



# Annual Report to Community

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# A NOTE



## From the Board Chair and Executive Director

In 2025, we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Lougheed House being open to the public as a museum and the tremendous efforts of the Society, its members, and supporters to restore Lougheed House, revive it as a place to convene community, and sustain its capacity to make meaningful connections between past and present for many years to come.

Over the last year, Lougheed House welcomed visitors to three temporary exhibitions and diverse programming, including the Beaulieu Artisan Market and an Indigenous fashion show to kick off the *As the River Flows and the City Grows* exhibition. The House's social media presence remains strong with creative storytelling serving a growing online audience. The Society's dedicated team of garden volunteers once again made Beaulieu Gardens a splendid destination for thousands of visitors.

The Society welcomed Shannon Murray as new Executive Director in Fall 2024. We wish to thank previous Executive Director, Naomi Grattan, whose literal and figurative "house cleaning" left the organization in a stable position, poised for growth.

With support from Calgary Arts Development Authority (CADA), the Board of Directors developed and approved a 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: House of Story, Home for All. As the Society implements this plan, Lougheed House and Beaulieu Gardens will continue to develop into a renowned and vibrant destination where Calgarians and visitors connect with history and one another.

We are deeply appreciative for the generous support of funders, partners, members, volunteers, donors, and staff. Their contributions ensure that Lougheed House is a thriving, engaged community hub.

**Jessica Park**

Chair, Lougheed House Conservation Society  
Board of Directors

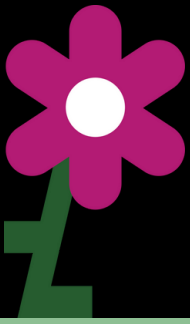
**Shannon Murray**

Executive Director



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# BEAULIEU GARDENS

The 2024 gardening season was an eventful one! Shortly after all the annuals in our beds and containers had been planted, the City of Calgary experienced a catastrophic break on the Bearspaw South Feeder Main resulting in city-wide water restrictions throughout the summer. This could have meant the loss of these newly added plants as they were small with few established roots. We are grateful to the City of Calgary Parks crews for bringing non-potable water trucks to care for the formal garden.

A very generous volunteer brought barrels of water from their acreage which was then transported to the gardens using our fleet of watering cans. Despite this challenge our gardens performed very well and looked great right up until the end of the summer.



## OUTDOOR SIGNAGE

If you take a walk around the grounds of Lougheed House, you'll notice new, bright, and informative interpretive signage. Featuring elements from Raymond Biesinger's graphic of Lougheed House, these signs were installed in summer 2024.



Since then, we see many visitors stopping to read the new signs, learning about the history of Lougheed House and Beaulieu Gardens.





# VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



## Pat & Dave Cross

The 2024 recipients of the Trudy Cowan Volunteer Award are Pat and Dave Cross, long-time dedicated members of the garden team. Pat and Dave have been volunteering for Lougheed House since 2004 - before the House even opened as a museum!

Their participation year over year has been an important part of keeping the gardens in great shape. They volunteer twice a week all summer long.

What keeps them coming back? An obvious love of gardening and enjoyment in the camaraderie of the garden team.



## BRAWN FAMILY ROSE GARDEN

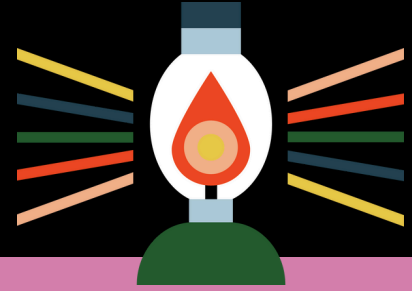
Lougheed House is pleased to announce a \$125,000 gift from the Brawn Family Foundation for the naming of the Lougheed House Rose Garden. The garden will now be known as the Brawn Family Rose Garden.



*"Heritage and Community are important values of our family, and we are proud to give support to Lougheed House with this naming gift," said Bob Brawn. "The gardens of Lougheed House provide an oasis of healing and enjoyment to residents of the Beltline and all Calgarians. We are proud to contribute to something with a positive impact for our community."*

Our deep and sincere thanks go out to the Brawn Family for their generous gift.

# PUBLIC PROGRAMS



2024 was a busy one for public programs! With more than 40 programs throughout the year we welcomed thousands of attendees to events ranging from art workshops and garden tours to trivia nights and a Historic Calgary Week tour. Standouts were Family Day with more than 600 visitors and Santa Comes to Lougheed House with nearly 300 visitors and 17 pets! Our signature suite of programs, including trivia nights, workshops, and tours continued to be a success. Many thanks to Last Best Brewing for sponsoring our trivia nights!



## BEAULIEU FLOWER & ARTISAN MARKET

Our gardens speak for themselves, but in 2024 we wanted to fully celebrate how they bring community together. In July we hosted the Beaulieu Flower & Artisan Market. Expanding on the popular annual iris sale, the Beaulieu Market featured a variety of garden and flower-related vendors, including artists, ceramicists, florists and more.



