

Mmmm good!

Executive Chef Nick D'Ovidio from The Club at North Halton prepares appetizers of 8-hour braised short rib with Benedictine Blue cheese, just some of the many samplings available at Blue Springs Golf Club for Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce Food Sample Show held Tuesday night. Check out more photos from this event online at [www.theifp.ca](http://www.theifp.ca)

Photo by Jon Borgstrom



# Mills: 'We don't get to local roads until well after the storm has stopped'

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But Mills said often when staff return the residents' calls they find residents didn't understand that the Town is obligated under the Province's Minimum Maintenance Standards to clear arterial (such as Trafalgar Rd.) and collector roads (for example Maple Ave.) first.

"We're on the primary arterial and collector roads for the entire storm—while it's snowing," said Superintendent of Public Works Dick Spear. "To maintain that level of service we must provide, we stay on those even after the snowfall ends."

Next in order come the secondary and local urban streets.

"We don't get to local roads until well after the storm has stopped," said Mills.

Complaints do come in from some cul-de-sac residents' upset their roads haven't been cleared while others have, but unfortunately the ends (or the bulbs) of those streets are last on the Town's list. The reason is that crews need to use smaller trucks or backhoes to clear them, but with the arterial and collector roads being top priority workers are in the big trucks first, then after the storm has stopped and they have



CHRIS MILLS

worked their way through the snow clearing order they can get into the smaller vehicles and to the cul-de-sacs.

The Town also hears complaints about the state of Halton Hills' roads compared to those in larger, nearby communities.

"People seem to forget we're subject to those rural winds more than Brampton, Oakville and Mississauga because we have so many open rural areas," said Spear. The open areas often result in blowing snow and drifting. Spear said some rural roads are down to just one lane as a result.

"We know the roads are not always in perfect condition," said Mills. "But our staff is out there working to the best of their abilities. Everybody's road is on a master list and we will get to your road. We will make sure the road is as safe as it can be."

There are things area residents can do to help snow plow crews— not leaving their cars parked on the road during a storm is one.

"During times of heavy snow if people could try to park in their driveways it just makes our jobs that much easier. It's quicker for us to get through the roads and it also leaves the roads in much better condition," said Mills.

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