



▶ CATCH UP WITH WHAT'S NEW IN WARD 134

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Fall • CITY HALL UPDATE • 2007

Alderman Diane Colley-Urquhart

Ward 13, Calgary

A QUARTERLY E-PUBLICATION OF ISSUES AND UPDATES AFFECTING RESIDENTS OF WARD 13 & THE CITY OF CALGARY

I often have the privilege of representing Mayor Bronconnier as Deputy Mayor at events throughout the city. I want to share with you in this and future editions of the City Hall Update, some of the speeches I have delivered at these important events. I am always inspired by the many tireless volunteers I meet at these events who dedicate so much time and energy to ensure that each and every detail is addressed. Each of you deserve kudos for caring enough to want to make ours the great city that it is! Please continue to contact me through my website with your comments and feedback or stop me on the street to say hello!

~ Dicu



Thank you

My new term in office has begun and many challenges lie ahead for our Ward and for our City as a whole. The next three years will be even more dynamic than the last, filled with contentious and tough issues that will put the skills of this new council to the test. We've come so far in the last three years ... but we have so much more to do. The incredible growth in Calgary presents new challenges every single day.

Our quadrant of the City is one of the most rapidly growing areas in Calgary. We need to have prudent and responsible leadership to balance the increasing pressures from rapid population growth.

We need corporate memory, and benefit from what we've already learned about potential solutions. Below are some of my top priorities for Council's next term. Some I've been working on already and some are emerging challenges. I have

now been acclaimed as your Alderman in Ward 13, but as always, I continue to appreciate your advice and welcome your ongoing support.

While growth is desirable because it creates economic benefits – higher incomes, employment, and generates tax revenues, it also means that we are under pressure to provide adequate and affordable housing, water, sewer, and road infrastructure as well as social services. Urban sprawl also means traffic congestion and the loss of open space, rural land (due to annexation) and natural resources contribute to our quality of life - that can never be converted back.

A good example of this is the new area of Providence in Ward 13 that is comprised of 3500 acres to the west. Should this development proceed without all the necessary infrastructure including public transit and roadworks in place first, the impact

will be a negative one on our community. All residents must engage in debating the future of this growth corridor to define how we want our city and communities to develop. We must maintain a balance between growth pressures on one hand, and the protection of quality of life and the environment on the other. We must walk the talk.

Building effective and positive working relationships with the province is essential to having long-term predictable sources of revenue to support Calgary's growth. We have the highest rate of inflation in the country along with the highest cost of living. Prudent and responsible leadership means that we can't continue to increase taxes, spend, borrow and construct everything at once which costs us 20-40% more. We must be careful to not compromise our quality of life and competitiveness.

Continued on page 3



Whistle Blower Program

Accountability of City employees has always been one of my greatest concerns, and something I have strived for since I took office.

It is because of that concern that Council is moving forward in this regard, recently approving the implementation of the new Whistle-Blower Policy and Program.

The Whistle-Blower Program is designed to provide an effective means for City staff, and the public, to report suspected cases of fraud, waste or wrongdoing by City employees. The program is part of my and Council's ongoing effort to support open, ethical, accountable and transparent local government.

Under the new program employees are still required to report cases of wrongdoing, fraud or waste by other City employees to their supervisor or manager first; however, if the individual does not feel comfortable doing so, the Whistle-Blower Program is there to help.

Currently the Program can be reached by mail, email and voicemail, but a Whistle-Blower hotline is being established

and should be operational by the end of November.

The hotline will be run by the City Auditor's Office, which answers only to Council, ensuring the impartiality of reporting.

While The City already has policy in place for handling reports of wrongdoing, the Whistle-Blower program makes reporting more convenient, and offers impartiality and anonymity.

After an initial screening process, the Whistle-Blower Program will ensure that all allegations are tracked and investigated, making certain that any gaps in policy, or inconsistent managing practices, are identified and addressed. Fixing these gaps will help to reduce waste, fraud or wrongdoing in the future and ensure accountability.

It is important to remember however that the Whistle-Blower Program is not the place to air personal grievances, report performance issues or other day-to-

day workplace concerns, nor is it the place to report a need for services (for example, streetlight replacement, garbage pick-up or potholes) or to request information about City operations.

These sort of concerns can be addressed through supervisors, managers, the 311 system; or my office.



Alderman Diane speaking on the accountability of City employees

What's in this issue ...

