

2018 Annual Report to the Community

2018 At-A-Glance

24,928 VISITORS ANNUALLY

13,999 VISITS BY CALGARIANS

56,443 CATERED GUESTS

6,567 STUDENTS TAUGHT IN SCHOOL PROGRAMS

160 ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS



ALMOST HALF OUR VISITORS WERE FROM EUROPE, US & UK

59,431 SCONES SERVED

“Thank you for funding our field trip and we really had fun there. There [were] cool things inside and it was so amazing. I like mostly all of the activities that our class did and I wish we can go there again. It was so much awesome.

• Student Participant

OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY

f 3,500 fans

t 4,100 followers

ig 1,400 followers

WALKING
WITH
Our
SISTERS

Partnered with Walking with Our Sisters Calgary to host a gala fundraiser and art installation to honour the lives of the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

“Looking for things to do in Calgary before we headed out to our room in Banff, we chose this piece of history and were not disappointed. The museum gave a great foundation for me, as an American, to understand the creation of the current and historic framework of Calgary, Banff, and Alberta.

• Museum Visitor

192 students from Chiila Elementary School, Connect Charter School & Calgary Arts Academy participated in collaborative mural “Many Hands”

80,649 guests hosted in our venue

8 large outdoor events - including Beakerhead and Brewery and the Beast

49 schools booked resource kits and brought learning into their classrooms

2,060 students learned how to build a mini log cabin as part of our Building Calgary program

117 new Canadian children and youth participated in programs designed to feel more connected to their city through exploration of local history

14 community presentations delivered about contemporary Indigenous relations and Fort Calgary

625 students accessed school programs & bussing through our Equal Access Initiative

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Our Story

From our origins at Mohkînsstsis (Blackfoot), Wîchîspa (Stoney Nakoda), and Guts’ists’i (Tsuut’ina) to the arrival of the North West Mounted Police in 1875, we have a rich and complex story to tell. Whether you are here to experience one of our signature events; host your friends, family or team in our historic venue; participate in a school program; or simply learn about Calgary’s early days in our Interpretive Center, you stand on a significant place of culture and history. It is here, at Fort Calgary, where we tell the stories of the people who have shaped us.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

On behalf of the Fort Calgary team, thank you for visiting, volunteering, learning and dining with us in 2018. We know you have many options for recreation, education and hosting in Calgary, so we're committed to being a memorable gathering place for all Calgarians.

It was a year of further change at Fort Calgary. I was invited to join the organization in December. I was drawn to Fort Calgary because I am passionate about community gathering places, having been a part of the development of TELUS Spark (science centre), the new YW Calgary Hub (shelter for women) and, a little closer to my home, a new community hall for my neighbourhood.

Cities need places where people and ideas can collide. Visiting lively public spaces like museums, libraries, galleries, parks and even coffee shops are vital to quality of life, particularly for families and those newcomers, and those who live alone. They are also platforms for learning, conversations and debate, and Fort Calgary is no exception.

Our New Museum Project will be such a place, bringing together people to learn more about the complex origins of our city, and our more recent history as a national, provincial and municipal historic site. Our site, at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers, has been an important gathering place for centuries. Honouring this complete story, and sharing this narrative with our visitors, is central to the New Museum Project.

Fort Calgary is taking this effort seriously, and has been working for some time with the RCMP Veterans' Association and an Advisory Committee of representatives from each of the Treaty 7 Nations and the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. We've also taken courageous steps toward "curatorial autonomy", providing the RCMP and Indigenous Advisors with the autonomy to determine what stories will be shared, in their voice. I am grateful to these people for their courage and openness throughout the process.

It's a thrilling time for Fort Calgary, and we invite you to continue to engage with us. Come by and visit our Interpretive Centre, take a walk or a picnic on our grounds, or join us for an event or special occasion brunch. We'd love to see you!

ALISON PIDSKALNY • *President & CEO*

LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I wish to thank my fellow Board members, the employees and volunteers at Fort Calgary for their ongoing commitment to our work and our mission.

The New Museum Project saw a dramatic change in September 2018 when the Board and Management made the decision to rescope the project to match the funds we could reasonably raise and make available. The new design is a beautiful expression of our mission and continues to expand upon the Fort Calgary NWMP story, while now including the prior history of the site as an important Indigenous gathering place.

