



KELLY GREENWAY BRUCE  
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS  
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# LEGAL MATTERS



## Jamie A. Bruce

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Jamie practices exclusively in the area of personal injury. Jamie attended McMaster University and completed his Juris Doctorate at Bond University in Queensland, Australia where he graduated in the top 10% of his class. As part of the personal injury division, Jamie would welcome inquiries with respect to all personal injury matters including dog bites, car accidents and slip and falls.

**Q** *Clearing snow and ice from sidewalks: What is a homeowner's responsibility?*

**A** Municipal bylaws require residents to clear snow and ice from municipal sidewalks in front of their properties within a prescribed time period. However, the municipality is ultimately responsible for removing snow and ice from sidewalks and is responsible for breaching that duty.

That means that even if a homeowner breaches the bylaw, they're not responsible for damages resulting from injuries incurred unless an exception relating to a property owner exercising control over the property or creating a hazard on the sidewalk applies.

If you fail to keep the sidewalk clear of snow and ice, you may receive a warning from the municipality directing you to clear the sidewalk within a certain period of time. If you fail to heed the warning, the municipality may have the snow and ice removed at your expense.

An individual who suffers a slip and fall accident may miss work as a result of injuries sustained and can potentially make a claim for lost wages, pain and suffering, and medical rehabilitation. To make a successful claim against a municipality, you must provide written notice to the municipality within 10 days of the incident.

If you've suffered injuries or losses as the result of a slip and fall accident, contact Kelly Greenway Bruce immediately in order to protect your right to sue.



**KGB**  
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