

January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023





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### OUR VISION

At the Federation, we are focused on cultivating a network of nonprofit organizations that are able to thrive, collaborate, and make an impact on their communities.

### OUR MISSION

We build the capacity of volunteer-run organizations delivering resources, workshops and professional services. Through our work, people gain the skills to guide their organizations with confidence and clarity.

### STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## Service Alignment

Provide a diverse range of opportunities for our members to improve their knowledge, connect with other organizations and access our services in ways that meet their needs.

### Communicate Our Story

Strengthen the Fed's position within the sector as a capacity builder, trusted support, and respected voice for community-based non profits.

### Operational Excellence

Ensure we gain and maintain the necessary human, financial, and technical resources to continue meeting member needs as they evolve over time.

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Federation of Calgary Communities acknowledges Mohkínsstsisi [mohk-KIN-stiss] and the traditional Treaty 7 territory and oral practices of the Blackfoot Confederacy comprised of the Siksiká [six-ih-GAH], the Káínai [GUY-nah], and the Piikáni [bee-GAH-nee] First Nations; the Tsúut'ínà [soot-IN-uh] First Nation; and the Stoney Nakoda [nuh-KOH-duh] including the Chiniki [CHIN-ih-kee], Bearspaw [BEARS paw], and Goodstoney First Nations. We acknowledge that this territory is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Districts 5 and 6, within the historical Northwest Métis homeland.

We have respect for and deep gratitude to Indigenous peoples whose traditional territories we are honoured to operate within.

## A MESSAGE

### From our President & Executive Director

To Our Members and Supporters:

While we may not be the ones filling community gardens, running after-school programs, or maintaining facilities, our services empower grassroots nonprofits to create lasting and meaningful impacts on their communities. This report goes beyond simple numbers to feature inspiring stories from our members, highlighting how the Federation's unique work has supported their organizations.

Throughout 2023, we've expanded our services and embraced new challenges. This was our first year organizing the international Jane's Walk festival. Held during the first weekend of May, Jane's Walk YYC 2023 hosted over 50 walks with more than 1,000 attendees, encouraging people to explore and share stories about the neighborhoods they love. Like our other initiatives, Jane's Walk exemplifies our commitment to building neighborliness across the city.

We have also expanded our Energizing Spaces powered by ENMAX grant this year. Thanks to an increased annual grant commitment from ENMAX, we now provide more funding opportunities to local organizations seeking to upgrade their appliances and lighting to more energy-efficient options. Additionally, by partnering with Acre Electric for all lighting installation projects, we've streamlined the program and offered additional support to grant recipients.

But our work at the Federation goes beyond programming and grant funding. Through our advocacy efforts, we have influenced key funding decisions at both the municipal and provincial levels. At the City level, we secured a subsidy program for community associations and social recreation organizations for audit services. Provincially, we are credited with restoring the Community Facility Enhancement Fund to its pre-pandemic levels. Additionally, our work on the Casino Task Force has driven positive changes in the use of gaming funds, ensuring that municipally generated revenue stays within the municipality.

This past year, we've witnessed progress, change, and resilience as we diligently upheld our mandate to support and guide non-profit organizations in Calgary and the surrounding areas. None of our accomplishments would be possible without the support of our members, community, and partners, including our core funder, the City of Calgary.

As we look ahead to 2024, we invite you to stay engaged, spread the word about The Federation, and share your great ideas that will help us all thrive. Be part of it!

Sincerely,

Tina Kakkar

President

Leslie Evans
Executive Director

## BUILDING CAPACITY

We are a capacity builder for small, volunteer-led nonprofits in Calgary and surrounding areas. We help them increase their ability to engage their communities through programs, services, infrastructure, and more!

Participant's ability to meet their organization's needs increased by

35%



#### DID YOU KNOW?

Workshop participants increased their ability to engage people in their community by 62%.

"We had one gentleman who was a recent refugee from Ukraine, now living in Highland Park, stop by on his walk. He didn't speak much English, but I did my best to explain to him what we were doing [by painting the intersection]. I asked him if he wanted to help paint, but he kept going on his walk. Later on, he came back. He had changed his clothes and was ready to volunteer. We were able to communicate to him what colour to use and in which area of the mural, gave him a roller and he got started!"

