



March 2, 2017

Dear Members of Priorities and Finance Committee,

**RE: Innovation Fund Application - Walk 21 Community Microgrants**

The Federation of Calgary Communities (The Federation) is a registered non-profit that works to strengthen the smaller members of the nonprofit sector by providing capacity building support in organization development, governance, financial management, community building and development. We have a diverse membership of over 220 Calgary and area non-profits including the 151 community associations.

The Federation is very excited about the potential to support the Walk 21 Community Microgrants. We believe not only is this a great way to improve the walkability and connectedness within and between our neighbourhoods, but also a legacy to Canada 150 and Walk 21. In offering microgrants, we can encourage citizen led solutions that help people walk, linger and connect better and more regularly within their outdoor realm. By engaging a diverse group of citizens we can explore innovation, look at civic barriers to citizen-led projects and energize people, businesses and social organizations city-wide to perhaps engage in future community building projects after the microgrants wrap up.

The Federation is prepared to step up to administer these microgrants, provide the support as indicated in the proposal and work as a partner with The City of Calgary to execute this exciting initiative.

We look forward to working with staff from The City of Calgary Pedestrian Strategy and Walk 21 on this innovation fund project. Should you require more information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

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