

## City says goodbye to final coin parking meter

April 13, 2013

The City of Edmonton is bidding farewell to its final coin meter and fully embracing a new era of modernized parking.

"Today, April 13, 2016, marks the final day for coin meters in Edmonton after a 68-year run," said Councillor Scott McKeen. "Times have certainly changed, and it's vital for various functions of our city to continue evolving as Edmonton grows."

Edmonton's first parking meters went into operation on July 26, 1948 in Edmonton's downtown. Back then, the 845 meters charged a penny for 12 minutes and a nickel for an hour. Fines cost \$1.

The City's coin meters have been replaced by EPark, a new, easy-to-use electronic parking system. Since the EPark trial wrapped up in 2014, more than 375 EPark machines have replaced 3,300 coin meters, mostly around downtown, 124 Street and Old Strathcona.



"This is another innovative use of technology that allows customers to use electronic payments in addition to coin," said Dorian Wandzura, general manager of City Operations. "The EPark system also provides data to assist City staff to control parking enforcement costs and analyse time specific parking demand. This helps us plan for better utilization of the roads and available on street parking."

"The removal of the last parking meter in the City of Edmonton, as we switch to our new smart pay parking system, marks a quantum leap in technology which will make us a leader in parking management for major cities," said Jim Taylor, executive director of the Downtown Business Association. "And the timing couldn't be better with the explosive growth we're about to see in our Downtown in 2016."

Citizens wanting to buy an existing parking meter, in 'as is' condition, at a cost of \$100 per meter, are asked to contact 311 by May 31 to express their interest. The City is also hoping to sell the remainder of the meters to another municipality. The next step in the evolution of parking is the move towards automated enforcement with use of vehicle-mounted cameras later in 2016.

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### For more information:

[edmonton.ca/epark](http://edmonton.ca/epark)

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