Thank you	1
Whistle Blower Program	2
Thank you Continued...	3
Curbside Recycling	4
Spiller Road Water Centre	5
South Calgary Health Campus	6
Newspaper Box rules being revised	7
Transit the choice for commuters	8
NewStart Rent Supplement Program	9
Calgary's growth not slowing down	10
Your Words	11
Out and about in the community	13
Keeping in touch	15

Deerfoot Safety Review under way

The Deerfoot Trail safety review is under way. The Department of Infrastructure and Transportation of the Province has hired Opus Hamilton Consultants Ltd to conduct the operational safety review that I brought forward in Council earlier this year.

The review will be conducted to assess traffic volume and crash records, crash rate calculations, comparisons with other major urban freeways, and identify possible crash trends and crash causes. There will also be a review of the existing speed zones, truck operations, roadway delineation, slow-moving vehicles, incident response and real-time communication, as well as signage and traffic control.





Thank you...

Continued from Page 1

Mobility of Calgarians

We must commence construction of the SW Calgary Ring Road.

We must invest heavily into public transit including busing & LRT expansion.

We must improve traffic safety.

Safer and Healthy Communities

We must also have more police officers on the beat in Ward 13.

We must make Calgary a safer city by effectively reducing crime and social disorder.

We must address youth crime and family violence.

We must implement a Comprehensive Calgary Drug Strategy.

We must plan, prepare, prevent and implement a city-wide plan to deal with disasters, pandemics and emergencies.

Economic & Financial Sustainability

We must sustain a level of public frontline service that meets public expectations while being affordable and cost-effective. We must develop alternative service delivery models.

We must partner with the private sector to leverage public dollars for infrastructure and capital projects.

Environmental Stewardship

Caring for and protecting our environment is one of my most important mandates in safeguarding the health of our citizens.

We must achieve and maintain a healthy sustainable urban forest as natural areas are significant to the environmental quality and recreational fabric of Calgary.

We need to focus on emerging "footprint" issues such as air quality and reducing the growing volumes of waste resources that go into our landfills.

We need to invest in the 3 C's of:

- ◆ Complying with applicable legislation
- ◆ Conserve resources and prevent pollution
- ◆ Continually improve the city's environmental performance.

We need to reduce the City's corporate greenhouse gas emissions to greater than 50% below 1990 levels as soon as possible (2010)

We need to accommodate growth by using the same amount water we removed from the Bow River in 2003.

We need to divert waste from Calgary landfills so that 80% of the waste is diverted and recycled, instead of land-filled, by 2015.

As always I value your input and encourage everyone to come forward and voice their concerns.

Thanks again for your support and your confidence in my leadership.

What's Been Accomplished

Below are some of the initiatives that I'm most pleased I was able to help make happen, working with my Council colleagues:

- ◆ Promoting Alternative modes of transportation for the past 5 years that resulted in Calgary winning the Commuter Challenge in 2007 with the highest participation in Canada. This occurred during Canadian Environment Week beating out big cities like Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal;
- ◆ Chaired the Telework Initiative with the public and private sector to develop a Telework (work from home) policy for the City of Calgary that made Calgary a national leader. This initiative provided leadership for other Calgary corporate leaders to reduce rush hour traffic congestion.
- ◆ Supporting the acquisition of 35 low floor buses.
- ◆ Playing a key role in the approved Transit Orientated Development Policy that is first being implemented in Ward 13;

- ◆ Drafting a Comprehensive Calgary Drug Strategy.
- ◆ Founding Chair of the STOP Marihuana Grow-op Coalition. Comprised of 44 stakeholders in southern Alberta, it is the first such coalition in Canada to tackle the complex community problem of grow-ops. Massive profits from marihuana fuel Calgary's drug trade and organized crime operating in our communities. I have given national and provincial presentations, and am proud that this model has been adopted by other jurisdictions including Edmonton.

Initiating motions or asking Council colleagues to partner with me in taking forward and having Council adopt policies to:

- ◆ Develop a policy on saving Heritage Buildings;
- ◆ Implement mandatory water metering three years early to save millions of gallons of water;
- ◆ Implement a bylaw for a Smoke-Free Calgary;

- ◆ Increase the number of Accessible Taxis for the Disabled by 100;
- ◆ Acquire 40 new LRT cars;
- ◆ Introduce a comprehensive new Taxi Bylaw & Governance Policy;
- ◆ Sign the CMARD (Canadian Municipalities Against Racism & Discrimination) Charter;
- ◆ Increase the operating budget for Snow and Ice Removal;
- ◆ Revamp the License Appeal Board into a quasi-judicial board;
- ◆ Commission a policy paper on Secondary Suites to address Affordable
- ◆ Housing, and developing strategies to remedy the over 50,000 illegal suites in Calgary;
- ◆ Implement a policy to address Quality Building Construction Standards and communicate the policy to citizens;
- ◆ Implement a Carpooling Policy and partnership with www.carpool.ca.



