



July 21st, 2020

Members of Council

Re: Heritage Conservation Tools and Incentives Update Report

Dear Council Members,

The Federation of Calgary Communities (the Federation) is the support organization for over 230 community based non-profit organizations, including 152 community associations. We assist community volunteers in navigating Calgary's planning process and advocate for a community perspective throughout our work.

Our organization has been involved as a stakeholder in the Heritage Conservation Tools and Incentives process over the last few years. We support the recommendations that have been outlined in the report. The tools identified and the increase to the City-wide conservation program grant program will provide further opportunities for the protection of heritage assets which are valuable to a lot of our communities and the City. We also ask that members of this Committee consider the residential tax credit financial incentive package as part of the 2023-2026 budget deliberations. This tax credit program is a great incentive for more property owners to designate their properties and increase heritage inventory in the City. As we are not experts, we defer to our heritage colleagues for more comprehensive feedback of the recommendations.

Finally, we would like more clarity on how this work will be integrated with the Guidebook and phase 2 of the Established Growth and Change Strategy (EAGCS). The Heritage Conservation Tools and Incentives strategy, the Guidebook, EAGCS, and the Multi-Community Local Area Plans, all form the basis of the Next Generation Planning System. As these are highly interrelated, a clear strategy to align all these projects, including timelines and timely plain-language communications provided by the city, will help us better support our communities and therefore build better understanding amongst our community volunteers.

The Federation appreciates being engaged as a stakeholder, and we hope that we have continued opportunities to provide meaningful input alongside our community membership.

Sincerely,

Toun Osuntogun
Urban Planner

Edward Spink
Urban Planner