



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

2021 June 2

Shawn McLeod
Deputy Minister
Labour and Immigration
Government of Alberta
shawn.mcleod@gov.ab.ca

RE: Alberta Assessors' Association Letter of Support – Review of Registration under the Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act (POARA)

Dear Mr. McLeod,

Please accept this letter as an expression of The City of Calgary's support for the Alberta' Assessors' Association re-application for certification under the amended *Professional and Occupational Associations Regulation Act* (POARA).

For The City of Calgary, the professional conduct of property assessors is the cornerstone of fair and equitable assessments that is in turn the foundation for the confidence of the property owners in the overall system. The Alberta Assessors' Association is responsible for maintaining professional standards which includes the proper oversight of assessment practice, training, designations and professional conduct of the appropriately qualified municipal assessors. The Alberta Assessors' Association is an essential partner in the continuous improvement of the assessment framework for Alberta.

Assessors do critical work that supports fairness, transparency, tax base stability and predictability in property assessments. As a result, trust in the assessment system is a primary concern for stakeholders. This was confirmed in an independent review of Calgary's non-residential property assessment and complaint systems in 2018, which emphasized the importance of setting clear expectations for professional conduct and ensuring confidence in the system.

Confirmation that an Assessor is a member in good standing with the Alberta Assessor's Association, gives taxpayers confidence that their assessments have been prepared in compliance with legislative requirements and using best practices. Especially given the role assessors play in administering a provincially legislated process, the Alberta Assessor's Association's registration under POARA provides an important mechanism for accountability.

The City of Calgary accordingly wishes to express its support for the Alberta Assessors' Association's re-application for certification under the amended Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act. We trust you will approve the Alberta Assessors' Association's membership in POARA on the basis of their submission. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you for your considerations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Duckworth', written in a cursive style.

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