Curbside Recycling

On April 17th, Council, with a vote of 8-7, decided to go ahead with the curbside recycling program, slated to start in 2009.

From the outset, I had great concerns with the proposed program. Hundreds of Calgarians told me that they recycle already and saw this service as a punishment for being environmentally responsible.

Curbside recycling has been approved for 300,000+ single family homes, but condo and apartment dwellers will be exempt, at least for now. Service will include weekly door to door collection of newspapers, magazines, mixed paper, cardboard, metal cans, glass, milk jugs/cartons and for the first time plastic containers.

Every home will receive a recycling cart, eliminating the need to sort or transport the materials to community depots.

The process for homeowners will be similar to regular garbage collection services, though the materials will be sent for recycling rather than to the landfill.

Achieving our goal of 80/20 by 2009 (80% of our refuse recycled and 20% to landfills) as well as decreasing the impact of our environmental footprint is critical. However, any curbside recycling program implemented by the City of Calgary should be in partnership with established private companies who are already doing an excellent job for Calgarians.

Reducing the amount of waste that reaches the landfill is very important.

Recycling reduces the depletion of our natural resources by converting "waste" back into productive use. Additionally, it reduces our need for future landfills which take up valuable space and may result in long-term environmental issues.

It is estimated that with curbside service in place, we will recycle over 60,000 tonnes of paper, which is equivalent to saving over one million trees every year.



ParkPlus System - Trial Run

This fall, existing parking meters will be replaced with state-of-the-art, solar powered pay machines and new parking zones that will change the way we park in Calgary's downtown.

An introductory phase in a selected downtown area began in mid-July, allowing Calgarians to try out the ParkPlus System ahead of the larger transition which will begin this month.

ParkPlus is a whole new way of parking, representing new standards for convenience and simplicity as well as respect for our environment.

The new system will be much different than the old meter system. Instead of feeding money into a meter, customers pay at ParkPlus pay machines that will be located on every block. Customers provide the zone they parked in and their license plate num-

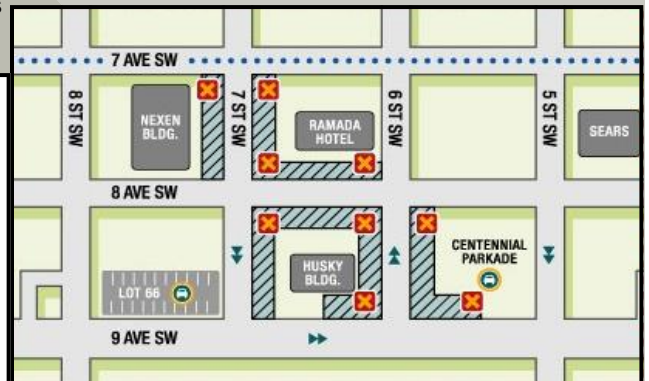
ber, pay for time, and are set to go. Because your license plate is recorded in the system, there is no need to return to your car with a receipt.

The most innovative part of this new system is the payment options available with the new pay machines.

It will no longer be necessary to haul around large amounts of change as the new payment machines will take change, credit cards or even payments made from cell phones.

Customers can set up an account with the Calgary Parking Authority (CPA) and have a balance of funds they can use to bill parking times from their cell phone.

A bonus: if you choose to pay with your cell phone, you will only get billed for the time you actually parked for, as any overpaying will be refunded.





New Green Water Centre

Spiller Road Water Centre

The new City of Calgary Water Centre is the city's latest green building, setting new standards for innovative design. The 13,500m² office building is located just south of the Calgary Stampede grounds and will accommodate approximately 800 water service employees. The building boast fantastic views of the downtown core and the bold shape of the building can be seen from many vantage points around the downtown area.

Key to the building's design was the need to meet the City of Calgary's sustainable building policy by receiving a minimum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification by the Canadian Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Creative sustainable design solutions were integral to achieving project success.

The Water Centre is, by any standard, a highly innovative building. At the heart of the building design is a hybrid heating, ventilating and air-conditioning (HVAC) system, which combines two unique systems. The hybrid system, one of the first in North America, utilizes both underfloor air supply and overhead structural slab radiant cooling.



The City of Calgary's Sustainable building policy is a key element in the Water Centre's design. When completed, the building will be 58 percent more energy efficient, use 60 per cent less water and produce 72 per cent less wastewater than an equivalent building built to National Building Code (Canadian Model).

"The Water Centre is being built with a focus on recycling," says Russ Golightly, Water Centre project manager, Corporate Properties & Buildings. A significant achievement is that 100 per cent of the reinforcing steel in the building – over 700,000 kilograms – is recycled. Also, a construction waste management plan targets a 95 per cent recycling rate of materials.