Fort Calgary also engaged a new partner in the New Museum Project as project manager. The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC) has proven to be a strategic choice, with expertise not only in projects of this magnitude, but also an intimate understanding of the needs of the neighbourhood. One of our greatest assets is our location, nested between historic Inglewood, Ramsay and East Village. Working with these neighbours will be an important feature of our work in 2019.

We also said farewell to Linda McLean mid-way through 2018. I'm sure it was a difficult decision to move to the island, and the city will miss her talent and passion for community greatly. In her time with us, Linda led the effort to rescope the New Museum Project and engage the CMLC, while also bringing new grants and other sources to improve our revenue picture.

With Linda's departure, we started a new executive search process and welcomed Alison Pidskalny as the new President & CEO in December 2018. She brings strong leadership skills cultivated over 15 years in executive roles in the non-profit sector, including TELUS Spark, YW Calgary, CAWST, and as a communications and marketing consultant to the United Way, University of Calgary and the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

The New Museum Project will be the biggest capital endeavor undertaken by Fort Calgary, and we will welcome deeper involvement of the community, our neighbours and new partners in the coming year. It's an exciting and rare turning point for Fort Calgary, and we appreciate the trust and support we've seen from the community. Thank you!

DOUG MILLS • *Chairman of Board of Directors*

CREATING A CULTURE OF AWARENESS, UNDERSTANDING & ACTION

Picture a space where people, ideas and cultures co-exist to create an immersive experience – one that allows you to deeply understand what it means to stand on the very site where history happened and to connect to all of its flaws, complexity and beauty.

This year, thanks to a Calgary Foundation grant, we were able to move one step closer to creating that experience for our visitors, clients and community.

In 2018, we created Fort Calgary’s first dedicated role focused on Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations. This role was created to deepen our relationships with Treaty 7 Nations and Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

Through the creation of this role we have been able to:

1. Begin a journey to understand Indigenous/non-Indigenous relationships within southern Alberta.
2. Deliver cultural awareness content that contextualizes Fort Calgary within its systems, structures and stories. We launched a new exhibit and short documentary that introduces guests, visitors and clients to the work of truth and reconciliation and delivered over 14 community and internal presentations about contemporary Indigenous relations and Fort Calgary.
3. Collaborate with the RCMP Veterans’ Association, Treaty 7 Nations, and Métis Nations of Alberta, Region 3, to create new museum exhibits as part of the New Museum Project.
4. Become a community resource to understand and engage in Indigenous ways of knowing and working.

These outcomes have positioned Fort Calgary to better understand the importance of truth and reconciliation and to contribute to this work in a respectful and engaging way.

“**It’s actually a real honour that they’re recognizing the Métis here in Calgary.**

• Judy Gentes • Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3

“**If you look at a textbook, you don’t see the whole story, you just see what someone wants you to know. This way, you get hundreds of people’s opinions and stories.**

• ‘Many Hands’ Mural • Grade 7 Participant

MANY HANDS

Connecting Communities. Understanding Histories.

What happens when you take 192 students from three schools to Calgary and surrounding area to create an original work of art? You get a beautiful mosaic that highlights the interdependence of the different cultures and perspectives of this region.

We brought together three schools—Chiila Elementary School from Tsuut’ina, Connect Charter School, and Calgary Arts Academy—to create a collaborative mural that celebrates the culture, vibrancy and resilience of Indigenous communities.

After being inspired by songs, poem and stories, students from each school proposed concepts for the mural which were vetted by cultural advisors. The selected designs were used to develop the mural.

The mural invites all our guests to think about their role in reconciliation and express their thoughts and commitments in a tangible way. In 2017, approximately 500 visitors added their commitment to reconciliation by placing tags on the mural.



< 'MANY HANDS' MURAL

I think with reconciliation, a lot of Canadians think it's just to say sorry. It's not about saying sorry, it's about really trusting each other and trying to make up for the things that happened.

• Grade 7 Participant

MÉTIS CABIN

Giving New Life To One Of Calgary's Oldest Buildings.

Built in 1876 on the east side of the Elbow River, the Métis Cabin has been a significant piece of our history. Originally used as part of a Hudson's Bay fur trading post, this cabin was generously returned to Fort Calgary and restored with support from The Mathison Family Foundation.

Following extensive restoration, the cabin was returned to its original location and officially unveiled to the public on November 17, 2018, also known as Louis Riel Day. The unveiling event included an opening prayer by Doreen Bergum and remarks from a representative of the donor; Judy Gentes, Vice President of the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3; and Dave Chalmers, owner of Chalmers Heritage Conservation Ltd, who oversaw the restoration work.



