

NM2006-39

RE: DRUG COURT

Alderman Druh Farrell

WHEREAS The Premier's Task Force on Crystal Meth released a report on 2006 September 19 which identified Drug Courts as an important component in combating drug problems and criminal activity associated with drugs (Recommendation #47);

AND WHEREAS experiences in other jurisdictions demonstrate that Drug Courts significantly reduce recidivism rates by addicts involved in drug crimes;

AND WHEREAS the citizens of Calgary have a growing concern regarding crime in their community, particularly crime involving drugs, and crime associated with the drug trade;

AND WHEREAS local members of the judiciary are working with service providers to deliver this program to Calgary, but require funding to introduce a Drug Court to our City;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council:

1. Request the Mayor write Premier Klein expressing our support and appreciation for the Task Force Report and its recommendations.
2. Request the Mayor write Ministers Cenaiko and Stevens expressing The City of Calgary's interest in partnering with them in the development of a Drug Court in Calgary to address the root cause of much criminal activity in our community.
3. In anticipation of Provincial participation, approve the appropriation of \$100,000 annually from Corporate Costs for the next 2 years, if required, to "kick-start" the program in Calgary, provided The Province will commit to funding thereafter.