



# Benefits of Membership

**2026 PACKAGE**





The Federation of Calgary Communities acknowledges Mohkínsstsisí [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 Tsúūt'ínà [soot-IN-uh] First Nation; and the Stoney Nakoda [nuh-KOH-duh] including the Chiniki [CHIN-ih-kee], Bearspaw [BEARS paw], and Goodstoney [Good-Stone-ee] 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.

Do you have any questions about our membership or the services we offer?

Do not hesitate to contact us!

110, 720 – 28 Street NE  
Calgary, AB T2A 6R3

(Tel) 403-244-4111  
[memberservices@calgarycommunities.com](mailto:memberservices@calgarycommunities.com)

# Welcome

To our community leaders,

Thank you for all the energy, ideas, and commitment you bring to building strong, connected communities across Calgary. My team and I truly appreciate the work you do every day, and we're looking forward to achieving even more together.

We also have some exciting milestones ahead. In 2026, we'll be celebrating our **65th Anniversary** and launching **our new innovation lab and grant program—the Good Places Project!** For us, this reflects the same spirit that has shaped our history: staying creative, listening to our members, and adapting to what communities need most.

Inside this membership package, you'll find an overview of the many programs and services we offer. You can also explore more on our website ([calgarycommunities.com](http://calgarycommunities.com)) or by signing up for the Get Engaged! newsletter.

We're proud of the work we do, but we're even more proud of the impact *you* make in your neighbourhoods. Thank you for showing up for your community, day after day. Your leadership and passion inspire us and guide our work.

We can't wait to keep learning, building, and celebrating with you in 2026.

If you ever have questions or need a hand, please reach out—we're here to help.

Cheers,

**Leslie Evans,**

Executive Director  
Federation of Calgary Communities



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# ABOUT US

## Supporting Community for 65 years!

The earliest community associations formed in the 1920s to provide recreational programs to residents. Since then, these grassroots organizations have grown alongside Calgary communities to provide social, recreational and educational opportunities and a voice for community life. In 1961, 47 community associations came together to form the Federation of Calgary Communities to help these grassroots organizations present a unified voice for community, while also preserving their autonomy and enabling them to focus on local needs.

Today, we champion one of Canada's most unique volunteer models; the community association movement, with more than 159 member community associations and 130 non-profits across Calgary. We are **20,000** strong, making us one of the largest volunteer networks around!

Our members work hard to make a difference for Calgarians, shaping our city by working to support youth and families, seniors, sports and recreation, ethnocultural communities, safety, environment, urban planning, social services, the arts, and much more. Our network is diverse, and the Federation is here to support you in your dedication to improving neighbourhood life in Calgary!

[Learn more](#)

**1916: Ratepayers Associations**



**1924: Societies Act of Alberta recognized community associations**



**1951: Hillhurst Sunnyside CA, Midgets Finalists**

**1908: Bridgeland-Riverside was the first group to operate like a modern CA.**

**Honour Roll of the Federation's Presidents from 1961 to 2006**



**1962: Hosted first non-partisan political forums**

**1961: R.R. McDonald became our 1<sup>st</sup> President.**

**1890 - 1950s**

The community association (CA) movement began in the 1890s with the Ratepayers Associations, which were advocates for municipal affairs. The first group incorporated under the Societies Act as a "community association" in 1930. CAs grew as "community clubs" and fierce advocates. They continued to incorporate as the city grew. By 1960, all Ratepayers associations rebranded as CAs.



**World War II slows growth of community associations**

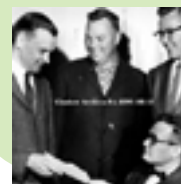
**1958: Support for a Federation grew. Calgary gains inspiration from the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues**

**1958: West Calgary Community Association Membership Card**



**1961**

In 1961, 47 CAs came together to form and officially incorporate the Federation of Calgary Communities. We were formed to unify the members' voices on community issues, development and community well-being. However, The City only provided funding to expand recreation and sport.



**1962: The Federation's executive**

**Late 1960s: Due to disagreements over the role of the Federation, our members questioned our value.**

**1962: First Community Association Week**

**1945: Community Associations appear in City of Calgary, Municipal Manuals**



**1979: Federation launched planning support for CAs on planning issues.**



**1979: Membership numbers peaked**

**1971: Published our 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter**

We expanded our capacity to support members by hiring our first staff and opening our first office in 1971. We increased advocacy, education, and support for funding and policy work. We defined our core focus areas—recreation, public service, community organization, development, and communications. We also started providing more services, including printing, insurance and planning services.

