



APPLICATION FOR COUNCIL INNOVATION FUND

CC 941 (R2019-10)

** Be sure to save your completed document to your desktop before you print and/or email the form for submission so you do not lose your content. Please email your desktop copy and other attachments to the [CFOD Administrative Assistant](#) (see Contact Information on the CFOD myCity page for details), who will confirm receipt.*

Date of Submission

January 2021

Name of Project

LearningCITY Community

Sponsoring Councilor

George Chahal

Applicant Name

Dexter Lam, Calgary Economic Development

Applicant Contact Number

(587) 888-0809

Include area code, no spaces

Applicant Business Unit or Name of Organization

Calgary Economic Development

Affected Business Units and/or Departments

Amount of Funds Requested - please attach budget breakdown details in an attachment

\$43,400.00

Draft PFC cover report attached

☒ Yes ☐ No

Please list supporting documents provided.

1. LearningCITY Community Prototype proposal; 2. Calgary of the Precipice (LearningCITY, 2020); 3. Skills that Matter (LearningCITY, 2020)

Applications for the Council Innovation Fund are to be submitted to the Chief Financial Officer Department (name of person) no later than six (6) weeks in advance of the targeted Priorities and Finance Committee (PFC) meeting date.

Only completed applications supported by a PFC cover report will be submitted for placement on the PFC agenda. The PFC will review the report and proposal and provide their recommendation to Council. The recommendation and report will then be forwarded to Council at their next scheduled meeting.

Provide a summary description of the project to a maximum of 2 pages.

[LearningCITY](#) aims to re-envision how Calgarians learn throughout their lives and provide a support network to provide meaningful learning journeys for all citizens. As a ground-breaking community-based ecosystem anchored by a broad range of community partners (currently facilitated by Calgary Economic Development), LearningCITY will enable Calgarians to access meaningful learning experiences and journeys at all points of their lives.

Helping different communities of skills users and providers communicate and connect more efficiently and effectively is foundational to closing the gaps between training and jobs, and will enable diverse ecosystem participants to work towards common aims. A Calgary Competency Model (CCM) that could act as a unifying 'language' may help different communities describe skills and competencies that may be referred to differently across a variety of contexts such as professions, cultures, and educational settings.

A community-level project in northeast Calgary will allow us to test how a unifying competency model can help Calgarians who have unique challenges communicating and applying their skills. Working with a local community institution / organization, we will integrate a prototype of the CCM with an existing program currently offered to community members and monitor / evaluate whether outcomes are improved. Potential opportunities currently being considered include working with a local immigrant serving agency to improve a job search / placement program or helping enhance skills-development through a well-being program offered by a community recreation centre.

Lessons learned will have value in improving the CCM to ensure its applicability for all Calgarians while also offering insights for how community support organizations may improve their programs and impact. The integration of the prototype competency model into existing community programming is designed to collaboratively build capacity in partner community organizations. This will allow partner community organizations to sustain and continuously build on lessons learned and impact from the project without necessarily requiring additional funding.

LearningCITY will make the resulting research and insights from this prototyping project freely available to Calgary's learning ecosystem and other community partners across the city. The collaboration to actively engage community members will also help build awareness of the LearningCITY initiative, catalyzing inclusive community participation in Calgary's emerging lifelong-learning ecosystem.

Identify how this project meets the criteria as outlined in the Terms of Reference for the Council Innovation Fund.

Please attach additional information as required.

In addition to social (social well-being, social resilience and participation, social mobility) and economic (supporting business growth, economic inclusion, economic resiliency) priorities for the Council Innovation Fund, this community prototyping project aligns with the following City of Calgary initiatives:

- **imagineCalgary's economic system targets** related to economic well-being (e.g., supporting research), meaningful work (e.g., supporting full employment - particularly with immigrants and new graduates), and sufficient income (e.g. all Calgarians have access to appropriate training).
- **imagineCalgary's social system targets** related to lifelong learning (e.g., skill development and access to formal/informal learning opportunities).
- **2019-2022 Council Directives** related to building a prosperous city (e.g., growing as a magnet for Talent).
- Our Community's Economic Strategy: **Calgary in the New Economy** focuses on enhancing program access to diverse communities, expanding work-integrated learning, and increase collaboration between PSIs, community, and businesses.

Outline the proposed timeline for this project, including the final report back date.

Prototype / project objectives & plan - January / February 2021

Strategic partner engagement - February 2021

Prototype design - March / April 2021 (interim reporting at end of April)

Delivery of prototype in community - May / August 2021

Analysis and synthesis - August / September 2021 (final reporting at end of September 2021)

Identify what success looks like, and how it will be measured.

Both process and outcomes aspects of the project will be studied, with interim evaluation / reporting after the participatory design stage and final evaluation / reporting after the in-community activities. Desired outcomes from the project include:

- Lessons learned for improving the competency model to ensure its applicability for all Calgarians
- Insights for how community support organizations may improve their programs and impact.
- Improved participant ability and confidence to understand and communicate about personal / professional skills.
- Improved employment outcomes for both employees and employers.
- Enhanced skills development through individual and community well-being programs / supports.

Specific evaluation metrics will need to be reflective of the programs and contexts that the competency model prototype will be integrated into. A full list of potential metrics has been outlined in the attached proposal document.

Your personal information is being collected, used and disclosed for the administration and processing of your application for funding under the Council Innovation Fund Project. Your information is collected pursuant to section 33(c) of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ("FOIP Act") of Alberta. If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information, please contact The City of Calgary's Chief Financial Office (#8003), The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100, Stn. M, Calgary, AB T2P 2M5 and by calling at 403-268-5664.