

# HAPPY St. Patrick's Day Your Community

The official newsletter of the R.M. of East St. Paul

March 2024

For more information, call: 204-668-8112

Online: [www.eaststpaul.com](http://www.eaststpaul.com)

Email: [info@eaststpaul.com](mailto:info@eaststpaul.com)

Office: 1 - 3021 Birds Hill Rd. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## New winter, new challenges

Each year the weather brings a different set of challenges for snow clearing operations. In some years there are heavy snow falls and colder temperatures that last throughout the winter.

Other years there has been a constant accumulation of snow, with small amounts of snow falling almost daily. For this year, Public Works has still had to be out most days clearing and sanding streets to keep them safe for travel.

As we all know this year had unseasonably high temperatures, which may seem good, but they do create other challenges. For the first part of this winter there were many days of freezing rain and situations where the temperature and humidity created ice layers on roadways.

The ice layers can be created when there is cold pavement, the humidity is near 100% and the temperatures hover right below zero.

To combat these conditions, the RM still must be out sanding and salting streets. The plow and sand trucks still drive all the streets, as conditions can be dif-

ferent all over the RM.

Then when there are only light snowfalls, roads must still be maintained which brings the challenge of being able to scrape and widen streets.

A few weeks ago, Public Works had to have several crews and excavators out all day to make sure the water was flowing in the ditches as the high temperatures and rain had created a build-up of run off that could not be left in ditches to freeze up culverts.

By later that same day the plow and sand trucks were being dispatched to deal with the very slippery, icy road conditions.

Whatever the situation is, Public Works is adjusting to try and keep up with the ever-changing weather.

Regardless of any weekends or holidays, Public Works is still monitoring the streets and sanding and plowing as required, to keep them safe.

No matter what the conditions that come along, the staff are dedicated and ready to be out keeping the roads and pathways safe for residents and visitors to utilize.



East St. Paul Public Works clear snow last winter, above, when there was plenty to move. The photo below shows roads this year, when far less snow fell. Crews still had to be out sanding to keep roads safe, and when temperatures rose, making sure water was flowing in ditches so it wouldn't freeze and block culverts.



## If your dog has a poop, you must scoop

It's an unfortunate spring reveal every year - snow melts and dog poop is exposed.

Dog owners are reminded that picking up after your dog isn't just the courteous thing to do, it's the law abiding thing to do.

Every year the RM receives numerous complaints about the amount of dog feces being left behind by some dog owners, especially along the Duff Roblin Parkway Trail north of Garven Road.

It's unsightly and unsanitary, and it's also against the law.

The RM's By-Law 2022-11, Section 3.1 (d) states:

No person shall permit a dog to:

(d) defecate on property other than the owner's without immediately removing the excrement and disposing of it in a sanitary manner.

The fine for your dog pooping and you not scooping is \$268.

Please have consideration for your neighbours and pick up your dog's business everywhere in the municipality.



Bridget appreciates it when her owner does the right thing and picks up after her.



### EMERGENCY-GRANDPARENT SCAM

Fraudsters are targeting seniors by calling and pretending to be a family member in distress, the police or a justice official claiming that a loved one or grandchild is in trouble, and needs money immediately. **Victims are told there's a gag order, and can't speak to anyone.**

### PROTECT YOURSELF



#### Fraudsters...

**Call demanding immediate payment for bail, or fines to avoid going to jail**  
**Remember!** The courts won't ask for cash to bail out someone in custody, and will require people to be present in court.

**Claim to be a lawyer, police or family member in an emergency situation demanding funds**  
**Be suspicious** of calls that require immediate action. **Hang up!** Call your local police and contact the family member directly.

**Request cash and send couriers for pick up, or demand the victim send cash by courier services or via cryptocurrency**  
**Never** send cash, cryptocurrencies or any other funds to unknown persons, unverified addresses or bank accounts.

If you believe you have been scammed, contact your local police and the **Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre:**  
**1 (888) 495-8501 / [antifraudcentre.ca](http://antifraudcentre.ca)**

Fraud. Recognize. Reject. Report.