**Highland Park Community Association**Recipient of ActivateYYC grant for intersection mural

"Shawnee Park, a part of our community with newer homes built on the former golf course has been a hard nut for us to crack. We had made a few efforts to engage them with very modest success. This time, we broke through and had a big crowd from those houses. We recruited a Play Champion and a prospective Board Member from the Shawnee Park crowd. The Play Champion is linked to a posse of young families. We now send out children's program reminders to this group through our Play Champion."

**Shawnee-Evergreen Community Association** 

"Thank you so much. We really appreciate the information. It will be beneficial as we have many projects on the go. We will be doing a lot of community engaging."

T.K. Siksika Nation

## FUNDING COMMUNITY

In 2023, we distributed \$194,404 in grants. Through these grants, our members have been able to make lasting and positive changes to their communities and community spaces.

### **Energizing Spaces**

Through Energizing Spaces powered by ENMAX, community associations can receive grants to make their facility more energy efficient. Since 2015, Energizing Spaces has distributed 127 grants worth \$685,000 and made 71 member organizations more sustainable. This year, Penbrooke Community Association was the proud winner of Energizing Spaces powered by ENMAX "Install Day" grant.



On average, recipients have saved over \$42K on utilities through Energizing Spaces!

Before receiving this grant, the Penbrooke board saw a considerable portion of their casino funding going to electricity and heating bills of \$3000-\$4000 per month, and they knew that their icemaker and refrigerator, which they relied on for programming and hall rentals, were nearing the end of their lives.

Not only did Energizing Spaces pay for the purchase and installation of energy efficient materials at their facility, but it also provided Penbrooke's residents with a Green Calgary workshop on how they can reduce their personal utility costs. Dozens of residents attended and each household received an energy-efficient kit, which included energy-saving materials that residents could install in their own homes.

For the facility, the ENMAX team upgraded everything, including attaching window wraps, replacing lightbulbs with LEDs, installing air-filters on faucets, wrapping pipes and blanketing the hot water tank. Acre Electric even installed Eco thermostats and motion sensors on lights to reduce unnecessary usage. Most importantly, ENMAX changed Penbrooke's energy plan! Penbrooke Community Association is now saving money every month. They saved \$1000 in the first month alone!

"Our daycare and after school programs support over 100 kids, and we rely on our freezer to run these programs, but it constantly needed repairs. Through Energizing Spaces, we were able to upgrade to a new, energy-efficient freezer. Now, we can rely on our freezer to support these programs, but we are also saving money on energy and food waste costs. We're looking forward to reinvesting these savings back into our community."

**Deer Run Community Association** 



## FUNDING COMMUNITY continued...

ActivateYYC and Lloyd Sadd Action Grants are micro grant programs offering community associations, businesses, not-for-profits and individuals resources to transform the way that people can interact with their community. In 2023, we distributed 48 microgrants worth \$78,438.

### **Building Accessibility**

"During the design of the space, we considered accessibility. One day while we were mapping out the new space after school hours. A mother in a wheelchair came through to watch her kids participate in a sport ball program in the school field. She had to traverse across a very bumpy grass corridor to get from the sidewalk to the field. We were so excited to be able to share with her family that we had received [ActivateYYC] funding to build a new, more inclusive and accessible pathway for next season. Seeing firsthand how this could make a direct impact to community users was heartwarming."

**Killarney Parent Fundraising Society** 



### **Building Community**



We received an Lloyd Sadd Action grant to help fund their winter carnival. Over 250 families enjoyed games, sleigh rides, and a magic show. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet our neighbours.

**Dalhousie Community Association** 2023 recipient of Lloyd Sadd Action Grant

"WHMCA was thrilled to receive an Action Grant for our Santa Breakfast! We can proudly report that it was a resounding success. We hosted over 230 of [our] neighbours and friends for a pancake breakfast, bake sale, kids craft space, a fire pit with s'mores and a fun visit with Santa. There were smiling faces at every turn!"

#### Carolyn

Winston Heights-Mountview Community Association



ACTIVATING YYC

**34 PROJECTS** 



692 Volunteers





We exist so that our members can successfully engage their community, and nothing shows that better than our ActivateYYC and Jane's Walk programs. From painted sidewalks to light installations to community events, we transform, we transform "space" into "place."