< This cabin is one of the oldest buildings in Calgary.

(L-R)
Eileen Stan
Dave Chalmers
Dr. Troy Patenaude, PhD.
Judy Gentes
Doreen Bergum
Sarah Laboucane
Bev Chartrand

When we have buildings like the Métis Cabin, it helps us bring these stories to life. It's good to equip our children with the awareness of history so they can move through life knowing more about where they come from and why we are the way we are.

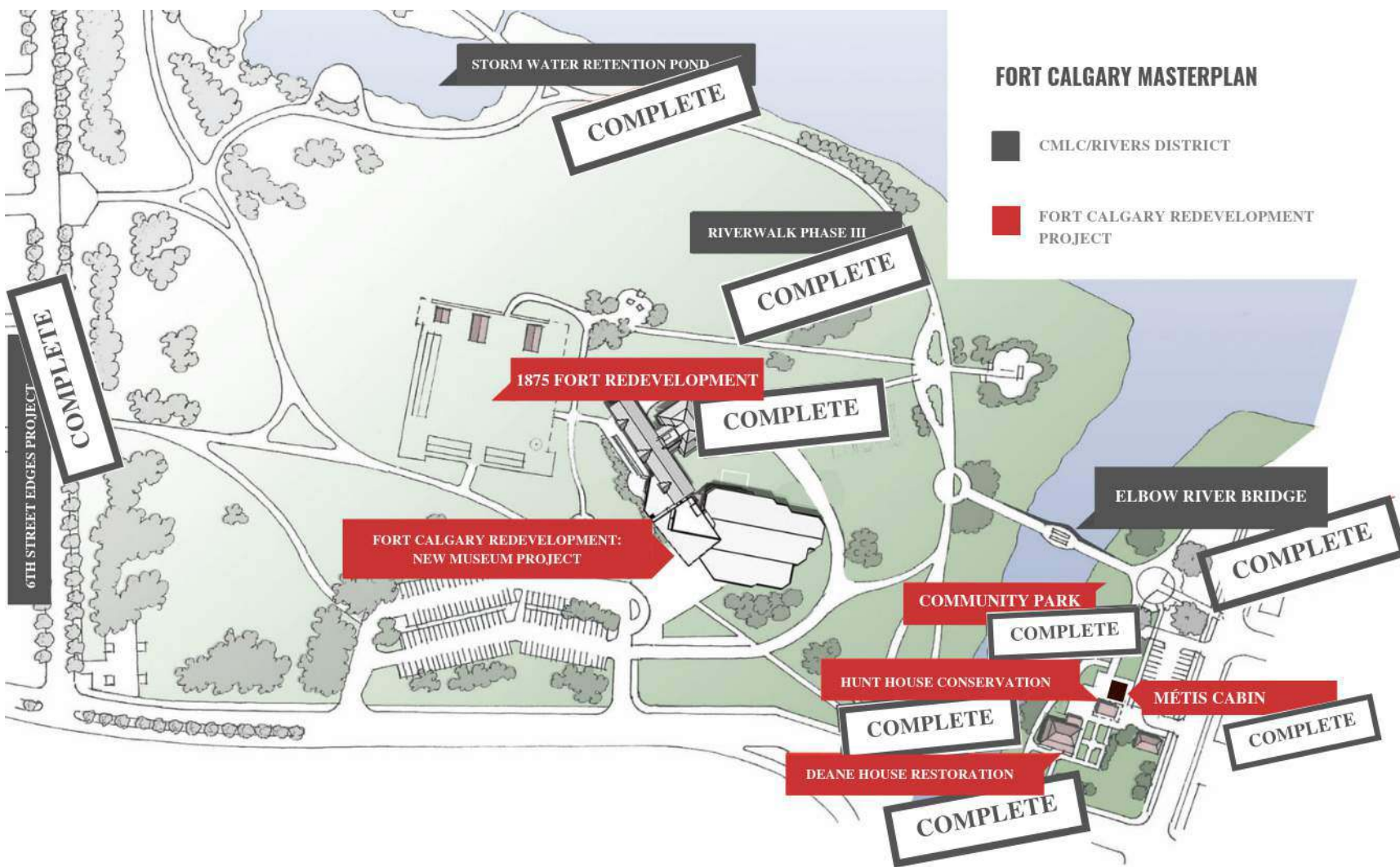
• **Dr. Troy Patenaude, PhD.**
Director of Cultural Development, Fort Calgary

NEW MUSEUM PROJECT

Phase of Make History

In 2006, Fort Calgary and its Board of Directors spearheaded an ambitious three-phase masterplan called “Make History” to revitalize and redevelop this site. The masterplan considered the redevelopment of the land upon which Fort Calgary is situated as well as the broader revitalization of this community led by the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC) and the Rivers District Masterplan.

