

2016-2018 YEG CITY BUDGET



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION COUNCIL'S 2% INITIATIVE

The city's most visible innovation and improvement initiative is Council's 2%. City programs are scrutinized each year with the goal of shaving 2%, or approximately \$28 million, off the tax levy.

The success of this initiative is testament of the city's ability to foster a culture of innovation, encouraging staff to bring forward bold ideas and to always review ways to better serve citizens.

This constant reviewing and improving of operations has led to millions of dollars in savings. For the 2017 budget, the city has identified \$34 million through this initiative. This gives council the flexibility to reallocate funding to higher value programs, and set some money aside for reinvestment.

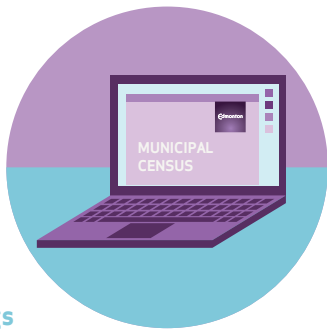
This document contains just a few examples of the more than 120 initiatives identified through the program for the 2017 budget year.



EXAMPLE 1

GO PAPERLESS

\$1.25 million in savings



All City Departments came together to find \$1.25 million in savings by taking advantage of technology to go paperless. The Municipal Census is now paperless, a savings of \$67,000. City officials collect information on electronic tablets, which eliminates paper forms and postage. The default setting for City printers is now black and white and double-sided. A feature on all printers, follow-you print, reduces paper waste from abandoned and unnecessary printing. These steps alone save the City \$850,000.

EXAMPLE 2

REORIENTING NEW-EMPLOYEE TRAINING

\$615,000 in savings



Every year, the City's new permanent and temporary employees go through an orientation that involves a series of training sessions on topics such as safety and security. Now, much of the new-employee orientation and training will be offered online; a major savings of both time and money.

EXAMPLE 3

NATURAL LANDSCAPING

\$250,000 in savings



Next year, different green spaces throughout Edmonton will receive a more natural makeover. Areas that have annual flowers will be converted to perennial plants. Where it makes sense, grass that is not accessed by the public will no longer be mowed and certain turf and flower beds will be converted to community garden space to reduce mowing costs.

EXAMPLE 4

WORKING SMART WITH DIGITAL DEVICES

\$1.5 million in savings



Building and Parks employees who work out of the office can now receive notifications and work orders electronically. They can communicate back and enter data directly from their work sites including timesheets and other routine paperwork. Areas across the City are using technology to replace time spent on manual work, allowing employees to focus on other priorities.

High definition aerial photography software allows Assessment and Taxation employees to work in the office. The technology allows them to make initial property inspections, increase the frequency and monitor more closely targeted inspections. This saves money on vehicle use and mileage and it is good for the environment.

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Inquiries may be directed to citybudget@edmonton.ca
You can also reach us by phone at 780-496-4944