"These [Sweetlights from the Chinook Blast Installation] already look amazing, and we can't wait to display them outside the centre! The youth will appreciate the new additions for the centre and the community."

**Cornerstone Youth Centre** 

"I have led a Jane's Walk for several years now and I love it. When it rained this year, I thought, 'no one will showup,' but show up they did! and we had 18 attendees and a great time!"

**Joey S.** Leader of Jane's Walk "The sense of community and friendship everyone brought to the [Paint the Pavement] project was inspiring for our community."

**Wildwood Community Association** 



50 Jane's Walks

1,383 Jane's Walk Registrants

## BUILDING NETWORKS





We are a network of over **240 nonprofits**, including **156 Community Associations**. With **20,000+ volunteers**, we are the largest volunteer movement in the city.



**40**Peer to Peer newsletters

"I wanted to reach out and thank FedYYC for assisting us with our Audio Visual equipment that we were no longer able to use. Thanks to the Peer to Peer post [...], Miskanawah has been able to connect with another group that is going to take this equipment and put it to good use."

**Tracey** Miskanawa East

#### Colette.

I was absolutely blown away by the connections you had [...]. Everything you presented was new, thoughtful, and forward thinking. The most valuable thing you have is that you listen and understand the issue rather than trying to offer half solutions. I am absolutely blown away by meeting you and still smiling from it."

**Laura** Alberta Bike Swap **1336**Support calls answered

## PLANNING COMMUNITY

The Federation listens to all voices of community and advocates for good engagement practices in the planning process. Our Urban Planners work to provide members with the confidence and knowledge necessary to be an active and engaged voice in community planning. This includes designing resources that break down complicated issues, partnering with the City to host our award-winning Partners in Planning certificate program, and acting as a trusted advisor to our members.



The Federation's wealth of knowledge and accessible resources, both in person and online, have been indispensable in navigating the complexities of urban planning within our community and beyond. From insightful workshops to informative publications, the FCC has consistently delivers invaluable guidance and assistance.

What truly sets FedYYC apart is their unwavering support and availability. The FedYYC team is always ready to lend a helping hand, and provide expert advice and assistance whenever needed. Their commitment to empowering communities and fostering collaboration is truly commendable [...] and makes them an indispensable ally for communities across Calgary. I am immensely grateful for their contributions and look forward to continuing our collaboration in the future."

#### Colin B.

Spruce Cliff Community Association

"Urban Planning at The Federation of Calgary Communities keeps us informed about planning trends and policies that affect our community. They provide excellent courses, seminars, and training to provide us with the knowledge and skills necessary to deal effectively with development matters that come before us. FedYYC Urban Planners are always available to provide file-specific counsel and advice on difficult issues. They provide balanced and nuanced insight on planning matters."

#### Colin Y.

Scenic Acres Community Association

## Dear Federation of Calgary Communities,

Just wanted to reach out and thank The Federation and its people, (because an organization is only as good as its people!).

I have always looked for opportunities to connect and give back to the community, the city and the organizations within. I was recruited to help in our community as one of the development liaison members for the Community Association. I found out quickly that there was much to learn about being an effective resource for my neighbours and CA as a whole.

The Partners in Planning workshops have been great resources that have provided me with the knowledge necessary to contribute and give back. I cannot say enough about how amazing The Federation Team is at hosting these sessions, helping coordinate the resources and teaming up with City staff to present and educate the attendees.

I am now embarking on initiatives in our community that I would have not attempted to start without the training, resources, and support from The Federation and its team members.

Thanks to The Federation and its staff for all you do!

Mike

Shaganappi Community Association

P.s. I have just recruited another community member to start the Partner's in Planning workshops in order to add to our CA team!

## SHAKING KNOWLEDGE



Workshop attendees' confidence on the subject matter increased by

30%

Attendees increased their knowledge of the subject by

40%

Attendees increased their understanding of urban planning topics by

In 2023, we reached **755 participants** through **53 workshops.** These workshops have helped our members increase their knowledge, but as also provided them with confidence and inspiring ideas to bring back to their organizations.

