

City of Calgary Council
800 Macleod Trail S.E.
Calgary, AB

December 2nd, 2021

Re: Support for continued collaboration between the City of Calgary and AHS on health-related public policy

As Calgary Zone Medical Officers of Health with Alberta Health Services (AHS) we support continuing collaboration with the City of Calgary administration and Council on health-related public policy. We have been delighted to work with the City of Calgary on many health issues in recent history and appreciate our strong relationship with multiple City departments on topics such as built environment, traffic safety, resilience and climate change, mental health and addictions, and homelessness.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been an incredible challenge, and required increased collaboration between the City, AHS and the University of Calgary. The Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) led COVID-19 Strike Team has been an excellent mechanism for providing insights and advice to administration and facilitating knowledge exchange. Our office also values the opportunities we've had to engage directly with City Council and look forward to connecting with the new members.

As Public Health Physicians, we are focused on promoting, protecting, and improving community health and well-being. Therefore, we welcome continued opportunities to collaborate on key strategic urban health topics, including pandemic response and recovery and addressing major ongoing and emerging issues of common interest. We look forward to working on our shared goals of making the lives of Calgarians better by building a healthier and more resilient city.

Respectfully,



Dr. Nicholas Etches, MD FRCPC
Acting Zone Lead Medical Officer of Health

On behalf of Calgary Zone Medical Officers of Health:

Dr. Jason Cabaj
Dr. Karla Gustafson
Dr. Richelle Schindler



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
O'Brien Institute for Public Health

Dr Tom Stelfox
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Date: November 26, 2021

To: The Community Development Committee of Calgary Council

From: Dr Tom Stelfox, Scientific Director, O'Brien Institute for Public Health

Re: Municipal Medical Officer of Health Scoping Report: Continued collaboration between City of Calgary and O'Brien Institute for Public Health

I'm writing on behalf of the O'Brien Institute to express our commitment to ongoing partnership with The City of Calgary, so that we can advance together toward our shared goal of improved health for our community.

The O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary has been proud to support the City of Calgary in its efforts to enact evidence-informed public policy, through the participation of expert members of the Institute in the health Advisory Group convened by the City's previous administration, and we would be gratified to continue this collaboration in the future.

The O'Brien Institute comprises more than 500 members and 500 affiliates (from the University's six relevant Faculties, Alberta Health Services, and municipal and provincial agencies and institutions) whose shared mission is to advance public health through research excellence. Their expertise ranges from health systems and services; health policy; preventive health (including issues such as community water fluoridation and vaccination); through population health (including social determinants of health). The City's Advisory Group offers a great knowledge exchange opportunity through which the Institute can better understand issues and the City can access the most recent robust research and intelligence on numerous health topics.

Please let us know if I can provide any additional information about the O'Brien Institute, or its previous interactions with the City of Calgary and the Advisory Group, to further advocate for the continuation of our collaboration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Stelfox', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas Stelfox, MD, PhD, FRCPC, FCAHS

Scientific Director, O'Brien Institute for Public Health
Professor, Critical Care Medicine, University of Calgary
Intensivist, Alberta Health Services - Calgary Zone