



## Ford wants to outsource more city jobs: report

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*Mayor Rob Ford speaking ahead of the release of the draft of the 2012 budget, Nov. 28, 2011. CITYNEWS.*

The Ford administration plans to outsource more city jobs, according to a report in the Toronto Star.

CUPE Local 416 president Mark Ferguson told the newspaper that the union has received notice the City of Toronto plans to contract out the remaining plowing, salting, grass-cutting and other jobs done by outside city workers.

The union wasn't immediately available for comment to CityNews, but the union told the Star it will fight to keep the work in-house.

The affected jobs, among others, include:

- street sweeping in road operations in Etobicoke, York, North York and Scarborough.
- salting and plowing of local roads in Etobicoke and North York, including sidewalks.

- a portion of salting and plowing of local roads in Toronto and East York, plus some shovelling.

The news coincides with a Forum Research Inc. poll of Canada's 30 largest cities, which found that only one-quarter surveyed were happy with their municipal services.

Furthermore, only 23 per cent of those surveyed were satisfied with snow plowing, and 16 per cent with road maintenance and repair. The two services ranked at the bottom of the satisfaction list.

In October, Toronto city council approved outsourcing garbage pickup in the city's west end. Beginning next August, garbage at 165,000 households west of Yonge to Humber River will be collected by GFL Environmental Corp. of Pickering for a seven-year contract worth \$186 million. In June, the Ford administration said it wanted to outsource the city's cleaning and janitorial jobs at police stations.