Holidays Act. The person clearing away the snow and ice shall take all necessary care and precautions for the warning and safety of passers-by and other persons.

Any snow and ice which falls onto the sidewalk shall be placed at the edge of the street immediately adjacent to the curb. Snow should not be placed on the travelled portion of the roadway or in such a way as to obstruct access to any fire hydrant.

Regular inspections will be made of the core area sidewalks after snowfalls and to identify any buildings which have snow and ice which may fall on the sidewalk or street. The set fine for contravention of this By-law is \$115.00 for each occurrence, exclusive of costs. The snow and ice may be removed at the discretion of the Infrastructure Services Department or the Chief of Police, and charged to the owner.

NO OVERNIGHT PARKING (2AM-6AM)

Drivers are reminded that overnight parking in the City of Stratford is not permitted on any roadway, shoulder, or City parking lot between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., unless otherwise designated. Parking in a manner which obstructs municipal snow clearing operations is also prohibited. This is even more important during significant snowfall events to ensure that City snow plow operators can safely and efficiently clear roads. Parking in a manner which obstructs municipal snow clearing operations and/or parking overnight (between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.) each carry a set fine of \$80.00, or a \$60.00 voluntary payment if paid within 7 days.

Stratford Police Services enforce this restriction and should be contacted if there is an overnight parking situation at the non-emergency line of 519-271-4141.

For additional information, please contact the Clerk’s Office at 519-271-0250, extension 5230.

4 HOUR FREE PARKING – SATURDAYS ONLY

Beginning December 1, 2025, until April 30, 2026, all individuals parking in the downtown core on Saturdays will receive four (4) hours of free parking. This means that motorists parking in the downtown core on Saturdays during this time will not be required to pay the meters or machines for their first four (4) hours of parking. After the four (4) hours of free parking, motorists are required to pay the respective meter, machine, or via the HotSpot App. Compliance is required with all other provisions of the City’s Traffic and Parking By-law, including maximum parking time limits. For questions regarding this or other parking enforcement matters, please contact the Clerk’s Office at 519-271-0250 extension 5237.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
Dec 8	Committee of the Whole In-camera Session	6:00 p.m.	Council Chambers

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
Dec 8	Regular Council and Standing Committees	7:00 p.m.	Council Chambers
Dec 11	Planning and Heritage Sub-committee	4:30 p.m.	Council Chambers

Meetings are open to the public to attend with the exception of In-Camera sessions (please note the adjournment into the In-camera Session is open to the public to attend and observe). Agendas can be accessed from the City’s website. Please check the City’s website for the Sub-committee, Committee, Council and Advisory Committee Meeting Schedules as these schedules are subject to change.

The Town Crier is posted to the City’s website.

www.stratford.ca