"The goal is to reduce the impact the Water Centre has on the environment now and in the future," says Golightly. Features such as drought-resistant plants, shrubs and trees, and the recycling of excess clean water (from water meter testing) for use in toilets and outdoor irrigation are just two ways the Water Centre will reduce water use and operational costs.

The Water Centre's sleek shape and southern exposure lets the sun help warm the building during the winter, while the roof overhang keeps out the heat of summer. Employee workstations are placed away from direct sunlight along the north side of the building, allowing temperatures to be maintained at a lower operating cost. The three-colour glass curtain wall balances the amount of visible light and heat entering the building. Under-floor heating and radiant ceiling slab cooling will save energy and

provide a more comfortable work environment.

Abundant windows and an open plan mean all employees have access to natural light, reducing the need for electric lighting. Daylight and occupancy sensors ensure lights are only on when they are needed. The Water Centre will save an estimated 1,250,000 kWh per year on lighting – or over 1,100 tons of greenhouse gas emissions.



Sustainable buildings do not have to cost a fortune either. In fact, sustainable buildings can even save money — an important consideration for a public utility. When annual energy savings, productivity improvement and other soft costs are factored in, the Water Centre is expected to save taxpayers 40 per cent compared to a standard facility. Careful planning and management throughout the project allowed the Water Centre to be completed on budget, even with delays and the volatile construction market conditions in Calgary.

The project's budget was financed through a debt-to equity ratio of 75:25, meaning the building will pay for itself in 15 years. The positive net present value, including life cycle costing, compared the current and future state of the department's operations.



Saving money and the Environment

- ◆ Did you know that buildings are responsible for 40 per cent of the world's total energy use?
- ◆ By taking advantage of natural sunlight and installing the latest technologies for heating and cooling, the Water Centre will use 58 per cent less energy than a conventional building, saving taxpayers \$108,000 per year.



South Health Campus construction under way

The population served by the Calgary Health Region is growing at a dramatic rate – 97 people move here each day and over a quarter million have moved here in the last decade. This growth is creating tremendous pressure on the Region’s ability to provide healthcare, meaning that new facilities need to be built to alleviate the strain on existing health infrastructure. Part of the \$2.5 billion, 10-year capital plan outlined by the Calgary Health Region is being set aside for the new South Health Campus.

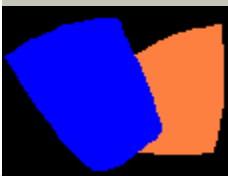
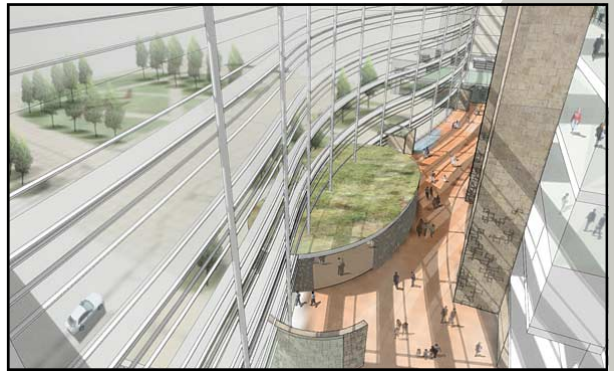
Construction of ‘Phase One’ has begun on the new \$1.25 billion dollar South Health Campus. The 44-acre, 165,000-square-metre campus – to be located at Deerfoot Tr. and 196 Ave. SE – will offer new models of health-care delivery and a wide range of services in an innovative, state-of-the-art setting. The campus will integrate wellness, health research and education into clinical care to meet the changing healthcare needs of our fast growing city.

The South Health Campus is being built as a partnership between the Provincial Government and Calgary Health Region, and will be developed in two phases, the first opening in 2011 with 260 beds and 280,000 ambulatory visits annually. By the

completion of the final phase in 2017, the facility will grow to 642 acute care beds and will provide access to more than 800,000 ambulatory visits every year! Phase one will also contain a major obstetrical program with 52 obstetrical beds, 16 delivery rooms, 27 special-care nursery beds, 38 acute psychiatry beds, 11 operating rooms, 32 surgical beds and a six-bed intensive care unit. The campus will also feature teaching and research facilities that will help train future health care professionals.

Once complete, the South Health Campus will provide a diverse range of health-care services that will benefit people throughout the Region. With the City’s fast paced growth this project is urgently needed to help address health pressures in the Calgary region, now and in the future. It will also pave the way for new health-care delivery models in our province and ensure that Alberta continues to be a leader in high-quality health-care services.