"I took the Partners in Planning certification program with a series of workshops with FedYYC staff and City of Calgary Planners. The facilitators were all highly knowledgeable, great listeners, and focused on what the class members wanted to know.

I have recommended the program as well as other individual FedYYC workshops I have already taken."

#### Jim, Workshop Participant

"Really appreciated the microgrant and starting projects at a grassroots level idea. I personally got a lot of inspiration from that "seed" I think it will help with developing our planning committee vision."

#### **Workshop Participant**

"Thanks for hosting the great [Capitol Projects 101] session tonight. I'm feeling more inspired about my project and I'm excited to share a ton of information with my project partners."

#### Carly, Workshop Participant

## FINANCIAL LITERACY

Nonprofit accounting differs from regular accounting and requires specialized knowledge. Most volunteer treasurers and bookkeepers don't have any nonprofit or bookkeeping experience when they accept their position.

Patrick, a CA volunteer treasurer, sums up a common problem:



Sometimes you just don't know where you go wrong. In fact, 94% of our subsidized audit clients come to us with materially misstated financials. It happens, and we're here to help.

Through our financial literacy training and our trusted audit services, we help organizations feel confident that they can rely on their audited financials when making financial decisions for their organizations and the communities they serve.

"I have always appreciated Heidi, she is very helpful to us through the audit and as a resource to align ourselves better to move towards excellence. Sincerely appreciated."

**Matt,** Audit Client Audit Satisfaction Survey

"I especially appreciate the additional advice and service I received on tax matters including returns and assistance in dealing with a CRA GST audit."

#### Audit Client Audit Satisfaction Survey

Nancy and Azra are [...] quick to get back to my questions. If I have an accounting treatment question for new business, Nancy always advises me how to do the accounting for these new items. Nancy knows the taxes very well and her accounting knowledge is vast. I would recommend the audit service as they always teach me something as the treasurer.

**Audit Client** Audit Satisfaction Survey

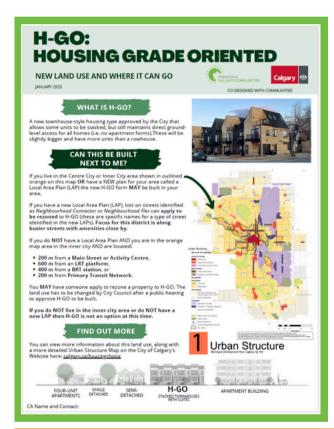


## KESOUKCES CKEATED

### **Did You Know?**

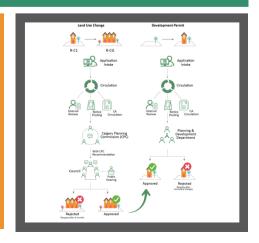
There are **544 resources available** in our Resource Library. Every year we add new templates, how-to's and general reference material to this growing number. Our library is open to all of our members at <u>members.calgarycommunities.com</u>, just use the passphrase "Community."

Urban planning remains our hottest topic of reference and resource material as we work to help community associations understand and participate in city planning processes.









## A LOOK AHEAD



Looking ahead to 2024, we will be developing a new four-year strategic and operating plan that aligns with our new status as a civic partner with The City of Calgary. Our board is reviewing key information, such as the 2023 Satisfaction Survey, the September 2023 Leadership Summit report, to help us assess and understand our current strategy and operating environment and needs of our members. This research will help identify gaps and opportunities for the next four years. Our review and research stages will run from July 2024 to November 2024, and the new plan will take effect in January 2025.

Meanwhile, we are working on some exciting new plans to support our member organizations. To support our members' learning and opportunities to share ideas, we are reimagining how we deliver our workshops around the city. We're exploring a learning day format and opportunities to create targeted peer learning groups for specific positions, such as treasurers and presidents. Additionally, we are looking into ways to use technology to better engage and support our members, by facilitating a unified online platform for connection and community. While we're still working on the specifics of these initiatives, we can promise that the summer of 2024 will be a bustling time where we'll transform ideas into action. Keep an eye on our "Get Engaged!" newsletter for exciting updates!



