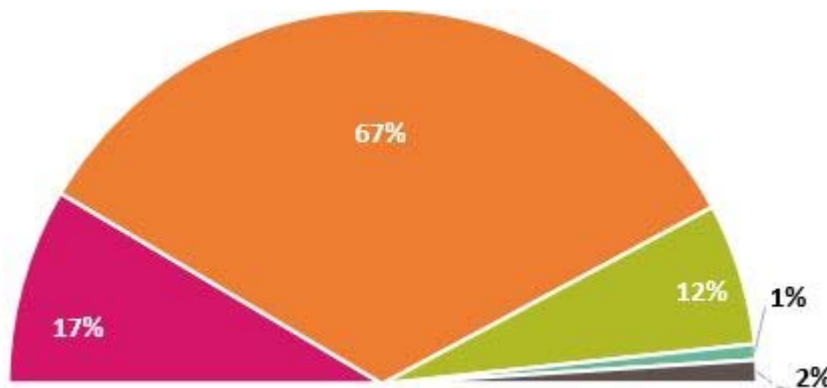


Calgary Economic Development Economic Strategy Progress Report March 31, 2016

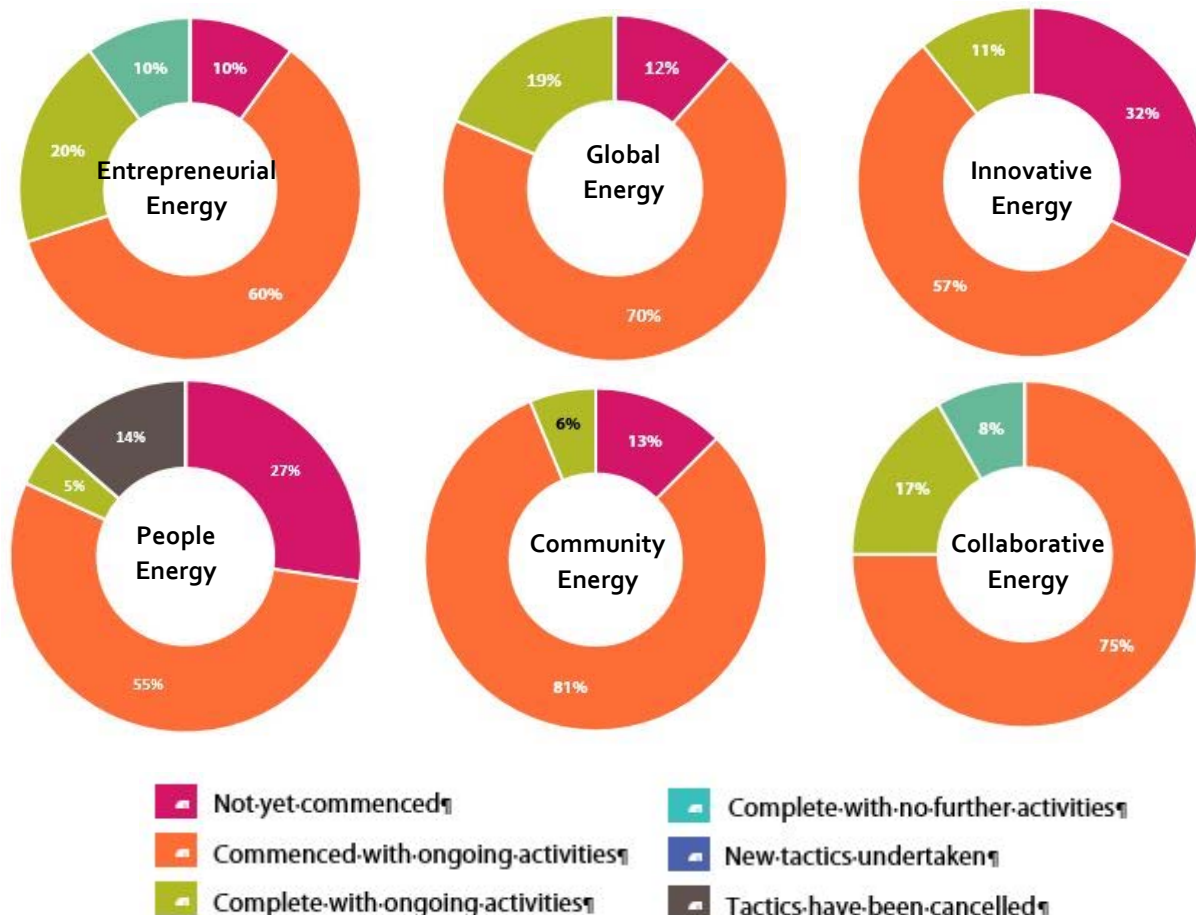
What have we achieved to date?



Building on our energy is a framework for achieving a sense of community, shared prosperity and sustainable development in Calgary. Approved by Council in November 2014 the Economic Strategy includes 32 actions and 143 tactics being led by a Leadership Team including City

Administration, civic partners, post-secondary institutions, not-for-profit agencies and representatives from the provincial and federal governments. In February, 2016 The City of Calgary allocated additional funding to accelerate the implementation of *Building on our Energy*.

Status of the six energies (goal areas)



Success stories in the six energies

area of focus: global energy

- Civic partners Brand Committee conducted best practice into designing ambassador programs.
- In the first five years the Global Business Centre served 40 companies, half of which established a permanent office in Calgary.
- Three outbound trade and investment missions to China in Q1 2016.
- Hosted 51 inbound trade missions at the Global Business Centre.

area of focus: innovative energy

- 10 Kinetica Ventures clients advanced to deep engagements.
- COSIA launched the \$20 million Carbon XPRIZE .challenging the world to reimagine what can be done with CO2 emissions.
- Mount Royal University Launched a Social Innovation Hub.
- Co led the creation of WCIO – the Western Canadian Innovation Offices, a consortium of 36 post-secondary tech transfer offices.

area of focus: community energy

- The City of Calgary allocated additional funding to the Calgary Housing Company to increase the supply of affordable housing to low income Calgarians.
- This is My Neighbourhood completed engagement with the 14 participating neighbourhoods in developing their visions.
- Through Q1 Calgary Transit conducted a major review of 12 bus routes in the northwest and inner city resulting in new transit routes coming into effect 2016 September.

area of focus: entrepreneurial energy

- Beginning to develop a destination strategy for Calgary, examining which elements Calgary needs to be a premier destination.
- In 2015, District Ventures was launched as consumer products accelerator.
- In 2015, the Business Link returned to Calgary placing a local staff resource to support local entrepreneurs.

area of focus: people energy

- Community Social Workers work in 23 priority neighbourhoods to increase the social and economic participation of citizens.
- Calgary Economic Development has initiated the Re-engage Speaker series to provide information and networking opportunities to those laid off in the recent downturn.
- Calgary Economic Development with Bow Valley College launched the Connector Program to expand networks of qualified, marginalized workers.

area of focus: collaborative energy

- Calgary Economic Development received additional funds in the amount of \$6.675 million for the Opportunity Calgary initiative from the City of Calgary to accelerate the implementation of the Economic Strategy for Calgary.
- Calgary Economic Development hosted the second Economic Summit with almost 200 participants.

Identified risks:

- Entrepreneurial support system is diverse and disconnected
- Provincial government changes to securities regulations are required to facilitate investments in startups
- During this downturn it is more difficult to turn attention to socially conscious business practices in addressing poverty
- The provincial government has not yet opened conversations on alternative financing for municipal infrastructure

