

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: "Council backs 48-hour snow removal bylaw" in *The News'* Jan. 21 edition

Personally, I was happy with the existing bylaw and I know in our neighbourhood it seems to work well. The major problem is not the homeowners clearing their sidewalks, it's more of a problem of Strathcona County not consistently clearing sidewalks and trails in and around parks, street intersections are like skating rinks, and entrance to shopping centres (not sure who has that responsibility).

So council should look in their own backyard before being critical of the taxpayers of Strathcona County.

Forty-eight hours is unreasonable. If you go away for a long weekend, it snows Friday afternoon and I don't return until Monday evening, then I'm in violation of the new bylaw. During this past cold snap, I agree, some walks were not cleared as it was too cold to work outside. The government warned not to spend more than 10 minutes outdoors in order to prevent frostbite. Just doing my driveway and sidewalks a few minutes at a time took me from Christmas Day until near New Year to finish. Again, in violation of the new bylaw or perish in the cold.

I'm not sure where Ward 3 Coun. Lorne Harvey lives, but if the issue came up several times when he was campaigning, there must be a lot of lazy folks in that area.

I insist that anyone on council that voted in favour of a 48 hour bylaw, had better sign up to volunteer with SnowBusters, and assist them with the good work they are doing, to help those with snow removal difficulty. I then challenge councillors to

post in *The Sherwood Park News* when they have signed up for that hard working program (run by the Volunteer Centre). This great organization cautioned council that 48 hours, with their limited resources would not allow them time to service those in needs. Shame on Strathcona County council for totally ignoring them. Without more help, I can see fines being issued to their clients due to the county's quest to increase this revenue stream.

D'arcy Brown, Sherwood Park

Editor's note: As stated in the story, the Chief Commissioner will give a special bylaw exemption to the Volunteer Centre's SnowBuster program, increasing the time to clear residential sidewalks from 48 hours to 72.

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

Have an opinion on any local news, or something happening within your community? Make sure to let us know! *The Sherwood Park-Strathcona County News* welcomes Letters to the Editor on all topics and from all our readers. Submissions require the author's first and last name, address, and telephone number. Only the author's name and community will be published with the letter.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, taste, libel or length.

The *News* asks writers to limit letters to 300 words or less. Writers can email their responses to the *News'* Editor, Lindsay Morey:

lmorey@postmedia.com

Disclaimer: Opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Sherwood Park News or any staff at the News.

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1533, England's King Henry VIII secretly married his second wife, Anne Boleyn. She gave birth to Queen Elizabeth I but was later executed.

In 1579, the "Treaty of Utrecht" was signed, marking the beginning of the

proved a bill splitting the old province of Quebec into Upper and Lower Canada. Upper Canada later became the province of Ontario, while Lower Canada became Quebec.

In 1858, Britain's Princess Victoria, the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria,



TWITTER/@STRATHCOMUSEUM

LIFE SENTENCE Strathcona County Museum and Archives staff marked #museumsselfieday being locked up inside of an old jail cell in their facility on Jan. 19.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Some of the top stories gathered in the Jan. 22, 1997 edition of the *Sherwood Park News* included:

■ The superintendent of Elk Island National Park, Bill Fisher, wanted to meet with the three neighbouring communities to discuss the park's future location. Fisher was away when two of EINP's neighbours, Strathcona County and Lamont County, initiated procedures to annex the park. Beaver County, which also bordered the park, hadn't indicated the same

park if annexed. The municipality that ended up with it would receive \$30,000 from the federal government in lieu of taxes for providing services, such as tax assessments and ambulance services, to EINP. In the past, the money had gone to the province, which ensured the park received the services it needed. EINP was located in its own improvement district, ID 13, which was administered by the province, but the government decided to dissolve all of its improvement

public works program could let the municipality spend up to \$2-million on local infrastructure projects. The last Canada-Alberta Infrastructure Works program, which ran from 1994-1996, saw the county spend \$12-million on roads, sewer and water lines. One-third of the money came from the feds and the province kicked in another third, with municipalities picking up the remaining third. The one-year extension, proposed by the Chretien government, would have seen \$600-million divvied up throughout the country. Strathcona County was expected to receive