Calgary firm Kasian Architecture and U.S. firm HDR are working with the Calgary Health Region to plan and design a “health campus for the 21st century”.



Accelerated Residential Universal Metering Program

City Council is moving forward with a proposal to accelerate the installation of water meters for all residential customers.

Under the City’s current metering program, all residential customers will be on water meters by the end of 2014, and the City is currently on target to meet that goal with 80 percent metered to date.

Council has moved however that this program be accelerated to have all residential customers on water meters by the end of 2011.

The new program will see 14,000 flat-rate account conversions per year, done on a community by community basis.

Universal metering is a key element in [The City’s Water Efficiency Plan](#), which aims to use the same amount of water we remove from the river today, in 2033.

Calgary is projected to grow to 1.5 million people by 2033, and the water metering program will help respond to the increased demand by helping to conserve water.

The program aims to ease the burden on our water supply and treatment facilities by billing customers only for the water they use, promoting conservation.

This new program ensures Calgary remains a leader in environmental initiatives.

Visit www.calgary.ca/waterservices for more information.



Newspaper box rules being revised

You have probably noticed, as I have, the explosion of newspaper boxes cropping up across the city.

The additional new boxes are blocking sidewalks and ruining the visual appeal of communities, but thanks to a revision of the bylaw approved by Council in September, all of that is going to change.

Though never visually appealing, the problem has been compounded by several new newspaper publications that began distribution earlier this year.

These additional newspapers resulted in over 9,000 newspaper box permits being issued in 2007, already more than double the number of permits issued in 2006.

In order to address this huge influx of boxes and their lack of visual appeal, the existing bylaw was reviewed and an amendment was put forward that sought ratification by Council.

The bylaw revision addresses the overall number of boxes per location, the types of boxes, interference with pedestrians and traffic devices, and the increased litter on streets and transit vehicles.

More specifically, the bylaw revision proposed the following guidelines:

- ◆ An increase in annual permit fees to \$50 from \$10 commencing January 1, 2008.
- ◆ A specified distance of at least three metres from pedestrian crosswalks.
- ◆ Conditions not allowing attachment of the boxes to any traffic control device, tree or shrub.

- ◆ The use of large, “ganged” boxes for multiple publications.
- ◆ Conditions to ensure the boxes are maintained, kept clean and free of litter and graffiti.
- ◆ Establishment of areas where boxes are not allowed, including: The Stephen Avenue and Barclay malls.
- ◆ Within three metres of a Calgary Transit bus zone.
- ◆ Within an LRT station and site area, Park and Ride lot, bus loop, platform or station.
- ◆ Within the transit corridor on 7 Avenue from 4 Street East to 11 Street West.

Additionally, as a means to control litter, Calgary Transit intends to seek bids from the newspaper industry for the exclusive rights to

place and distribute newspapers on the transit system.

New Boxes Proposal

It has also been proposed that Calgary adopt a system of multi-publication newspaper boxes like those used in other major urban centres in North America.

Instead of cluttering the sidewalks with unsightly arrangements of different newspaper boxes, newspaper companies would be required to rent space in larger, more organized, ganged boxes such as those used in Chicago and New York.

Such a program would improve the visual appeal of the downtown core, control litter, and free the sidewalks and store fronts of unnecessary congestion.



Conventional arrangements of newspaper boxes (right) could be replaced by better looking, more organized multi-publication boxes such as those found in Toronto (top left) and Chicago (top right).



Carpool.ca now has mapping!

The Ridematching Application on Carpool.ca has been upgraded and now uses Google Maps to enhance the matching process. In addition to the list of potential matches users receive, they will now receive a map with markers identifying their home location as well as the home location of each match. To ensure privacy, markers only point to the general area of participants and will not provide complete street addresses.



Join the growing list of daily commuters who have found A BETTER WAY TO GET THERE!



Inglewood Affordable Housing Development

The ground has been broken for the construction of the Inglewood Affordable Housing Development. The 114 unit complex to be built by December 2008 is designed to provide safe, affordable housing to people with mental illness, brain injuries, physical disabilities and low-income seniors and families.

Many low-income families often spend a majority of their income just to cover the costs of housing with little money remaining for the necessities such as food, clothing and basic quality of life needs that other Calgarians take for granted.

New housing developments such as this one will provide an opportunity for struggling families and people with mental illness, brain injuries, and physical disabilities in Calgary to afford a safe and secure home with money remaining to meet those basic quality of life needs.

This project will enable low-income tenants to gain a sense of independence

allowing them to integrate with and contribute to a stronger community.

