

**From:** [Micro Missy](#)  
**To:** [E. Clerks](#)  
**Cc:** [Helen Shwery](#)  
**Subject:** Letter in Support of Councillor Shwerys Motion to Examine Snow Management Practices in Cambridge.  
**Date:** Monday, February 23, 2026 9:47:57 AM

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To: Mayor and Members of Council

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for Councillor Shwery's motion regarding snow removal practices in Cambridge.

Specifically, I wish to address the unacceptable and distressing City practice of plowing road debris and snow directly onto grave sites and headstones at Parklawn and Preston Cemeteries. (I have not reviewed the situation at other Cambridge Cemeteries). See attached.

This practice is deeply disrespectful to the deceased and their families, and it undermines the dignity that should be afforded to all burial sites. It also raises serious concerns regarding compliance with provincial legislation governing cemetery operations.

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, as administered by the Bereavement Authority of Ontario, cemetery operators are required to meet clear standards of care and respect. In particular:

- Section 162(1) requires cemetery operators to ensure that cemeteries are properly maintained in accordance with prescribed standards.
- Section 162(2)(c) requires operators to provide and maintain safe and reasonable access to cemetery grounds and grave sites.
- Section 162(2)(d) requires operators to ensure that burial sites and memorials are treated with dignity and respect.

The practice of plowing snow and debris onto graves appears to contravene all three of these provisions by obstructing access, creating unsafe conditions, and failing to respect grave sites and memorial markers.

Furthermore, City of Cambridge bylaws prohibit any activity that may damage or deface headstones or memorials. Snowplowing operations that deposit heavy, debris-filled snow onto graves clearly risk causing physical damage to monuments and markers, in direct contradiction to these bylaws.

Families visit cemeteries to grieve, reflect, and honor their loved ones. They should not be confronted with damaged, buried, or obstructed graves as a result of municipal maintenance practices. Such conditions are not only distressing but entirely avoidable through better planning and oversight.

For these reasons, I fully support Councillor Shwery's motion and urge Council to take decisive action to--in this case-- permanently end the practice of plowing snow and road debris onto grave sites. I respectfully request that the City implement clear operational guidelines, staff training, and accountability measures to ensure that winter maintenance is conducted in a manner that is lawful, respectful, and compassionate.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your commitment to preserving the dignity of our community's cemeteries.

Sincerely,

Mike







DOROSHENKO

JEMAN

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IN MEMORY OF



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