

Calgary Economic Development's
collaborative energy makes us a
conduit, connector, catalyst and
storyteller for Calgary.

June 12, 2017

Mayor Nenshi and Members of Calgary City Council
The City of Calgary
800 Macleod Trail SE
Calgary AB, T2G 2M3




Re: Bylaw 30P2017 – Centre City Enterprise District

On behalf of Calgary Economic Development and the Real Estate Sector Advisory Committee, we would like to offer our support for Bylaw 30P2017 that implements the Centre City Enterprise Area.

Our Centre City area has experienced a very difficult few years and high vacancy rates are likely to persist for some time. We strongly believe Calgary needs a vibrant and active downtown to retain existing businesses and employers, as well as to attract new companies and start-ups as we continue our efforts to diversify Calgary's economy. Taking quick and bold action to reduce barriers to occupying vacant space is an important stimulus at this time. Not only will it assist our building owners, employers and small businesses, it will help us position Calgary on a national and international basis as a favourable business environment. It is a strong signal that we are open-for business and we will work hard to meet the needs of business.

We understand this initiative is for a three year limited term. We are committed to working with The City and our real estate partners to monitor the success and impact of this Initiative and to communicate it to our contacts. We also recognize there are some risks associated with suspending the requirement for development permits for some changes of use, alterations and small additions. However, Bylaw 30P2017 is a necessary improvement that we need in Calgary's downtown as it may lead to future regulatory improvements in the Centre City.

Sincerely,


R. Scott Hutcheson
Chair
Real Estate Advisory Committee


Mary Moran
President & CEO
Calgary Economic Development

cc: Jeff Fielding, City Manager
Rollin Stanley, General Manager, Urban Strategy
Stuart Dalgleish, General Manager Planning & Development
Sue Gray, City Clerk
Steve Allen, Chair of Calgary Economic Development Board of Directors

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be part of the energy

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