



## Media Release – For Immediate Release Tuesday, July 31, 2018

### County Increasing Measures to Address Dangerous Driving Impacting Mowing Crews

With County mowing crews reporting close calls and dangerous situations on an almost daily basis due to speeding motorists and dangerous driving, the County is taking increased measures to keep crews and all drivers on County roads safe.

“Our mowing crews are experiencing about three near misses each week,” said Agricultural Fieldman Sonja Raven. “We’re very concerned and really need the cooperation of motorists to slow down and drive respectfully when passing all mowing equipment.”

Raven noted that for safety purposes, the County has installed dash cams on mowing equipment, and mowing crews will be reporting dangerous drivers to County Regional Enforcement Services. Motorists who are driving dangerously or speeding beyond the posted speed limit may be charged or fined accordingly.

“Motorists are tailgating, driving too fast when passing mowers, or passing unsafely, and mowing equipment is being damaged by rocks from speeding vehicles or when drivers cut in too closely in front of a mower,” added Raven. “This creates a safety concern for our mower operators and for all motorists travelling on County roads.”

Mowing crews are working along roads and ditches throughout the County during the warmer months. To increase safety on County roads, the County is asking all drivers to take the following precautions:

- Be alert and watch for mowers along County roads and ditches.
- Immediately reduce your speed as soon as you see mowing equipment.
- Do not attempt to pass mowers, or any slow-moving equipment, until the road is clear and you are sure it is safe.
- When passing, ensure you maintain a reduced speed and leave plenty of room (minimum 15 meters) between your vehicle and the mowing equipment.
- When passing, make sure you can see the mowing vehicle in your rear-view mirror before you proceed back into the right lane.

Should you have any questions, please contact Agricultural Fieldman Sonja Raven at 780-532-9727.

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#### Media Contact:

Sonja Raven  
Agricultural Fieldman  
780-532-9727