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MEDIA RELEASE

Ward 11 Councillor Jeromy Farkas welcomes effective pay freeze for City Council in 2018: “It’s time that we lead by example.”

December 21st, 2017, Calgary, AB – Calgary City Councillors will see their salaries rolled back by 0.08% on January 1st, 2018. This change is based on a Statistics Canada Alberta weekly earnings formula first set by an independent citizen committee several years ago. The bottom line result is in a \$90.73 reduction in yearly salary for City Councillors and a \$160.60 reduction in yearly salary for the Mayor.

Councillor Jeromy Farkas welcomed this effective pay freeze for Council as appropriate. “Given the economic hardships that everyday Calgarian families continue to face, it’s warranted for Canada’s highest paid City Council to lead by example,” Farkas said.

“This data goes to show that, despite optimism surrounding the economy, wages continue to be stagnant and further increases in taxes for families and small business are unsustainable. I hope that this will resonate throughout the Corporation, especially as we move to renegotiate contracts with City unions,” Farkas continued.

This comes at a time that contract discussions are ongoing. “My hope is that this pay freeze will mark a change in tone and a return to reality. I campaigned on a hard line: Calgarians cannot afford a Council that cannot continue to increase spending and wages beyond our means. It’s time for City Council to make tough choices and be honest regarding what Calgarians can afford,” Farkas concluded.

The new 2018 yearly salary for City Councillors is \$113,325.63 and for the Mayor is \$200,586.40.