



Office of the Mayor

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The Honourable Ric McIver
Minister of Municipal Affairs
320 Legislature Building
10800 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

minister.municipalaffairs@gov.ab.ca

The Honourable Tanya Fir
Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction
229 Legislature Building
10800 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

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Dear Minister McIver and Associate Minister Fir:

On behalf of Edmonton City Council, I am pleased to provide you with highlights from the City of Edmonton's recently submitted 2021 Red Tape Reduction Report; fulfilling the reporting requirements within the Municipal Stimulus Program. The City of Edmonton remains committed to reducing barriers for businesses and residents alike as this contributes to investment attraction, improved quality of life and economic vibrancy. Our initiatives to-date have resulted in savings to customers and businesses of 261,000 days and \$4.6 million annually. This work, along with our joint efforts to address the complex social challenges facing our community, is critical to rebuilding the post-pandemic economy.

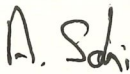
Reducing red tape is a critical component to the City's Economic Action Plan, and is part of our strategy for attracting investment within Canada and internationally. The City has taken a leadership role in the newly formed Collaborative Economic Development initiative that brings 13 municipalities together in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region with the shared goal of making it easier for new businesses to invest and create new, high-valued jobs.

On January 17, 2022, the City of Edmonton's new Business Licence Bylaw went into effect. This modern bylaw removes unnecessary barriers for businesses, enhances service efficiency, supports faster licensing decisions and improves alignment with our regulatory partners. Implementing this bylaw also provides predictability in costs to our business community by simplifying the fee structure and removing multiple fees. This has been welcomed by the development and business community and we are hopeful that this will further enhance investment and economic activity as a result. However, the City understands that costs are not the only barrier to development and growth. That is why we have streamlined the land use planning process by repealing 74 plans that had resulted in an overly complicated planning system.

When the City reduces red tape, customers and Edmontonians receive a more consistent, reliable and positive experience. They can more quickly and easily navigate the zoning, permitting and licensing processes to follow their dreams and ambitions, whether that's renovating or building a home or expanding or starting a new business, while also contributing to the economy.

I look forward to our continued collaboration on this important file, and I would be happy to meet with you to discuss any of the items in the report.

Yours truly,



Amarjeet Sohi
Mayor

Attachments

1. [Municipal Stimulus Program - Red Tape Reduction Report 2021](#)

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