

City joins with Startup Edmonton to enhance service to citizens

City employees will be working together with startup communities at the Start Up Edmonton workspace to create unique technological solutions for municipal challenges. This new initiative, Open Lab, is an innovative program that brings a lean startup culture together (in the physical space at Start Up Edmonton and in the virtual world) with local government to use open data to build new technology that can benefit citizens.

"We see this as a great opportunity to work together on a unique platform that fosters collaboration and accelerates tech-enabled solutions for citizens," says Ken Bautista from Startup Edmonton.

Startup Edmonton will host opportunities where people can come together to discuss ideas and work on projects, in person or virtually with City staff.

The City expects that the increasing number of data sets that are available to the public will help drive the solutions. "We need to continually look for ways to improve on the services we provide to citizens," says Mayor Iveson. "[311 Explorer](#) is an excellent example of how City data can be useful to everyone. I see Open Lab and our relationship with Startup Edmonton as an integral part of how we can help new ideas move past the concept stage, fully leverage the City's growing data sets and create a platform for local entrepreneurs to showcase their talents. Through our Open City initiative we are looking at new ways the City can enable innovation, become more transparent in its work and co-create Edmonton alongside its citizens. I believe we are well on our way to achieving those goals."

The new Open City initiative guides the development of innovative solutions in an effort to connect Edmontonians to City information, programs, services and engagement opportunities.

For more information:

Visit edmonton.ca/opencity and edmonton.ca/openlab

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