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THE CITY OF CALGARY
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Federation
of Calgary Communities

Improving neighbourhood life in Calgary

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IN LEGAL TRADITIONS COMMITTEE ROOM

JAN 09 2014

ITEM: IGA2014-0037

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

January 8, 2014

To: Members of the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
All members of City Council

Re: **Comment on IGA2014-0037, Amendment to Policy #CS012 Telecommunication Antenna Structures on Municipal Property**

Dear Council Members,

The Federation of Calgary Communities agrees with City Administration's recommendations in the report IGA2014-0037 regarding the site priority sequencing, and fee as they are described in the report.

Telecommunication towers continue to be controversial developments to members of the public and many community associations (CAs). As such, we agree with Administration that telecommunication towers should be low in the priority sequencing of municipal properties, though will remain an option for interested CAs. For a telecommunication tower siting on a CA License of Occupation (LOC) to be beneficial to the CA, it is important that the license agreement negotiated by The City financially benefit the CA. We support the recommendation that generated revenue be collected by the non-profit society that maintains the LOC.

The Federation has developed a controversial decision making model for CAs exploring making changes to their LOCs. This model encourages CAs to do rigorous community engagement with all of their own community residents, as well as with those in adjacent community(ies) if deemed necessary, to determine if a telecommunication tower should be sited on their LOC. This process would be followed with the regular public engagement process by a telecommunication tower proponent, as is required by Development & Building Approvals. If any councillors wish to discuss this decision making model, we would be happy to do so.

Lastly, the Telecommunication Antenna Structures on Municipal Property policy states that The City should investigate the use of public lands for the purposes of siting telecommunication towers if it is demonstrated that there is significant public opposition or if there technical service deficiencies on private lands. We suggest that a clear process be developed to guide related City Business Units (Development &

Building Approvals and Corporate Properties), as well as CAs once public land options are being explored. Specifically, we recommend that CA support for a site be solicited only when it is certain that other options are not available. This will reduce the possibility that CAs will have to unnecessarily undergo controversial and political discussions in regards to their LOCs.

Regards,



Natasha Kuzmak, MEDES
Urban Planning + Engagement Facilitator

cc. City Clerks
Campbell Berry