



THE CITY OF  
**CALGARY**

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **ALDERMAN DIANE COLLEY-URQUHART**

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

### **INAUGURAL “WAR ON GROW-OPS” NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Calgary AB – Alderman Diane Colley-Urquhart is pleased to announce the inaugural “War on Grow Ops” national conference that will be held in Banff, Alberta from March 27-29<sup>th</sup> 2012 in conjunction with Alberta Specialized Law Enforcement Training (ASLET), the Calgary Police Service, and the City of Calgary - Building Regulations Department.

“Calgary has been a national leader for many years in the war on grow-ops and we are anxious to share our best practices with others”, stated Alderman Diane Colley-Urquhart, Chair of the STOP Marihuana Grow-op Coalition. This three day conference will educate and inform all partners and municipal/provincial agencies across Canada on the life cycle of marihuana grow operations (MGO’s) from the enforcement through to remediation, and the progress being made in the fight against organized crime. “We will provide a forum to showcase the collaborative approach that has been developed and adopted to investigate, eradicate, and remediate properties that have become a blight on our communities”, emphasized Colley-Urquhart.

“Organized crime has infiltrated our neighbourhoods, and this conference builds on the excellent work that has been done over many years here in Calgary to protect our citizens and our children,” noted Colley-Urquhart. “Our coalition has been recognized across North America as a leading practice in identifying and eradicating these illegal operations, recognizing that this is not just a policing problem, but a community problem.”

The Calgary STOP Marijuana Grow-ops Coalition was created in 2004 by Alderman Colley-Urquhart as an innovative, action-oriented effort of 44 key stakeholders representing a variety of affected sectors, all committed to making Calgary a safer city.

Diane will be available for media interviews at U&E Committee this morning from 9:30-11:30. For further information call Alderman Colley-Urquhart at 403-875-7413 or [dcolley@calgary.ca](mailto:dcolley@calgary.ca)