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## Alderman wants city hall's books audited

Metro Calgary

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City hall has a "spending problem" and the only way to fix it is with an independent, external auditor, according to one Calgary alderman.

Premier Ed Stelmach has suggested a municipal auditor under the purview of the province's auditor general's office as soon as spring. But Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart plans to beat him to the punch, at least in Calgary, by drafting a notice of motion for council's consideration early this year, "looking for a fresh set, a third set of eyes to pour over our books."

"If anything, what we saw from the whole budget debacle was how to go about not dealing with spending problems we have at the city," said Colley-Urquhart. "What we need to get a handle on that problem is a full and thorough review of all spending, revenues and necessary expenditures and an external, fully independent expert to do it."