



**your roads – your team,
linking communities and families**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Know before you go. Shift into winter.

Cranbrook, BC | November 12, 2014 – During winter driving conditions, Mainroad Contracting is committed to the safety of motorists and residents.

We're asking drivers to be prepared for the unpredictability of the winter season. Before heading out, please visit www.drivebc.ca for current road conditions, weather forecasts, and real-time conditions via webcams. Please report accidents, unsafe road conditions and road kill to Mainroad's 24-hour hotline. This hotline is used to update [DriveBC](http://www.drivebc.ca), dispatch additional personnel and record public communication as required. **Mainroad's 24 hour hotline: 1-800-665-4929.**

Al Sander is the General Manager for Mainroad East Kootenay Contracting, *"we often get asked which streets get plowing priority, how often we plow and apply the use of salt and winter abrasive. It's important for everyone to know that Mainroad's plowing response time is determined by the standards set by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. Priority is given to numbered highways and school bus routes with other roads frequency determined by winter traffic volumes. These frequencies are reviewed annually by the Ministry to ensure that plowing priorities reflect any changes in the road network."*

Mainroad is responsible for the plowing and road maintenance of provincial highways and roads between Brisco (North), Goatfel (West), Alberta (East) and the US border (South). Mainroad is not responsible for plowing within municipal boundaries or on forestry service roads. Our maintenance yards are located in Yahk, Cranbrook, Kimberley, Jaffray, Invermere, Fernie and Sparwood.

During the winter season, please drive to the conditions, SLOW DOWN, and increase the distance between yourself and the vehicle in front of you. We encourage drivers to choose the best winter tires possible when driving in snow and ice, and to ensure the tires are in good condition, with a minimum tread depth of 3.5 mm.

Mainroad is a Winter Driving Safety Alliance partner and visible supporter of Shift into Winter, a public awareness campaign designed to inform B.C. drivers about the importance of safe winter driving. For daily winter driving tips, follow us on Twitter [@mainroadeastk](https://twitter.com/mainroadeastk).

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Mainroad East Kootenay Contracting LP | Highway maintenance by the numbers:

- 3,673 Lane Kilometers
- Over 50 pieces of snow removal equipment
- Up to 100 employees during winter operations
- 5,500 tonnes of salt in ten (10) sheds
- 60,000 tonnes of winter sand
- 106 bridges
- Over 700 animals are removed from the highways within the service area annually
- 8,700+ call centre operation hours
- 7 yards, 11,000 signs

We are a division of the Mainroad Group, a 100% employee owned company recognized as a leader in providing safe and reliable road maintenance, products, and construction services for civil infrastructure works and commercial building projects. Visit us online at www.mainroad.ca.

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