Phase I and II are complete, and work on Phase III, the “New Museum Project”, made considerable progress this year.



“Museums and archives as sites of public memory and national history have a key role to play in reconciliation.”

- Final Report of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada (2015)

A Broader Story

Fort Calgary is the site of a centuries-old relationship between the land and its Indigenous peoples. When the North West Mounted Police arrived in 1875, it became a site that birthed a small but flourishing community. Today, this land sits at the core of a thriving city. Because many of the events of our history took place on this very site, we believe we have a responsibility to build a new museum that envelops this history with courage, authenticity and respect.

With sentiment in the community shifting with greater awareness and call to action as a result of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the Board and Management at Fort Calgary made the timely decision to expand the “narrative” of Fort Calgary to include previously untold Indigenous stories.

To do this work in a respectful and engaging way, Fort Calgary invited members of Treaty 7 Nations and the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3, to join an Advisory Committee to help guide decisions related to the New Museum Project, including Randy Bottle—Kainai Nation, Tobias Provost—Piikani Nation, Kent Ayoungman—Siksika Nation, Hal Eagletail—Tsuut’ina Nation, Fred Powderface—Nakoda Nations and Darcy McRae—Métis Nation.



NEW MUSEUM PROJECT (cont.)

A New Scope

At the same time, the Board and Management were evaluating the funds available for the project. An infrastructure assessment conducted by the City of Calgary showed the business case to renovate the current Interpretative Center did not make sense.

In September 2018, the Board approved a new scope to demolish and build a new museum. The New Museum Project will build a new, 12,750 square-foot museum that will engage visitors in this national, provincial and municipal historic site combined with the origins of the site as an Indigenous gathering place. The broadened narrative of the site will be developed in deep collaboration with the RCMP Veterans' Association, Treaty 7 Nations, and Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

The New Museum will also be a platform for visitors to engage more deeply with our story through programs and events. It will have a Gallery of Nations, Fort Calgary Gallery, Evolving Story Gallery, Learning Centre with two classrooms, outdoor courtyard, café and retail. The design allows for future addition or expansion and will link to the 1888 Barracks, our business center, which itself will see a light renovation creating new administration offices and meeting spaces for external groups.



Committing to Curatorial Autonomy

While Fort Calgary will provide the “platform” for the New Museum Project, our RCMP and Indigenous Advisors will have the autonomy to determine what stories will be shared, in their voice. By creating this content in a collaborative process, we are able to tell a more complete story of this site as a cultural and historic gathering place.

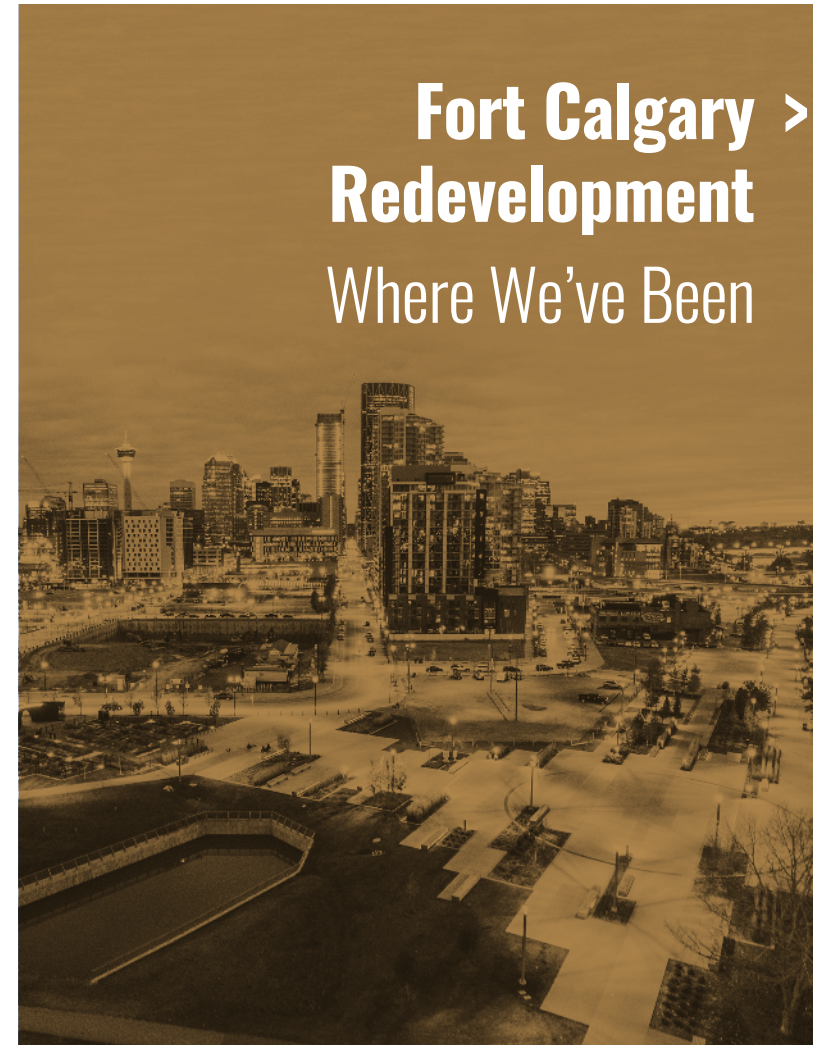
To learn more about the project, its history and progress, visit: www.fortcalgary.com/new-museum-project



