



September 17, 2019

To: Members of Council – The City of Calgary

Subject: Support for [Citizen Scientist Wearables Program, PFC2019-1096](#)

CivicTechYYC is a community group that facilitates the use data, technology and design to address challenges that citizens and governments are facing and to pursue opportunities for greater citizen engagement and more effective services.

By harnessing the creative power of a wide variety of volunteers CivicTechYYC focuses on what makes Calgary an amazing place to live and how to make it even better. Our projects provide opportunities for Calgarians to engage in the development of innovations that merge arts, culture, design and technology in ways that will enhance our community.

We would like to express our support for the Citizen Scientist Wearables Program and the application to Council Innovation Fund as it;

- Establishes an innovative way to generate value from technology that is in everyday use.
- Provides opportunities for citizens to engage in a practical way in the collection of data that will help their community.
- Creates a public resource of open data that can be used by citizens in future projects.
- Shows how various sectors in Calgary can come together to collaborate on the development of solutions to civic challenges.
- Generates traction through a project that proves Calgary can take leadership in this area of technology and helps to establishes a path forward to economic diversification.

In summary, CivicTechYYC supports the Citizen Scientist Wearables Program because citizen participation is critical if we are to use technology and innovation to make Calgary an even better place to live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Zakaib', written in a cursive style.

Geoff Zakaib
Co-founder of CivicTechYYC