

Date: 26-Jul-2019

Mayor Nenshi and City Councillors P.O. Box 2100, Station M 700 Macleod Trail South Calgary, AB T2P 2MS

Re: Proposed Event Centre

Dear Mayor Nenshi and City Council,

NAIOP Calgary respectfully submits this letter in <u>support</u> of the agreement that has been reached by the City of Calgary, Calgary Sports and Entertainment and the Calgary Stampede for the New Event Centre funding.

We believe the new Event Centre is a critical component for community building and the long-term vibrancy of our City, along with an opportunity to spark private investment in the surrounding, under-utilized area.

The Calgary Flames, as a key player in the Event Centre, bring international recognition to our City, along with providing civic pride and economic benefits to the City. The case for a city to have a major sports team cannot be underemphasized, as evidenced in Winnipeg and Quebec City. From the perspective of recruiting talent, world class facilities and professional sports teams materially assist in the draw for employees to relocate which in turn may help new businesses/companies when considering the decision to locate in Calgary.

As developers, builders, and property managers in this City, we remind Council that we have observed first-hand as Edmonton has seen over \$2B in private investment resulting from the Rogers Centre development. We are hopeful through our support of the New Event Centre, that Calgary benefits from the opportunity to similarly activate the area surrounding the Event Centre and spark equal or greater private investment.

Yours Sincerely

John Fisher, Chair NAIOP Calgary