# East St. Paul Skating Club represents at Winter World Masters

There are all kinds of reasons to take a trip to Italy – the really good food, the stunning scenery, the history and culture and for three local women, skating was the draw.

East St. Paul Skating Club's Tanya Pilat, Amy Borysowich, and Ashley McIntosh went to the Italian mountain town of Bormio in January to compete in the Winter World Masters Games in figure skating.

Pilat teaches Borysowich and McIntosh and the two students convinced their instructor to join them and compete in the multi-sport event for athletes over the age of 30.

"I coach Ashley and Amy and our plan for the last year and a half was this event. Last spring they said, 'well Tanya, if you're coming all that way to coach us, you should compete too.' I hadn't competed in 33 years, and I said, 'I'm not doing that,'" Pilat laughed.

But the students kept on her, and when she came up with a way to get practice time in without taking away from teaching, she agreed. And she's glad she did.

Pilat competed in the Masters Class 3 Artistic event. Borysowich competed in Adult Bronze Women Class 2 Artistic and Free Skate and McIntosh in Masters Class 1 Artistic and Free Skate.

Pilat practiced during senior skate times at the East St. Paul Arena and she learned in Italy that support for fellow athletes is strong at this stage of the game.

"I did OK and it is what it is. I got out there and that's a huge step, but the world of adult com-

petitive skating is so supportive. It was something I had never really witnessed before, even as a coach," she said.

"In Manitoba...adult competitions are mixed in with regular events and it's very different. When you get to these international, adult only competitions it's a whole other world and it's amazing the support you feel because everyone's there for the same reason, we were skaters when we were younger or we've just learned to skate as adults and we just love it."

Pilat says the event really was a demonstration of what 'sport for life' looks like.

"I just turned 50, there were people who were 50, 60, 70, and I think there was somebody that was 80 years old and they're out there because they love to skate and so it was that sport for life thing and it's never too late for you to get back into it," she said.

She says the adult program in East St. Paul has really grown and it's a mix of people getting back into it and new skaters, trying it for the first time in the Learn to Skate program.

"It's such a great environment and they all respect each other's abilities," Pilat said.

"We've got the Learn to Skate people all the way to someone like Ashley who went to Italy and she's our Master's Level Free Skater and she's doing big jumps, double axles, double everything and then you have the person who's holding onto the boards because they're in skates for the first time, and everyone talks to each other and everyone encourages each other... We keep recruiting more people



Left to right, Pilat, Borysowich and McIntosh enjoy some off ice time in Bormia where the trio went for the Winter World Masters Games.

into our fold and we're loving it, it's special."

Italy was an incredible experience and Pilat's considering doing it again, but more than that, the return to competition has helped make her a better coach, especially with her adult students.

"It's definitely helped. I've noticed in my communication with my skaters, especially the adults, I can refer back to my training when I'm on the ice with them...I can relate a little bit more to how the body moves as an adult and what the body feels as an adult in that training environment," she said.

"When I'm talking and working with my younger kids and the teenagers, it's a little different. Their bodies respond how you expect them to respond. The biomechanics that we learn as a coach, that's what you're working for, but it's very different when your body's moving as an adult, how the body warms up and how long it takes."

The Winter World Masters are held every four years and the Adult World Figure Skating Championships are held every year in Germany, and Pilat, Borysowich and McIntosh are planning to be at the 2026 Adult Worlds and the 2028 World Masters, wherever they may be held.

The skaters turned this year's trip into a family and friends vacation, with Pilat's and McIntosh's husbands joining and Borysowich travelling with a fellow skater from another club. In their down time they took in skiing and snowboarding, lunch on the mountain top at 3,000 metres and a thermal spa day before leaving Bormio and heading to other spots like Venice, Rome, Pompei, Lisbon, Milan and Geneva.

"For me, I never take time off in the middle of winter to do a vacation so it was really special to be able to do that with my club mates for a week," Pilat said.

