

Services and support for indoor farming businesses



“Risks to the global food supply chain have forced us to reflect on the future of food and how we can be more resilient locally. Urban farming has generated a lot of venture capital recently. With our strong ties to agriculture and our emerging tech sector, I believe Calgary is a prime location for start-ups.”

— *Mayor Gondek*

The City of Calgary recognizes the importance of food security and sustainability. With the ongoing shift to support and buy local, The City wants to make it easier for indoor farming companies to establish their operations in Calgary.

Indoor farming includes raising and producing fruits, vegetables, plants or other agricultural products for sale. It can include growing, raising, culturing or cultivating practices, and activities such as harvesting, storing, sorting, cleaning, processing and the preparation for sale of produce and agricultural products grown in the facility.

To facilitate indoor farming in Calgary, The City offers the following services and support:

Business Experience Representatives at The City can help you navigate approvals and licensing

- Customers can contact our Business Experience Representatives at (403) 268-5311 to help guide them through the permit and licensing process.

The City offers pre-application meetings for development permits

- Prospective applicants may present a development proposal to The City for review and comment, prior to a formal application being submitted. To start the process, please contact the Planning Services Centre at (403) 268-5311 or calgary.ca/livechat
- Building Permit applications can be made online at [Online Services \(calgary.ca\)](https://calgary.ca/online-services)

Your Business Licencing fees may be waived

- The City is currently waiving fees for new and renewed business licences for companies located in Calgary. Fees will be waived until March 16, 2023.

Property tax exemption for farming operations in Calgary’s buildings

- The portion of a building used for farming operations may be eligible for exemption from property tax. Property owners must apply for tax exemption annually. For more information contact The City’s Assessment department at (403) 268-2888.

Free Water Services Consultation with The City

- Water Services can provide a free of charge consultation on optimal water metering dependent on estimated water usage (should be done prior to plumbing being put in place). For consultation on water use and metering, contact meterclerks@calgary.ca.

Other Resources

- [Food Production and Growth - business guide \(calgary.ca\)](https://calgary.ca/food-production-and-growth-business-guide)