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### THE FEDERATION OF CALGARY COMMUNITIES SOCIETY

#### Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2023

		2023		2022	
Assets					
Current Unrestricted cash Restricted assets (Note 3) Accounts receivable Work in progress (Note 4) Prepaid expenses	\$	630,419 196,822 146,601 141,332 38,121	\$	423,217 191,833 294,877 81,100 43,797	
		1,153,295		1,034,824	
Property and equipment (Note 5)	_	33,760		51,521	
	\$	1,187,055	\$	1,086,345	
Liabilities and Net Assets					
Current Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Audit retainer (Note 4) Goods and services tax payable Unearned revenue Fund held in trust (Note 6) Current portion of lease inducement (Note 9) Deferred contributions related to operations (Note 7)	\$	51,844 150,336 17,584 38,076 88,752 10,994 108,070	\$	33,924 142,360 13,731 3,075 103,305 14,657 88,528	
Deferred contributions related to property and equipment (Note 8)		10,614		24,475	
Long-term portion of lease inducement (Note 9)	_	-		10,994	
	-	476,270		435,049	
Net Assets Invested in property and equipment Unrestricted	_	23,147 687,638 710,785		27,047 624,249 651,296	
	\$	1,187,055	\$	1,086,345	

Commitments (Note 10)

On behalf of the Board

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## THE FEDERATION OF CALGARY COMMUNITIES SOCIETY Statement of Operations

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

		2023	2022
Revenue			
Service and fees	\$	1,159,982	\$ 927,562
Grants (Note 7)	***	503,140	350,594
Casino (Note 7)		30,000	100,000
Memberships		64,458	61,175
Fees for contracted services		59,733	49,651
Donations and sponsorships		40,541	40,182
Interest		39,698	15,729
Office and miscellaneous (Schedule 1)	-	1,721	1,439
	_	1,899,273	1,546,332
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits		1,557,592	1,424,212
Occupancy		97,692	89,757
Office and administration (Schedule 2)		71,318	70,242
Equipment lease		10,571	10,766
Professional fees		12,802	11,500
Education and training		4,397	9,517
Memberships and audit insurance		17,338	7,189
Website and technology support		5,102	5,683
Convening and group meeting		7,716	5,432
Community resource and promotion		1,560	495
Volunteer recognition		3,205	395
Library		189	52
CSRF Grant Expenses	<u> </u>	30,600	
	_	1,820,082	1,635,240
Excess of revenue over expenses before amortization		79,191	(88,908)
Amortization of deferred contributions related to property and			
equipment (Note 8)		(13,861)	(13,861)
Amortization expense	-	33,563	28,768
		19,702	14,907
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	\$	59,489	\$ (103,815)

## FUNDERS & SPONSORS





## MEET OUR TEAM

As of June 2024



### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Tina Kakkar, President
Elaina Eifler, Vice President
Agnes Szaflarski, Treasurer
Tim Lipp, Secretary (resigned Feb 2024)
Alyson Robb, Past President
Doreen Herdman, Director
Austin Muir, Director
John Mckinley, Director
Marta Ligocki, Director (resigned May 2024)
Craig Loewen, Director, Interim Secretary
Nina Rehill, Director
Paul Mercer, Director
Asif Rashid, Director

### <u>STAFF</u>

Leslie Evans. Executive Director Lori Winder, Administration Assistant Kayleigh Kernaghan, IT and Data Management Specialist Phyllis Yeung, Bookkeeper Paul Meunier, Director of Education Mia Leung, Urban Planner Afrah Rayes, Urban Planner Adam Schwartz, Community Activator Ian Hernandez, Community Implimentor Francis Kahihu, Organizational Development Analyst Danielle Hillie, Communications Generalist Colette Acheson, Member Services Coordinator Chloe Chan, Data Entry and Program Assistant Ronaldo Chua II, Power BI Technician Heidi Brauer, Auditor Nancy Murdoch, Auditor Michael Ihekuna, Auditor Anthony Chiu, Auditor Fateha Muzaffar, Audit Technician Azra Qureshi, File Coordinator & Audit Technician Sophia Wu, Intermediate Audit Technician Yuvraj Badhan, Audit Technician Hanna Zarubina, Audit Technician Harjot Singh Atwal, Audit Technician Viktoria Shabanova, Audit Technician

Uliana Kabanova, Audit Technician







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