Congratulations to all three skaters!

## Large item pick-up runs April 15-26

Waste Connections of Canada will be offering the residents of East St. Paul, the ability to leave their large household items at the curb side for pick-up during your regular scheduled garbage day service.

The large item pick-up service will commence the week of Monday, April 15 and will end on Friday, April 26.

Large Items that may be left for pick-up can include but are not limited to:

- mattresses
- sofas
- furniture
- stoves
- dishwashers
- washers
- dryers
- humidifiers
- toilets
- barbecues (without propane tanks)
- empty hot water tanks
- empty water softeners
- carpet

treadmills  
**Please do not leave items such as:**

- glass or mirrors
- televisions
- computers & monitors
- dvd players
- vcr's
- stereos
- microwaves
- refrigerators
- freezers
- bar fridges
- propane tanks
- dehumidifiers
- water coolers
- batteries
- renovation materials
- landscaping materials
- tires
- any items containing hazardous materials

There is a 75 lb limit for all items and a 5 ft length max.

If you have any questions, please call the Operations Department at (204) 668-8336 or [operations@eaststpaul.com](mailto:operations@eaststpaul.com).

## Spring road restrictions are important

The RM implements Spring Road Restrictions every year to limit the allowable weight a heavy truck can carry on Municipal roadways. Generally, restrictions are in effect from early March until late May. This is all weather dependent and the RM follows the Provincial recommendations for start and end dates. Please follow the Provincial website for updates on start and end dates.

There are many East St. Paul roads that are designated as no truck routes, including Wenzel. The complete listing of roadways is available in the annual Spring Road Restriction Notice the RM issues. All municipal roads are classified as Class B roadways.

During spring thaw, no truck routes are posted at 65 per cent of normal axle loads to limit the

weight commercial trucks can carry on roadways and avoid serious damage to the surface and base layers of the road. The exception is Hoddinott Road, which is restricted to 90 per cent of normal axle loads.

Infrastructure repairs, such as damaged roads, are paid for through tax dollars. Restricting overweight trucks helps to save East St. Paul roads and taxpayer dollars. Roadways are especially susceptible to damage during the spring thaw as the road base cannot support the surface as well. Wet, soft ground conditions also make the ground less stable.

The RM of East St Paul Community Safety Officer enforces weight restrictions on municipal roads.





***SIGN UP FOR e-blasts at [eaststpaul.com](http://eaststpaul.com)***



# Councillor Corner

Brian Imhoff - Ward 1

We are now in the budget preparation period for both provincial and federal governments. Both budgets will likely be rolled out in early April. Back in November, I wrote about the change of government in Manitoba and the expected change in priorities. This will be their first budget. In Manitoba, it is no secret that addressing healthcare issues will be the most prominent item. We are about to see where the rest of the priorities are. Of particular interest to us as a community, will not only be the municipal funding allocations that are primarily used for operating expenditures and minor projects, but also capital investment commitments for major municipal infrastructure projects.

Our new provincial government has made commitments to address municipal funding levels, which is good news, because there has been a funding freeze in place for the last seven years. However, additional capital investments are important to support large projects. These are the investments in municipal infrastructure that are needed to help ensure the long-term sustainability of our communities. This infrastructure includes things like roads, bridges, water and wastewater treatment systems, and recreational facilities. Even when these assets are well managed and maintained, at some point, they will need to be expanded, completely overhauled or replaced in order for communities to grow and thrive. These costs have increased exponentially, especially over the last few years which stresses the need to see more of our provincial and federal tax dollars re-invested in our home communities.