Located in the inner city community of Inglewood and within ten minutes of the downtown core, the Inglewood Residence site is a favourable location for affordable housing due to its proximity to transit routes, social support services, community amenities, employment opportunities, shopping, and park areas

The development of affordable housing is a serious problem in our City, and therefore a Council priority. This development is another important step in helping meet the affordable housing need in Calgary.



Funding details:

- ♦ The total estimated budget for the development is \$19.6 million.
- ♦ The federal and provincial governments will each contribute \$6.1 million towards the project.
- ♦ Other funding includes more than \$4 million from the Calgary Homeless Foundation through private sector fundraising, \$1 million from Calgary Home Builders Foundation, \$250,000 from AI-



Transit the Choice for Commuters

Transit is now the most popular way of getting downtown during the morning commute.

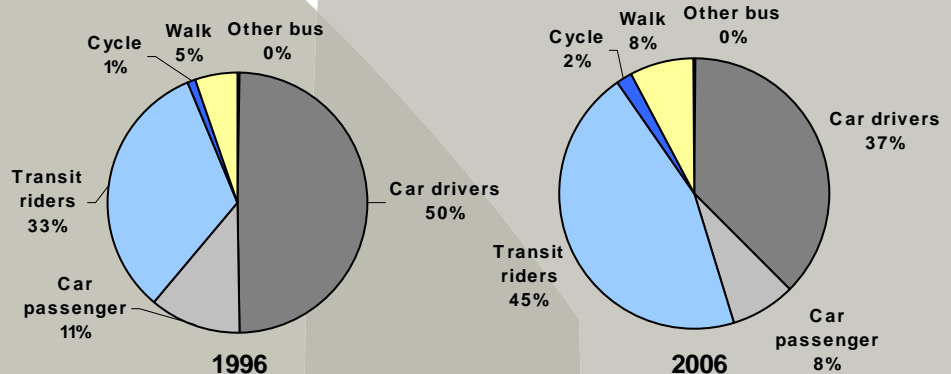
Almost half (45.1%) of all commuters entering downtown choose to take transit in 2006, marking a 13% gain over 1996 numbers. Correspondingly, the number of commuters driving into downtown fell by the same margin. While passenger commutes were down, cycling and walking were more popular.

The downtown core is the most important travel destination in the city, with more than 20% of the city's employment. The trip downtown however has become increasingly frustrating as the number of cars entering downtown is higher than it has ever been, overwhelming the road networks and the parking system.

It is encouraging then to see that Calgarians are making smarter choices and using the transit system as much as possible, saving time, grief and money.



Commuter's Choices





Strong economy producing jobs

Calgary's economy is still going strong and producing more new jobs each year.

From May 2006 to May 2007 Calgary's economy created 40,300 new positions. Though this number is down from the same period in 2005/2006 which created 44,800 new positions, the numbers are still high.

Calgary alone accounted for 47% of all new job creations across Alberta in the first six months of 2007.

Job growth for men was estimated at 26,300 in June 2007 compared to 18,600 the same time last year, while job growth for women declined to 14,000 from 26,200 the same time last year.

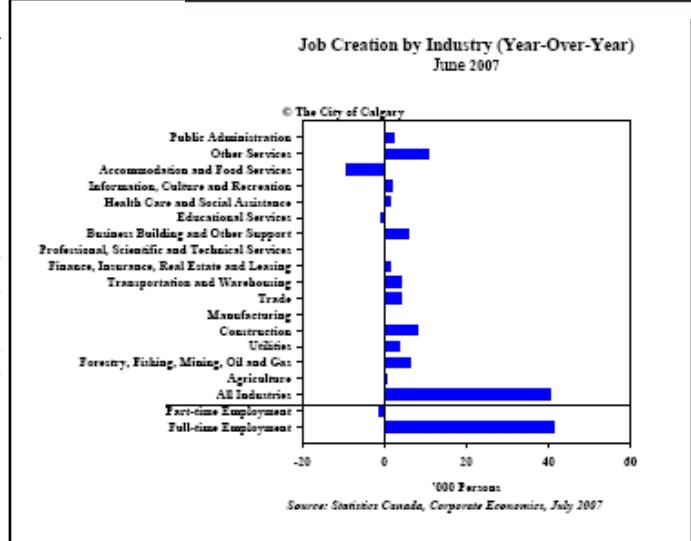
The largest job gains were reported in 'Other Services' with over 10,600 new positions, followed by construction with 8,200, and mining, oil & gas with 6,200.

Accommodation & food services employment shrank by 9,400 positions this year.

Matching the growth in jobs was the growth in Calgary's labour force. Calgary's labour force increased 41,800 people in the last year to 768,400, nearly matching the number of new positions.