## CWAC DONATION

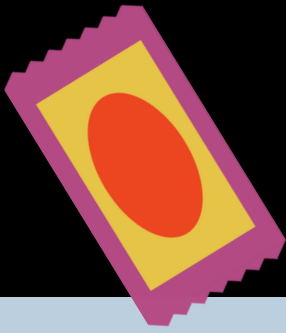
This year saw an exciting acquisition for the collection of the Lougheed House Conservation Society. Chris Longtin donated objects belonging to his mother, Dorothy, who served in the Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWAC) at Lougheed House from 1942 to 1946, then known as Lougheed Barracks.

Women led the creation of the Canadian Women's Army Corps at the onset of the Second World War, when all Canadians, including women were needed to support the war effort. Women worked and lived in Lougheed Barracks from 1941-1946.



This donation helps us shed light on one of the many fascinating layers of Lougheed House history.





# EXHIBITIONS

Over 2024, the Lougheed House Reimagined project culminated in three temporary exhibitions that highlighted the many facets and opportunities of a historic house museum.

The first exhibit was *Restore & Revive*, which explored the restoration of Lougheed House from the 1980s to 2005 and featured paintings by Aeris Osborne, a newcomer from Hong Kong who painted heritage buildings to understand Alberta.

The second exhibit, *House of Curiosity*, was geared toward younger audiences by creating whimsical 'Instagrammable' moments via large art installations.

The final exhibit, *As the River Flows & the City Grows*, showcased the work of 9 Indigenous artists. Mostly fibre arts and wearables, the pieces could be found throughout the house, disrupting and Indigenizing the colonial space. A fashion show of the wearables, modelled by the artists who made them, launched the exhibit. These three exhibitions paved the way for a new, reimagined core exhibition to launch in 2025.

## RESTORE & REVIVE

Apr 5 - Jun 30, 2024



## HOUSE OF CURIOSITY

July 11 - Sept 15, 2024

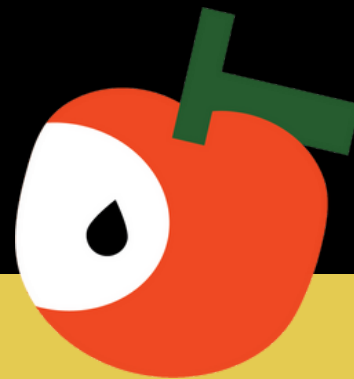


## AS THE RIVER FLOWS AND THE CITY GROWS

Sept 27 - Nov 17, 2024



# SCHOOL PROGRAMS



In 2024 we welcomed 55 school groups and more than 2,000 students in grades 1 - 5.

For the 2024/2025 school year, we introduced program options for schools piloting the new Social Studies curriculum. This meant adapting our pre-existing programs by adding learning outcomes such as exploring ways to acknowledge and demonstrate understanding of cultures, and investigating natural and created features of Alberta, as well as landmarks that reveal information about Alberta's past.

# COMMUNITY



## VOLUNTEERS

Diane Altwasser  
Caitie Benedictson  
Madalaine Berenyi  
Laura Lee Billings  
Suzanne Bourbonnais  
Lynn Bowers  
Patricia Breemer  
Tannis Carlson  
Jocelyne Charette

Yvonne Corbeil  
Dave Cross  
Pat Cross  
Lori Davies  
Teri Hutchinson  
Christa Kahl  
Dina Kidd  
Kay Koshin  
Katelyn Liakos

Carmen Marquez  
Jackie Marston  
Sheila Martin  
Connor McCafferty  
Sue McKee  
Lana Sam  
Asees Sekhon  
Gwen Smiley  
Sheila Smith

Kim Spink  
Deanne Stene  
Allison Wagner  
Jeffrey Walker  
Susan Wight  
Pat Willison  
Marj Windle

## FUNDERS

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Alberta



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 Lorette Van Staaldunin  
 Dana VanDiermen  
 Marj Windle  
 Yiming Zhao  
 Brawn Family Foundation  
 Zoya  
 Walsh LLP



Every effort has been made to ensure this information is accurate. To discuss any questions, please contact [info@lougheedhouse.com](mailto:info@lougheedhouse.com)



# STAFF

Meaghan Aylward, Museum Coordinator

Erin Benedictson, Curatorial  
& Programs Specialist

Grace Gomes-Hewitt, Senior Specialist,  
Events & Operations

Allison Graham, Director, Engagement &  
Experience

Naomi Grattan, Executive Director

Vanessa Lamb, Senior Specialist, Programs  
& Education

Fiona McTaggart, Senior Specialist, Brand &  
Communication

Shannon Murray, Executive Director

Jane Reksten, Head Gardener

Sarah Robinson, Managing Director



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Fund Development Committee Chair

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Jean Kruse, Community & Partner  
Engagement Chair

Frano Cavar

Frank Finley

Jackie Mattock-Howard

Tyler Morgan

Colin Reid

David Rothwell

Samantha Stokes

We thank all past Directors who have  
recently left the Board for their service:

Cassidy Bishop

Preet Dhanjal

Karla Palardy



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