

NM2004-12      QUALITY OF LIFE IN CALGARY'S INNER AND ESTABLISHED  
COMMUNITIES

Alderman Druh Farrell

WHEREAS recent proposals by the Calgary Board of Education administration to close several innercity/established community schools have raised significant concerns and objections from parent and community groups;

AND WHEREAS of late, numerous important community amenities such as schools, libraries, pools, hospitals/health facilities and essential retail have been threatened or closed in the innercity and established communities;

AND WHEREAS the Calgary Plan states that "one of the most significant implications of the changing political and fiscal environment will be an increasing need to form partnerships and find more collaborative ways of working with other governing bodies and agencies (Chapter 3, Page 15) and "provide a sufficient population base to support the availability of local goods and services within walking distance of many households (Part 2, Page 38);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council instruct Administration to prepare a plan to convene a roundtable discussion with others to consider the long term viability of our inner city and established communities. Preparations should include the necessary research data to inform broadly based discussions. The Roundtable participants could include, but not be limited to: Calgary Boards of Education, the Calgary Health Region, Urban Development Institute, Inner City Schools Coalition, the Federation of Calgary Communities, Canada 25, Calgary Economic Development and the retail service industry. The plan should be circulated to members of Council for input and the Roundtable established by June 2004.