

**Re: A 2020 thank you to our Business Improvement Area partners**

This year has been unexpected in many ways, causing many of us to re-evaluate how we do our jobs and support our communities. Despite a changing environment, I'm so proud of all I've seen from Calgarians this year and how we have risen above challenging circumstances and come together to keep this great city vibrant and supported.

I want to take this opportunity amidst all that is going on to acknowledge the partnership between Calgary's Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) and The City of Calgary. Mainly, to highlight how you have come together as a group this year, to support your members and The City in our efforts to make our city business friendly and support businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Throughout 2020, you have:

- Advocated for your members on rent relief, supports to decrease social disorder, clarity on relaunch restrictions and the mask bylaw, and considerations for businesses situated within communities experiencing outbreaks.
- Been active members of The City's task forces during the pandemic to ensure the needs of your members were addressed and supported as best as possible.
- Supported a "Buy Local" mentality and helped promote ways Calgarians can support local businesses during these challenging times.
- Acted as a conduit of updates and important information to your members from The City, external partners and other orders of government.
- Provided feedback to Administration and other orders of government to ensure your members' concerns and questions were voiced and addressed.
- Continuously sought to ensure the fabric of your communities remain vibrant and active during challenging economic times through idea pitching and resource support.

I appreciate all you do for your members and for our city to support us in making Calgary a great place to make a living, and a great place to make a life. Thank you!

Regards,



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