

City breaks construction records in 2014

Construction in Edmonton boomed last year with the City issuing \$4.625 billion worth of building permits, a 17% increase from 2013 and a 182% increase over the five-year average. Construction commitments for 2015 have started strong and are expected to continue in line with the City's five-year trend.



"This is further evidence that Edmonton has been leading the country in economic growth," said Mayor Don Iveson. "It's a trend that fuels our progress as an attractive, vibrant and sustainable community that is a global magnet for people and investment."

Construction highlights in 2014 included several large downtown projects. Many of these projects are issued permits in phases as the building progresses from excavation, to framing, to full construction. Permits included:

- Rogers Place Arena – first phase building permit valued at \$103 million
- City of Edmonton office tower – first phase building permit valued at \$48 million
- Stantec office/condo building – first phase building permit valued at \$8 million

"These large-scale projects in the downtown core have created a surge in construction and will support continued activity in our city," said Scott Mackie, branch manager of Current Planning. "The City already has commitments of over \$1 billion in construction value for 2015 in downtown and other central areas. We expect these commitments will contribute to another active construction year."

It was also a record year for the Current Planning Service Centre, which served 71,951 people, an increase of 25% over 2013. In spite of strong volume increases, recent renovations on the 5th floor and increasing staffing during seasonal surges, the centre reduced customer wait times by 19%. The Service Centre responded to queries handling 116,959 calls in 2014, up 54% over 2013. The team serves Edmontonians' permit and licence needs ranging from application intake, approval, payments and records management.

The City of Edmonton publishes monthly reports on construction permit values [online](#).

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