

Councillor Ward Sutherland
The City of Calgary, Aldermanic Office (8001)
P.O Box 2100, Station M
Calgary AB T2P 2M5

November 25, 2013

Dear Councillor Sutherland,

The Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program has been around in Alberta since 1966, it is a unique program among the provinces. The FCSS program provides funding to preventative social service agencies across Alberta. Over the last six years the FCSS Sustainability Forum made up of Executive Directors from several preventative social service agencies from across Calgary has advocated for funding increases at the provincial level as Alberta's population and need for such services has increased. In 1996, the FCSS review committee recommended increasing funding of the FCSS program to \$100 million. Today the program still sits at approximately \$76 million from the province.

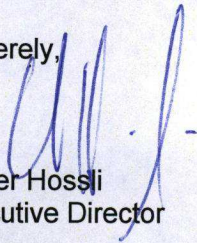
Over the last year, much work has been done on shifting government focus from intervention to prevention programming. The provincial government has recognized the need for shift in their Social Policy Framework and is continuing this trend in its social policy such as the provincial poverty reduction strategy expected out in Spring of 2014. This strategy will work towards the Premier's promises to eliminate child poverty in five years and reduce overall poverty in ten years. In addition, the previous City Council unanimously approved the Calgary Poverty Reduction Initiative and its goal to reduce poverty in Calgary by 50% in 10 years.

Action to End Poverty in Alberta and Vibrant Communities Calgary produced two reports which made an economic case for a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy in Alberta. The first report, *Poverty Costs*, published in March 2012 conducted research that put the cost of poverty in Alberta at \$7.1 to \$9.5 billion each year. We know from research that a preventative poverty reduction strategy would cost about 50% of that initially and get lower over time. The second report, *Poverty Costs 2.0*, published in June 2013 suggests a blueprint for reducing poverty in Alberta.

I would like to emphasize the importance of the FCSS program to achieving the goals for both the provincial and municipal poverty reduction plans. \$23 million of the program is earmarked for Calgary by the province with the City contributing approximately \$6 million. FCSS contributes significantly to the success of 132 community programs through 78 agencies in Calgary.

As you enter budget deliberations it is important to note that investing in prevention programs such as FCSS have had long-term savings for government. For every dollar invested in prevention there is a savings of \$6 no longer needed for intervention. FCSS will compliment both the provincial and municipal poverty strategies. I implore you to maintain the City's current level of funding for FCSS and advocate with the Sustainability Forum to increase the funding for the program coming from the provincial government.

Sincerely,

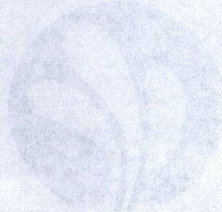
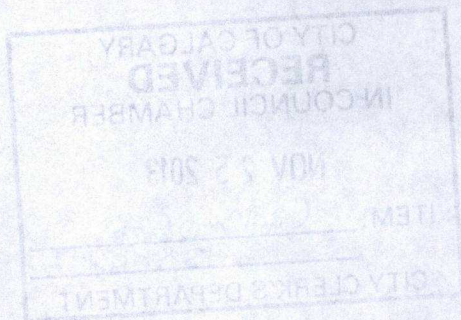

Walter Hossli
Executive Director

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Council Room 200
The City of Calgary
200 Box 200
Calgary AB T2P 2E5

November 23, 2013

Dear Mr. Mayor:

The City of Calgary is pleased to announce that the City has received a grant from the Government of Canada for the purpose of funding the City's participation in the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The grant is for the purpose of funding the City's participation in the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The grant is for the purpose of funding the City's participation in the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The grant is for the purpose of funding the City's participation in the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

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Sincerely,

W. Mark
Executive Director

Information



FCSS Fact Sheet

- What is FCSS?

- The Government of Alberta, together with participating municipalities and Metis Settlements, jointly fund **Non-Statutory** preventive social services for Albertans through the FCSS program. Designed to meet the preventive social programming needs of the local community, FCSS projects and services offer a range of support for people of all ages. The province contributes up to 80% of the net cost of operating a local program and the participating municipality or Metis Settlement contributes a minimum of 20%.
- Operating in Alberta since 1966
- 99% of Albertans have access to FCSS programming

- What is the FCSS Sustainability Forum

- Made up of Executive Directors of preventative social service agencies in Calgary
- Meet regularly to plan advocacy work to the provincial government with the goal of increasing provincial funding of FCSS

- Has funding for FCSS increased recently?

- A provincial FCSS review committee recommended increasing the provincial contribution to \$100 million in 1996. The FCSS budget sits at \$76 million today.
- 141 of 207 municipal FCSS programs contribute more than the 20% funding necessary to receive the grant.
- Per resident funding for FCSS has decreased over the last decade from just over \$24 per resident to under \$21 a 14% decrease.

- How are FCSS funded agencies faring in Calgary?

- 83% of FCSS funded agencies in Calgary have experienced an increase in demand over the past year.
- 93% of Calgary agencies wait lists have grown or remained the same over the past three years.

- Does investing in prevention save money?

- Yes. Every \$1 invested in preventive services saves \$6 to \$13 in future spending
- Long-term spending is reduced for justice, family abuse, health care, and addiction treatment.

1-11-77

FOSS Fact Sheet
Volume 1, No. 1

The Government of Ontario, Canada, is currently conducting a study of the effects of the 1977-78 budget on the economy. The study is being conducted by the Ontario Council of Economic Councils (OCEC). The OCEC is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that provides economic analysis and advice to the Government of Ontario. The study will examine the impact of the budget on various aspects of the economy, including employment, income, and government revenue. The results of the study will be used to inform future budgetary decisions.

The OCEC is currently in the process of collecting data and conducting analysis. The study is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The results of the study will be published in a report that will be made available to the public. The OCEC is also holding a series of public consultations to gather input from citizens and businesses on the budget's impact.

The 1977-78 budget has been a significant factor in the current economic situation. The budget has resulted in a decrease in government spending and an increase in government revenue. This has led to a reduction in the budget deficit and a strengthening of the economy. The OCEC's study will provide a detailed analysis of these effects and their long-term implications for the province.

How will the budget impact the economy in the long run? The OCEC is currently conducting a study to answer this question. The study will examine the impact of the budget on various aspects of the economy, including employment, income, and government revenue. The results of the study will be used to inform future budgetary decisions.

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