Correspondingly, Calgary's unemployment rate remained low at 3.2%, unchanged from 2006.

Calgary's labour force grew at a faster rate than the working age population, pushing the participation rate up to 77.5% in June 2007 from 76.6% the same time last year.



NewStart Rent Supplement Program

As the boom continues Calgary is getting harder and harder to live in for families on the lower end of the economic scale.

To provide some relief, the City has paired up The Calgary Housing Company and the Calgary Apartment Association to help low-income residents cope with skyrocketing rental costs.

The NewStart Rent Supplement Program began on September 1st providing 100 apartment units, and will continue adding 100 additional units per month until the goal of a 1,000 units is achieved.

The \$7 million a year program will operate for three years, and will gear rent supplements to household income, providing a maximum relief of \$650 per month.

Households will be selected from the Calgary Housing Company waitlist, which will determine eligibility.

Households should be employed or have an active plan to obtain employment.

The Calgary Housing Company is primarily looking for applicants who need short-term help. The program will introduce them to a variety of employment, training and education opportunities and work with them so that they can over time, improve their circumstances so they can re-enter the private real estate market.

Supplements will also be granted those receiving Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) and are working towards entering the labour market on a part-time or full-time basis.

"The Calgary Apartment Association is very pleased to support NewStart, a program that will see some 2,000 Calgarians who need accommodation help, get it," said Keith McMullen, Chair of the Board of the Calgary Apartment Association.

"We've been working on this idea for a number of months and we're glad to be partnering with The City's CHC in assisting low-income families in Calgary."

We live in a city that needs to be healthy on many levels, and one of the ways that it can be healthy is by providing housing to new workers.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation pegs Calgary's vacancy rate at 0.5 per cent.



Calgary's growth not slowing down

The results of the 2007 Civic Census indicate that Calgary has marked another year of historic growth.

Calgary's population increased by 28,183 people from April 2006 to April 2007 to 1,019,942, almost 80 new people per day!

Calgary's hot economy has attracted workers from all across the country and beyond.

Census figures also indicate that almost 72% of Calgary homes are owned by the person living in them, the highest rate in the country.

Other interesting statistics from the Census include:

- ◆ The Ward 13 community of Evergreen is one of the 14 communities city-wide with the population increase of more than 1,000 persons. Evergreen had the highest increase in the city of 3,173 new residents.
- ◆ The natural increase (excess of births over deaths) was 10,552 persons, up 665 from last year's startling figure of 9,887.
- ◆ Net migration (persons moving to Calgary over those moving away) was 17,631, a decline from 2006's

record breaking numbers.

- ◆ The number of housing units, both existing and under construction, jumped from 408,543 to 420,311.
- ◆ The number of vacant dwellings has decreased from 6,809 in 2006 to 5,825 in 2007.
- ◆ There are 394,125 occupied dwellings in Calgary.

For more information on Census results visit www.calgary.ca, click on 'City Hall', then 'Business Units', then 'City Clerk's Office'.



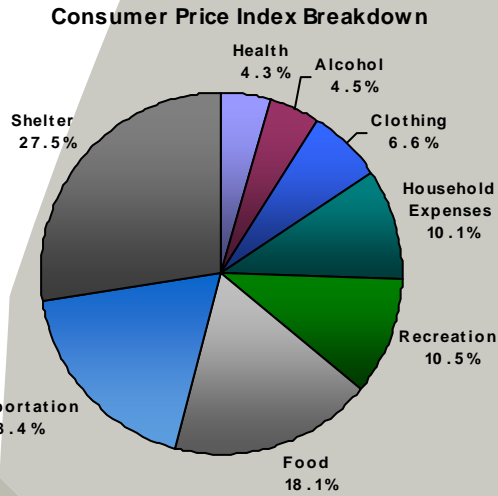
Inflation still the highest in the country

As of June 2007, Calgarians were paying 5.5% more for goods and services than they were last year. This measurement is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket. The CPI is a price index that tracks the prices of a specified grouping of consumer goods and services, providing a measure of inflation.

The high price of housing is identified as a key factor for the high level of inflation. Housing is 27.3% of the CPI. Between June 2006 and June 2007, housing costs rose 8.9% putting pressure on consumer prices. The price of water, fuel and electricity increased by 6.3 percent in June 2007 compared to an average increase of 2.2 percent in April and May 2007.

Calgary's strong economy was reflected by the levels of inflation. Alberta's inflation is at 4.6%, while nationally it is 1.8%. Meanwhile, Calgarians are experiencing an inflation rate of 5.5%.

