

Fact sheet: The City works towards protecting children from window falls

Quick facts

- In 2016, 175 children across Alberta were brought to an emergency department due to window and balcony fall-related injuries, and 20 of them were admitted to hospital.
- In 2016, 23% of all Major Trauma Patients at Alberta Children's Hospital were injured in a fall; 56% of these falls were multi-storey falls from windows, meaning 15% of major trauma patients had fallen out of a window.
- Nationally, at least 420 children aged 0-9 visit the emergency department after falling out of a window; approximately 84 need to be admitted to hospital.
- In Alberta, 28% of children who visit emergency after falling from a multi-storey window need to be admitted and treated for:
 - **Skull fractures +/- traumatic brain injuries (TBI)*** This is a life-altering, family-changing injury
 - Cervical spine fractures
 - Facial and long bone fractures
 - Splenic or liver lacerations
- The City of Calgary uses the Alberta Building Code, which is modelled after the National Building Code (NBC). Starting in 2020, Alberta will automatically adopt the NBC, so any changes made to the NBC will take effect in Alberta (and most provinces).

Related links

- [Calgary.ca/windowsafety](http://calgary.ca/windowsafety)
- www.windowandbalconysafety.ca
- Myhealth: <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Alberta/Pages/keeping-your-child-safe-from-falls.aspx>

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[Calgary.ca/mediainquiry](http://calgary.ca/mediainquiry)