



**Calgary**

**Jeromy Farkas, Mayor**

2026 May 11

The Honourable Mickey Amery, ECA, KC  
Minister of Justice  
227 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Amery,

**Re: Community Court**

As directed by Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2025, I am writing a letter on behalf of City Council to advocate to incorporate, and fully fund, Community Court within the provincial court system.

Since launching in 2024, Calgary's Community Court has proven to be a highly effective voluntary diversion model. In its first year alone, the program connected over 450 vulnerable Calgarians with individualized support plans, resulting in the withdrawal of more than 2,000 bylaw tickets and fines — more than double the originally projected monthly intake.

To date, approximately 1,000 vulnerable Calgarians facing bylaw infractions were connected with supports that reduce repeat contact with the justice system. Calgary Police Service has confirmed measurable real-world outcomes for graduates including sustained housing, employment, and sobriety. Demand has already outgrown the program's current structure with Calgary Legal Guidance actively working toward a weekly sitting model to meet this need.

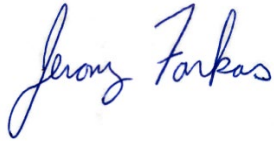
Community Court operates at the intersection between municipal and provincial jurisdictions through collaboration between the Court of Justice of Alberta, The City of Calgary, and community organizations. This model is successfully in alleviating capacity constraints across both jurisdictions, and it is directly aligned with the Government of Alberta's commitment to expand restorative justice programs across the province.

City Council requests that the Government of Alberta manage and fully fund the aspects of Community Court that fall within its jurisdiction. This includes funding to non-profit organizations receiving Community Court referrals in areas of provincial jurisdiction, support for Calgary Legal Guidance, adequate court room availability, and filling Justice of the Peace vacancies to support program capacity.

Community Court allows The City and Province to divert bylaw offenders to support services while helping them develop the necessary skills to exit the justice system. This also frees up enforcement and detainment resources for higher risk needs in the community.

I welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss this cross-jurisdictional program, its demonstrated benefits, and strategies for sustaining its ongoing success through the fulfilment of our respective responsibilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeromy Farkas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

His Worship Jeromy Farkas  
Mayor, City of Calgary

cc: The Honourable Mike Ellis, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services  
The Honourable Dan Williams, Minister of Municipal Affairs  
City Council  
David Duckworth, CAO  
Stuart Dagleish COO  
Jill Floen, City Solicitor and General Council  
Katie Black, GM Community Services