

## **News Release**

August 20, 2015 City of Edmonton

## Edmonton opens up property data

Property information is now available through the City of Edmonton's <u>Open Data</u> catalogue.

"We regularly receive requests for information about Edmonton's properties," says Wendy Gnenz, director responsible for the City's Open Data program. "Now, citizens can download this information, map it out and use it for the benefit of our community."



The property information includes municipal address, lot size and year built of a primary building and comes from multiple City and non-City sources. It also has assessment information such as value and class, which comes from the City's assessment team.

The release of this data adds to a catalogue of more than 700 datasets in a continuing effort by City Council to increase municipal government transparency.

"Releasing property information in this dataset increases transparency around the assessment process," says Assessment and Taxation Branch Manager Rod Risling. "However, we are ensuring we protect the privacy of Edmonton property owners by releasing only basic assessment data."

In conjunction with this data release, the City's assessment team has updated data displayed on the existing <u>assessment maps</u> and is enhancing services available to Edmonton property owners though its <u>secure website</u>.

Over the past several years, Edmonton has embraced the open government movement and has become a national leader in open data sharing. Recently the City of Edmonton had the honour of being the recipient of the 2015 Canadian Open Data Award.

The Open City Initiative was introduced to help the City become more efficient, transparent and innovative and ultimately to encourage citizens to be more connected.

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