

Calgary Economic Development's
collaborative energy makes us a
conduit, connector, catalyst and
storyteller for Calgary.

February 14, 2019

City Council
City Hall
800 Macleod Trail SE
P.O. Box 2100, Stn. M
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Dear Mayor Nenshi and members of Council,

Re: Support for Amendments to Calgary's Land Use Bylaw

On behalf of Calgary Economic Development, I am pleased to submit a letter of support for the Phase 2 Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendments.

As was stated in the Economic Strategy for Calgary, *Calgary in the New Economy*, agribusiness is part of the fabric of our community. One of the emerging trends that is influencing the agribusiness industry is conscious consumerism, which is driving a demand for food quality, safety, transparency, and supply chain management.

The proposed amendments, particularly the new Urban Agriculture use, will support further growth and diversification of this "right to win" sector. Urban agriculture complements an established base of traditional farming and it is an important piece of the Agribusiness cluster. We view urban agricultural and vertical farming as a niche opportunity for Calgary, one which will create jobs, diversify the economy, promote innovation, and inject life into the community.

The new Urban Agriculture use would encourage vertical farming and urban agriculture companies to establish a presence in Calgary. Calgary's strong manufacturing and engineering capabilities position our city well for investment and growing expertise in the manufacturing of key equipment and hardware components of vertical farming, which is part of Calgary Economic Development's agribusiness strategy. We are working with several companies and entrepreneurs looking to Calgary as a base for their urban agriculture projects. One of our successful companies is Deepwater Farms, which is using aquaponics to raise fish and grow leafy greens to bring sustainable local food to Calgary's top restaurants.

The new definition of local food sales will also support our local agribusiness sector, providing a supportive environment for business incubation and allowing local entrepreneurs the opportunity to scale up their business. The new Urban Agriculture use and the new definition of local food sales will also increase the opportunity to use one of our established sectors to activate public spaces throughout the city, embedding agribusiness further in our community's cultural fabric and accelerating urbanization.

The other two proposed amendments, to include the raising of insects as part of the Food Production use and amending the Brewery, Winery and Distillery use, will also help stimulate

calgary economic
development
be part of the energy

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growth in the local economy. These amendments will create new opportunities for urban farmers and local entrepreneurs and will increase the opportunity for local businesses to expand their revenue streams.

In summary, the Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendments will enable more opportunities for indoor and outdoor urban farm businesses to develop, further securing Calgary as the centre of agribusiness in Canada. Additionally, the amendments will be a great tool for Calgary Economic Development to attract companies and talent to Calgary by promoting a local, secure, healthy and sustainable food supply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Moran".

Mary Moran
President & Chief Executive Officer
Calgary Economic Development

February 7, 2019

His Worship Mayor Nenshi
Council - The City of Calgary
Calgary City Hall
800 Macleod Trail SE
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Re: Support for Alberta Urban Farming and Land Use Bylaws

Good Day Mayor Nenshi and City Council,

This letter is to support the City of Calgary in implementing the suggested Bylaw amendments to food growing, processing and other components as it relates to urban farming in Calgary.

Our names are Alina Martin and Sean Fillion, we are the Co-Founder of The Harvest Hub here in Calgary, Alberta. We are new-aged tech farmers and serial entrepreneurs. We grow vegetables such as carrots, jalapenos, shallots and unique items such as saffron year-round. We are an indoor, vertically integrated farm and use light spectrum technology, along with a soil composition and a proprietary grow-tub to grow food. We use very little water, have created an oxygenated soil system and are deeply focused on creating food sustainability and growing exceptional quality food and unique ingredients, year-round.

I stand on behalf of entrepreneurs everywhere when I say, "we need your help, so we can help feed you and your families in the future." Building new bylaws and amending old ones, along with creating easier paths to building more sustainable businesses in our city, which in turn bring jobs and new industries, are foundational steps to helping solve this problem.

The world is rapidly growing, and the reality is, so is our population. It's scaling at rate where if we don't as its citizens find deeper, more creative and sustainable ways to grow food - famine is a reality. We don't need more Starbucks, we need more family tables filled with nutritious, local food that was grown using scalable solutions right in the middle of the city of Calgary. We have the ability, and the talent right now to bring a food-focused industry to this city that could change Calgary's trajectory.

We fully support the mayor and the council, and those that are working tirelessly to improve our city for everyone. We want Calgary to be seen as the birthplace for Ag-Tech education and innovation. Our roots are embedded in our agricultural community. It's time we marry our history with agricultural technology innovation.

The Harvest Hub is the farm of the future. The future is now. We need your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alina & Sean".

Alina Martin & Sean Fillion
Co-Founders of The Harvest Hub
www.theharvesthub.ca
amartin@theharvesthub.ca
sfillion@theharvesthub.ca



YYC Growers and Distributors Cooperative
18 4750 106 Ave SE
Calgary AB T2C 1G1

Feb 18, 2019

Laurie Kimber
Senior Planner
Planning and Development
City of Calgary

Dear Laurie,

Re: Land Use By-law amendments; food growing, processing and distribution

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed amendments to the City of Calgary Land Use By-law, which will advance aspirations set out in the city's food strategy CalgaryEATS that was endorsed by Council in 2012. We hope that you can include this letter in your report to Calgary Planning Commission and subsequently to City Council.

YYC Growers and Distributors is a farmer cooperative made up of urban and rural farms in and around Calgary. We have 15 farms that we support; half of those are growers within city limits that consist of dirt farms, micro green farms, mushroom farms and aquaponics. We have been advocates for local food for the past 5 years and will always be looked upon as one of the faces of local food.

The expansion and clarification of land use by-law provisions related to food production will be instrumental in moving toward a resilient food system. Local food production and associated entrepreneurial opportunities can make a valuable contribution to the wellbeing of citizens offering social, educational, health and economic benefits to Calgarians through job training, creating employment, and community building. This helps also with the food security issue which is included in the CalgaryEATS document.

YYC Growers encourages the Calgary Planning Commission to endorse, and Council to approve, the proposed amendments to the Calgary Land Use by-law that will support a sustainable and resilient food system in the City.

Sincerely,

Dennis Scanland, President and GM
YYC Growers and Distributors Cooperative
403-606-9007
dennis@yycgrowers.com



Cold Garden Beverage Company Ltd.
1100 11 Street SE
Calgary, Alberta T2G 4T3

February 12, 2019

Laurie Kimber
Planning and Development
City of Calgary
800 Macleod Trail SE
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5

RE: Land Use Bylaw amendments to the definition of Brewery, Winery and Distillery

To whom it may concern,

Cold Garden is in full support of amending the existing Land Use Bylaw definition of Brewery, Winery and Distillery (Section 156.1(a)) as follows:

- (v) Increase the areas where patrons can consume beverages and eat food to 150.0 square metres from the current 75.0 square metres;
- (vi) Specifically allow and include collaboration brews and start-up brews; and
- (vii) Allow an entertainment area where live and recorded music can be provided.

These rule changes will foster the growth of existing breweries and provide a better landscape for breweries to start up with different models. This will further diversify the industry allowing for more businesses to start up. We think Council should support the growth of this industry at every opportunity given these businesses directly employ excellent full-time skilled workers. Increasingly, these industrial job opportunities are becoming available within the inner city – lending itself to a more diversified social fabric among these communities. Further, given Calgary's tax challenge, this industry contributes by converting a large portion of industrial buildings to retail uses.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dan Allard at 403.305.6288.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Allard", written over a horizontal line.

Dan Allard, Co-founder