October 5, 2020

Right Honourable Minister Allard
14515 122 Ave. NW
Edmonton, AB | T5L 2W4

RE: Community Revitalization Levy Legislation

Dear Minister Allard,

I am writing to request the reinstatement of Community Revitalization Levy (CRL) approvals under the *Municipal Government Act*, so that we may apply it to the redevelopment of Downtown Airdrie.

Unlike direct grants, a CRL costs the provincial government no additional outlay of funds in these challenging times. When a CRL is adopted in a municipality, the province still receives the same education tax value as it had prior to the adoption. But this tool allows for a tremendous reacceleration of investment, employment, and assessed value increase in key growth areas. We believe that there could be a substantial increase in additional assessment value, along with more construction employment and retail spending in our downtown, if granted approval for a CRL Bylaw.

This, in turn, puts significantly more money back into provincial coffers and we believe that the opportunity in Airdrie would allow the province to double the provincial education tax revenue in 20 years; a return that the province would continue to reap every year thereafter.

Also unlike direct grants, municipalities undertaking a CRL Bylaw have a vested interest to accelerate development and earn more revenue from that area as soon as possible, since we can only apply it to that defined area. If revenue expectations are exceeded, then the province can terminate a CRL at its discretion, or any time requested by the municipality.

In short, it will provide the opportunity for the government to leverage the economic potential of Alberta's 5th largest city and earn considerably more provincial tax revenue in the long run. We would welcome the opportunity to continue discussion on a potential approval of the CRL legislation in Downtown Airdrie.

Sincerely,

Peter Brown
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carbon copy –
City of Airdrie Council
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