

# C2020-0537 City of Calgary COVID-19 Advocacy Update

Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

May 14, 2020



# City of Calgary COVID-19 Priorities for the Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta



## Aid to vulnerable citizens and non-profits that support them

### Immediate priority for the most vulnerable

- Isolation options for homeless and vulnerable people
- Stronger community and economic supports
- Income and rapid housing supports
- Funding for domestic violence shelters
- Assistance for non-profits serving people in poverty



## Aid to business

### Direct support to business

- Focus on small and medium enterprises and vulnerable industries
- Immediate commercial rent, mortgage and property tax relief
- Coordinated communications to provide businesses with a one-stop-shop hotline to navigate government programs
- Planning for a long recovery, including a small business stabilization fund



## Aid to municipalities

### A backstop for municipalities incurring unrecoverable operating losses

- Cities facing response costs and revenue losses
- Cities cannot easily run deficits
- Substantial losses cannot be recovered from reserves or borrowing
- City of Calgary weekly losses: \$10-15 M
- The federal government and provincial government need to provide a backstop within their respective borrowing powers



## Stimulative infrastructure

### A major new infrastructure plan to get people working and the economy humming

- Streamline processes and flexibility for local project funding, while funding municipalities directly
- Mitigate timing or cost escalation for current projects
- Priorities: Immediate repair and maintenance of existing assets including affordable housing, shovel-ready projects for a shorter 2020 construction season, and projects ready for design and procurement now, with shovels in 2021



## Long term economic resilience and a new deal for cities

### A vision to recover and rebuild

- Building a more diversified and resilient economy in Alberta
- Direct supports for the energy industry
- Measures to build capabilities within companies to enable the energy transition
- A whole-of-government approach to help Alberta's economy recover and grow





## Aid to Vulnerable Citizens and non-profits

- Social Services Support
- Rent Relief Program
- Affordable Housing Provider Service Continuity / Emergency Support
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Sheltering
- Free Short Term Community Internet Access
- Housing Recovery Stimulus Package (repair, renovate)
- Affordable Housing 10 Year Capital Plan
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Rent Bank

## Aid to Businesses

- Commercial Rent Relief
- Business Hotline (information access)
- Small Business Relief Fund
- BCMC Advocacy to assist businesses

## Aid to Municipalities

- Support for Civic Partners and Community Partners
- Small Business Tax Relief
- State of Local Emergency
- Property Tax Delay
- Affordable Public Transportation
- Financial Backstop for Municipalities

## Stimulative Infrastructure

- Shovel Ready and Priority Projects for Calgary
  - Funds for Maintenance and Repair
  - New Builds and Redevelopment Projects beginning in 2020 and 2021
- Streamlined Funding (processes, flexibility)
- Need for Federal Stimulus Package (BCMC)



## Long term economic resilience and a new deal for cities

- A new fiscal framework for municipalities
- Meaningful property tax and assessment reform
- Economic development and diversification

## Recommendation

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee receive this presentation for the Corporate Record.

