

# Nova Scotia's proactive approach to winter road maintenance

## Tow Plows

The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) began using tow plows on major highways during the winter of 2013-2014.

A tow plow is a snow plow that is towed behind a traditional plow truck. The tow plow trailer swings out to one side which doubles the plow width capacity of the truck. Through hydraulic controls, the plow driver can maneuver and angle the tow plow into the next lane, thereby making it possible to clear two lanes in a single pass.

Its primary use is for multi-lane plowing in which the tow plow replaces one standard truck plow. This allows snow to be cleared from roads more efficiently.

### Benefits

- 1 Provides safer roads because it frees other trucks to plow and treat other roads
- 2 Tow plows last longer than plow trucks
- 3 Tow plows are less expensive to buy and easier to maintain than plow trucks



*Rear view of unit in retracted position.*



*Rear view of unit in working position. Vehicles cannot pass a working tow plow on a four-lane divided highway.*

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