The following is a breakdown provided by Statistics Canada:



Inflation Rates (12-Month-Moving-Average)			
	June-07	May-07	June-06
Canada: All-Items	1.8	1.8	2.5
Alberta: All-Items	4.6	4.4	3.3
Alberta: Core Inflation*	5.0	4.9	2.4
Alberta: Core/All-Items	1.1	1.1	0.7
Calgary: All-Items	5.5	5.3	3.3
Calgary: Core Inflation	6.0	5.9	2.4
Calgary: Shelter Inflation	15.4	14.9	6.5

*Core Inflation refers to all-items inflation rate excluding energy and food items.



Your Words

Every so often I receive emails from you that remind me of why I chose to run for office 7 years ago. Often small things make a difference. I always appreciate you taking the time to acknowledge what I do, and to ensure that I am on the right track. Your feedback is important, and I'd like to share some of these notes with you. ~ Dicu

Dear Alderman Diane,

It was a pleasure chatting with you at the Mayor's function last Saturday.

As I mentioned then, I am sending this email to express my sincere gratitude to you and the entire city council, who voted unanimously to implement a new Military Leave Policy for City of Calgary employees.

Calgary has always been a tremendous supporter of the military and especially the Navy. The relationship between Calgary and her namesake ship is second to none across all of Canada. As you lead the way in that relationship, I believe you continue to be in vanguard in your support for Reservists.

On behalf of the Naval Reserve and, in particular, my sailors who are employed with the City of Calgary, thank you for your leadership in advancing this policy and for your continued support to the Canadian Forces Liaison Council.

Yours aye,

Earle

LCdr Earle A. Shirley, CD
Commanding Officer
HMCS TECUMSEH



Congratulations on your acclamation!!! I look forward to your future forums and I am so glad you are "reducing" by not sending out a brochure. You definitely had our vote. Best of luck in your upcoming term.
~ Taylor & Jess, Evergreen

Congratulations. We look forward to your continuing dynamic input into the affairs of the community. In the old sixties phrase, "Keep on trucking."
~ Joe, Shawnee Slopes

Congratulations Diane!
You continue to have our support and I believe during your watch we have seen growth and much improved communications. Keep up the great work and please let me know if I can help in any way.
~ Charles, Bridlewood

Well done Diane - can't imagine you ever just resting on your laurels. Your passion for your job shines through!
~ Marie, Canyon Meadows

Great news! You're doing a great job!
~ Shannon, Somerset

Wonderful! Congratulations on your acclamation! Continue to serve Ward 13 and Calgary well.
~ Anna, Southwood

Congratulations Diane! We are so pleased for you, but also for us! We couldn't ask for better more honest representation than yours. WooHoo for Ward 13!
~ Nick & Holly, Millrise



OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Alderman Diane with staff, meeting US Ambassador to Canada David Wilkins.



Alderman Diane giving a speech for the beginning of Homeless Awareness



Alderman Diane with the Canadian Forces in Esquimalt B.C.



Alderman Diane with members of the Jewish community during Seder dinner.



Alderman Diane speaking with Ward 8 Alderman John Mar and social worker Scott.



Alderman Diane meeting with Governor General Michaëlle Jean



Alderman Diane serving up pancakes during Stampede



Alderman Diane speaking with the press



Alderman Diane in the Global News Helicopter



Keeping in touch

There are a number of ways to have your voice heard. I invite you to contact me directly — by email, by fax or telephone my office —if you have any questions or opinions you would like to share. ~ Dicu

Communicating with Business Units

The City Clerk will forward any correspondence they receive to the appropriate Business Unit for follow-up. Or, contact "311" if you have any inquiries.

Communicating with Council

Correspondence regarding a Public Hearing matter and intended for inclusion in the Council Agenda, must be received by the City Clerk before 10:00 a.m. on the second Thursday prior to a scheduled Public Hearing. Forward your letters to:
City Clerk, #8007
P.O. Box 2100, Station "M"
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5
Tel: (403) 268-5861 Fax: 268-2362
e-mail: cityclerk@calgary.ca

Committee & Council Meetings

In general, all Committee and Council Meetings are open to the public and are held in City Hall and the Municipal Building. Citizens are invited to speak to Agenda items at SPC Meetings and at Public Hearings of Council. A monthly listing of Committee and Council meetings is posted on the Plaza level of the Municipal Building and First Floor, City Hall, as well as on The City's website, www.calgary.ca. A vote of Council is required for a member of the public to speak at a Regular Meeting of Council.



I welcome your comments and questions...

**Diane Colley-Urquhart
Alderman, Ward 13**

**PO Box 2100, Station "M"
Calgary, Alberta T2P**

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Email: dcolley@calgary.ca
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