



PIONEERED BY THE  
ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

100



CITIES

## MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

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### #ResilientYYC – Agenda Setting Workshop

#### About 100 Resilient Cities—Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation

*100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation – is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping cities around the world build resilience to the economic, social and physical challenges that are increasingly part of the 21st century.*

For more information, visit: [Calgary.ca/resilientcalgary](http://Calgary.ca/resilientcalgary) or [www.100ResilientCities.org](http://www.100ResilientCities.org).

#### 1. When did Calgary join the 100 Resilient Cities Network?

Calgary joined the 100 Resilient Cities Network in [May 2016](#).

#### 2. What is Resiliency?

100 Resilient Cities defines resilience as the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow, no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience. Shocks are typically considered single event disasters, such as fires, earthquakes, and floods. Stresses are factors that pressure a city on a daily or reoccurring basis, such as chronic food and water shortages, an overtaxed transportation system, endemic violence or high unemployment. City resilience is about making a city better, in both good times and bad, for the benefit of all its citizens, particularly the poor and vulnerable.

#### 3. What does The City of Calgary hope to get from being a 100 Resilient Cities?

The City of Calgary views membership in the 100 Resilient Cities Network as an opportunity to have the capacity to consolidate citywide resilience efforts into a single Plan for Resiliency. We have identified preliminary topics we feel could be addressed and considered in an overall resiliency plan. They include:

- Community involvement and education – providing technical assistance to our community partners to help them plan for stressors and shocks and providing resources and education to our community associations and neighbourhood groups
- Communication - develop communication strategies to inform residents, businesses and communities on all of the available information, plans and policies put in place to help build our resiliency

- Policy review - complete a review of policies The City currently utilizes in day-to-day operations to ensure resiliency; share our efforts with the Province of Alberta and advocate for the changes necessary to build greater resiliency across the province

#### **4. What is The Rockefeller Foundation?**

For 100 years, The Rockefeller Foundation has helped people, organizations and government organizations build resilience by helping them prepare for, withstand and emerge stronger from acute shocks and chronic stresses. It has supported world leaders, innovative thinkers and actors working to change the world by providing resources, networks, convening power, and supporting technologies to move them from idea to impact. The Rockefeller Foundation has a long tradition of enhancing the impact of individuals, institutions and organizations working to change the world. In today's dynamic and interconnected world, The Rockefeller Foundation has a unique ability to address the emerging challenges facing humankind through a 100-year legacy of innovation, intervention and influence to shape agendas and inform decision making.

Seeking and shaping innovative solutions at the intersections of four issue areas, The Rockefeller Foundation maintains a portfolio of interconnected initiatives. It seeks to achieve its vision through work aimed at meeting four equally important goals: Revalue Ecosystems; Advance Health; Secure Livelihoods; and Transform Cities.

During its centennial, the Foundation is focused on uncovering and addressing the challenges facing the world's poor and vulnerable people for the next 100 years. It is expected that by 2050, 75 per cent of the world's population will live in urban settings. The Foundation sees building urban resilience as critical because disasters have a larger impact on cities due to population density.

#### **5. What does 100RC offer to member cities? Does each city receive \$1 million?**

Cities only receive direct funding to hire a CRO, and those costs vary from city to city. Therefore, it is important to note that cities will not be receiving a check for \$1 million. However, the value of our core offerings will likely far exceed \$1 million for each city.

Through 100 Resilient Cities, cities will receive financial and logistical guidance for establishing an innovative new position in city government, a Chief Resilience Officer (CRO), who will lead the city's resilience efforts; Technical support to develop a holistic resilience strategy that reflects each city's distinct needs; Access to an innovative platform of private sector and NGO services to support strategy development and implementation; and inclusion in the 100 Resilient Cities Network to share knowledge and best practices with other member cities.