

**Rural
Municipality of
*Municipalité
Rurale de***



TACHÉ

Box/C.P. 100
Lorette, Manitoba R0A 0Y0

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
Bureau du Directeur Générale

Tel.: 878-3321
Fax: 878-9977

E-Mail: info@rmtache.ca

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POLICY – CHILDREN PLAYING SIGNS

PURPOSE:

This policy provides for consistent placement of Children Playing signs within the Municipality. This policy does not apply to any highway/ provincial road under the provincial jurisdiction of Manitoba Infrastructure & Transportation.

POLICY:

Children Playing signs are advisory only and not enforceable.

Children Playing Signs shall be maintained on municipal roads that provide frontage access to properties with the following associated land uses;

- 1) Playgrounds, tot lots & park areas
- 2) Community recreation facilities and sports fields
- 3) Church yard sites
- 4) Registered daycares

Note: Where pathways, walkways or sidewalks intersect a public road at a non- traditional roadway intersection, crosswalk signs should be maintained not children playing signs as crosswalk signs are a higher order advisory sign.

STANDARD:

Children playing signs shall be posted within 50m of designated properties facing both travel directions. Any intersecting roads within the advisory zone shall also be posted with Children Playing signs.

"Caution Children Playing" Or "Watch For Children" Signs: Why These Are Not Used on Public Streets or Lanes

- Such a sign, if used, would only be advisory and not enforceable.
- "Caution Children Playing", or any variation of this, is not recognized by the national *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* or by the Province of Manitoba as an authorized sign. (Therefore, the City is not authorized to install such a sign in the public right-of-way.)
- Advisory or warning signs are only used to warn of unusual conditions on or adjacent to the roadway.
- Every neighbourhood has children, so the presence of such signs on some streets and absence of a sign on others would incorrectly imply that children do not live in the area if there is no sign and so drivers do not need to anticipate their presence. (For safety reasons, consistency in traffic signing is essential to convey a clear message to drivers.)
- Since every street has children, we could end up with a proliferation of these signs resulting in their having little value or meaning.
- Such signs could be seen to encourage children to play in the streets and therefore, could result in the City assuming liability for child safety with respect to children playing on roadways.
- Research in several North American jurisdictions has proven that these signs do not reduce pedestrian collisions or lower vehicle speeds.
- These signs can promote a false sense of security to both children and parents/guardians who assume that motorists will be watching out for them.
- Such signs do not provide any physical protection for children. There is no substitute for proper supervision and education of children with respect to safety as it relates to traffic.

*Traffic Assessment Branch
Public Works Department
City of Winnipeg*

