

## Update: External Affairs (Government and Institutional Relationships)

<b>Initiative Title:</b>	External Affairs (Government and Institutional Relationships)
<b>City Council Lead(s):</b>	Councillor Gibbons and Councillor Batty
<b>Department Lead(s):</b>	Brian Hlus, Office of the City Manager

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### Objective:

To further develop positive relationships between the City of Edmonton and different orders of government, and with stakeholders such as the Capital Region Board, the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the post-secondary institutions, school boards and the health sector.

This Council Initiative continues to be run through the Office of the Mayor, with connections through the Office of the City Manager (Intergovernmental and External Affairs), other City departments, and external partners and stakeholders as specific projects develop.

### Key Outcomes, Projects or Activities and their Status as of May 2013:

- Regular discussions with provincial MLAs, federal MPs, Council members from other municipal jurisdictions and other stakeholders in order to effectively advance the priorities of City Council and explore opportunities for collaboration. Some specific initiatives are included below.
- Regular involvement of Council with external organizations such as the Capital Region Board (CRB), Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). A number of specific outcomes achieved through these external organizations are included below.
- Regular conversations with elected representatives and Council and administration involvement with external organizations has helped to increase awareness among the Governments of Alberta and Canada, and other municipalities and external stakeholders of Edmonton City Council's position on key policy issues. Such issues include but are not limited to municipal finance, infrastructure, environmental sustainability, immigration, housing and homelessness, and challenges/opportunities facing urban Aboriginal people. This regular contact has also sought to increase understanding of how the City of Edmonton can assist our external partners in meeting their own policy objectives.

### Capital Region Board

- Advancing and supporting City of Edmonton and its interests at the CRB, specifically, advancing the role of a strong central city in contributing to and building a strong region.

- Implementing the *Capital Region Growth Plan* and advancing regional support for GreenTRIP applications to support the expansion of LRT, and Smart Fare technologies.

#### **Alberta Urban Municipalities Association**

- Advancing and supporting City of Edmonton interests at the AUMA Board, standing committees, Mayors' Caucus and annual convention.

#### **Federation of Canadian Municipalities**

- Administration provided support for Councillor representatives at the Board/Committee meetings in March and September, the 2012 AGM, and for City Council representatives participating in FCM Advocacy Days in Ottawa.
- Council passed a resolution to support FCM's *Target 2014 Campaign*; Administration provided support for Edmonton's role in advocacy for the Long-Term Infrastructure Plan and the *Cut My Commute* campaign.
- Two City of Edmonton resolutions will be considered at the AGM in June 2013; both resolutions-- energy value add and medals for municipal peace officers-- were previously endorsed/supported by Council.

#### **Provincial Government**

- Budget Submission, and budget briefing provided
- Big City Charter work – tripartite discussions have been taking place between Edmonton, Calgary and the Government of Alberta
- Administration has had initial involvement in the Province's initiation of the *Municipal Government Act Review*

#### **Federal Government**

- Budget Submission, and budget briefing provided
- Submission to the Federal Electoral Boundary Review Commission in Alberta
- Involvement in the Statistics Canada consultation on the Census Metropolitan Area Methodology Review, and census feedback process

#### **Future Steps:**

- Continue to advance Edmonton's priorities with other stakeholders.