Why is this so important? In Canada, approximately 60% of infrastructure is the responsibility of municipalities. However, municipalities in Canada receive only about 10% of the total tax revenue collected across the country. As of the fall of 2023, multiple sources estimated the municipal infrastructure deficit in Canada exceeded \$130 billion. This value represents the gap between the amount of money required to maintain or upgrade existing municipal assets and the funding currently available. According to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), Manitoba's infrastructure deficit is more than \$11 billion, a considerable portion of which rests with the City of Winnipeg. The deficit figures quoted do not reflect the capital costs of any new strategic infrastructure projects. In addition, AMM reports that approximately one-third of core municipal infrastructure has a condition rating of fair to very poor. This is important as studies

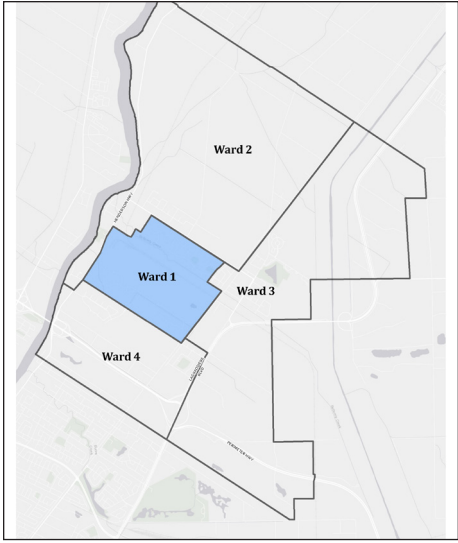


have determined that the state of the infrastructure has a direct relationship to a community's well-being.

So how do we deal with these pressures? We continue to actively seek additional funding for our projects. We continue to effectively manage the assets and reserves we have. We invest in improving efficiencies of our current service delivery. We plan for the long term. We look for opportunities to develop joint solutions to complex problems by continually engaging with our neighbouring municipalities and stakeholders as well as both the provincial and federal governments. We do this, not only as a council directly, but also as members of the AMM and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). These two groups not only provide additional resources as well as opportunities to connect to other municipalities, but they also lobby for us at the provincial and federal levels respectively. This brings a collective voice that can advocate on our behalf on a very wide range of issues but most importantly, increasing the share of tax revenues for municipalities, establishing long-term, predictable funding programs and infrastructure investments in order to begin to address the deficit.

I hope you and your families are happy and healthy as we look forward to spring. My contact information is:

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Ward 1 Councillor  
[brian.imhoff@eaststpaul.com](mailto:brian.imhoff@eaststpaul.com)  
204-771-7569





### MARCH 8-17

MARCH 8TH - ALUMNI NIGHT WITH PERFECT PIEROGI AND LUDWICKS AS THE SPONSORS FOR THE EVENT

MARCH 9TH - DANEAULT FAMILY FUN NIGHT - STARTS AT 5:30 - SPONSORED BY DEREK DANEAULT

THE EVENING INCLUDES A MAGICIAN, FACE PAINTING AND BALLOON TWISTING

MARCH 15TH - 6 PM KIDS BINGO

- 8:30 SHOOT OUT TO WIN A CAR SPONSORED BY GAUTHIER

MARCH 16TH - 5 PM TO 8:30 PRATTS DINNER (TICKETS ARE REQUIRED IN ADVANCE)

- 9 PM TO 2 AM ANNUAL SOCIAL

MARCH 17TH - GAME FINALS FOR U9, U9A1 FEMALE AND U9A1 MALE DIVISIONS

BEER GARDENS ARE WEEKENDS ONLY

MARCH 8-10TH AND MARCH 15 - 17 NOON TO 2 AM

[More information espcc.ca](http://More information espcc.ca)

## East St. Paul Recreation Programs



### NEW for Spring 2024

- Multi-Sport program (ages 6-10)
- Dance (Ages 4-12)
- Exercise. Strength. Power (ESP) Hour (18+)

#### More Programs

- Martial Arts
- Yoga (Vinyasa Flow & Yin)
- Barre
- Mat Pilates

Visit [www.eaststpaul.com](http://www.eaststpaul.com) for more information



## East St. Paul FARMERS MARKET

Sunday, June 9 - Sunday, September 29, 2024

302 Hoddinott Rd

Now accepting Vendor and Busker Applications at [www.eaststpaul.com](http://www.eaststpaul.com)

