

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

24 April 2018

To the Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities (& Jury Members)

On behalf of The City of Calgary, I am excited to place my full support behind Calgary's community submission to Canada's first-ever Smart Cities Challenge.

I appreciate the unique opportunity that Infrastructure Canada is presenting to our community through this ambitious challenge. Our Smart Cities team has leveraged the different parts of our community, from academia and social service agencies, to business and citizens, to envision transformative and forward-thinking ideas that have the potential to achieve positive tangible outcomes for Calgarians.

The need for economic and social resiliency has been identified as a priority in our community. Calgary has created an exemplary submission focused on economic opportunities, as well as empowerment and inclusion for our citizens. Our ambitious outcomes will ensure that every person in our community is connected and has access to the services, supports, information and diverse job opportunities. Now we are eager to bring these ideas and plans to life.

I am confident that Calgary is ready to take on this challenge. In my role as City Manager, I have seen how my colleagues at The City of Calgary have already been using smart city approaches to help make life better every day for citizens. For many years, we have been delivering smart services and investing in smart infrastructure to address citizens' needs. A few examples include our fibre optic infrastructure, smart fleet, intelligent intersections, and a civic innovation lab.

We also know that in order to have real impact, we need to work together. The City of Calgary is a member of the Alberta Smart City Alliance – a cross-provincial body that brings together government, academia and industry bodies to collaborate and move the smart city agenda forward on a world scale.

The City of Calgary is committed to the outcomes, projects and ideas that have been brought forth through the preliminary phase of this challenge. We are already engaging community partners who have the expertise and energy to propel us forward, and will leverage our infrastructure and resources to bring these ideas to fruition.

I am proud and fully supportive of the proposal that Calgary's Smart Cities team has submitted. It is ambitious in scope, compassionate by design, and its solutions can help position any community to be more resilient in an ever changing future. I look forward to following the progress of the Smart Cities Challenge.

Sincerely,



Jeff Fielding
City Manager

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