The board feels very privileged to be a part of this exciting time for Fort Calgary and the expanding stories of these lands, both historically and looking forward.

• Doug Mills • Chairman of Board of Directors

Fort Calgary > Redevelopment Where We've Been



PHASE I: Completed in 2018

This phase included the Deane House rehabilitation, Hunt House restoration, Métis Cabin restoration and upgrades to the surrounding park and gardens.

PHASE II: Completed in 2017

This phase included the installation of Markings, the 1875 Fort Interpretive Exhibit. Designed by artist Jill Anholt, this exhibit reimagines the symbolic beginnings of the city.

PHASE III: Completion in 2022

This phase includes the construction of a new, 12,750 square-foot museum and partial renovation to the 1888 Barracks.

Project Team

- Fort Calgary Preservation Society
- Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC)
- City of Calgary
- Nyhoff Architecture
- PCL Construction

Advisors

- Randy Bottle – Kainai Nation
- Tobias Provost – Piikani Nation
- Kent Ayoungman – Siksika Nation
- Hal Eagletail – Tsuut'ina Nation
- Fred Powderface – Nakoda Nations
- Darcy McRae - Métis Nation
- RCMP Veterans' Association

DONORS

2018 OPERATING FUND & CAPITAL FUND

PLATINUM DONORS

• \$100,000 and over

The City of Calgary
Calgary Foundation

GOLD DONORS

• \$25,000 to \$99,999

-

SILVER DONORS

• \$15, 000 - \$24, 999

Anonymous Donor
Government of Canada
Province of Alberta

BRONZE DONORS

• \$5,000 to \$14,999

BURNSWEST Corporation

DONORS

• \$1,000 - \$4,999

“Fill our Boots” Donations

DONORS

• \$1000 and under

Margaret P. Hooper
Horst Kersten
Gerald Knowlton
Marijke van Wijk

MAKE HISTORY CAMPAIGN FUND TO DEC. 31, 2018

PLATINUM DONORS

• \$100,000 and over

Government of Canada, Building Canada Fund
Government of Canada, Canada Cultural Spaces Fund
Province of Alberta, Community Facility Enhancement Program
Province of Alberta, Major Community Facilities Program
Alberta Historical Resources Foundation
Anonymous (Interpretive Centre Exhibits)
Calgary Foundation

The City of Calgary
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.
Encana Corporation
The Mathison Family Foundation

CNOOC Canada

Pembina Pipeline Corp.

Obsidian Energy

Western Economic Diversification Canada – Community
Infrastructure Program (Canada 150 grant)

GOLD DONORS

• \$25,000 to \$99,999

Anonymous (Purchase of the Joane Cardinal-Schubert painting)
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Cadmus Funds through The Calgary Foundation
Enbridge Inc.
Wilf & Marg Gobert
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SILVER DONORS

• \$15,000 to \$24,999

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BRONZE DONORS

• \$5,000 to \$14,999

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• \$1,000 to \$4,999

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Sawgrass Investments Ltd.

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• under \$1,000

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