**1970s**



**1976: The first three staff hired formed a company for the sole benefit of the President of the Federation.**

**1978: Minor Sport separated, and took the majority of our financial resources.**

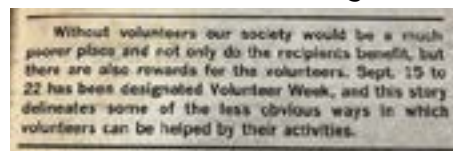


**1980s**

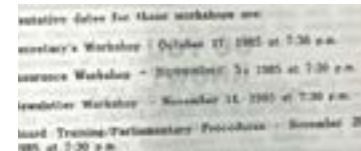


**1983: Heidi joined as bookkeeper. She ran the print press, and offered financial consultations.**

**1984: Volunteers' Work Recognized**

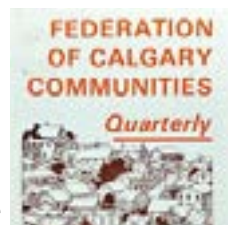


**1985: Workshop Guide**



**1988: Launched Community Mediation Program (which would later become Community Mediation Calgary in 1990s)**

We continued to foster relationships between community associations and City Council and contributed our expertise to civic and provincial policy. Leaning in to this relationship, in 1984, Mayor Klein issued a proclamation declaring Community Association Membership week. As community association needs changed, we responded by expanding and diversifying our services. We grew our volunteer trainings and resources, hosted monthly learning sessions, provided education and a platform for community discussions.



**1989: Community associations recognized as a big civic force**

**1991: Our first full-time  
community planner hired**

**1994: The Audit Program  
began. Heidi completed 20  
CA audits, and registered  
her public practice in 1997.**



**2002:  
Partners in  
Planning  
won an  
award**



**2007: Partners in Planning**

In 2001, we did an organizational assessment, and the board executed a new strategic plan. We supported broad city planning. We launched our first official “member services” department. We partnered with The Calgary Foundation to help communities access different funding opportunities. We took on a leadership role in promoting inclusion. With new leadership in 2007, strategic direction and expanded programming, the end of the decade saw a huge resurgence in memberships.

**1990s**



We focused on high-impact initiatives, including revising our liability insurance program in partnership with Smith Insurance (now Navacord), building our financial audit program, incorporating networking opportunities to build a peer-support network and providing group benefits for our member associations. We opened our membership to include other community-based non-profits. We continued to offer networking opportunities, volunteer training and resource-sharing to our members.

**1995: Launched Local Hero Awards**

**1996: Friends of the Federation was born!**

**1998: Launched our website**

**In 1994, we  
launched the  
Guide to the  
Planning Process**

**2000s**



**2008:  
Newsletter  
went virtual**



**2006: The Friends supported community projects**

**2007: Leslie joined the Federation**

**2008: Launched professional member services**

**2009: Expanded Audit Program**



**2011: Became parade pacers**

**2013: Took a  
leadership role on  
volunteer engagement  
during the Flood**



**2025: Enhanced  
organizational culture**



**2025: Grant programs expanded  
with Navacord Action Grants &  
ClimateReadyYYC**

We increased our advocacy, and service areas exponentially. We added a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> auditor to our Audit Program. Servus Credit Union partnered to support financial literacy training for volunteers. We hosted political events and became regular Calgary Stampede participants. We even expanded our community support by introducing two new grant programs.

**2010s**



**2011: 50<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary  
celebration**



**2010: The  
Governor General  
of Canada visited  
the Federation**



**2020s**

**2020: Offered  
essential  
services during  
pandemic**



**2024: ActivateYYC  
won the Mayor Urban  
Design Award!**

**2023: Became a  
Civic Partner**

During COVID, we acted as a communications hub and supported changes that continue to shape the volunteer sector. The Calgary Foundation funded our work to expand our financial literacy tools and support. We attained civic partner status with The City of Calgary, and took over Jane's Walk from The Calgary Foundation. The board set new strategic direction to enhance member value, improve workplace culture and diversify resources. We added two more grants, launched an Online Community Forum, and secured a large multi-year grant to launch an innovation lab and grant program to position Calgary as a placemaking hub. 2026 will see the launch of this extraordinary initiative.



**2025: Received \$2.8 Million  
from The City to invest in  
placemaking across Calgary**



**2015 - 2017: Launched  
ActivateYYC & Energizing  
Spaces**





# WE'RE HERE TO HELP

At the Federation of Calgary Communities, we empower non-profit community leaders through services that are designed to help you meet your organization's needs. Each and every day, we work with community leaders looking for guidance, resources, tipsheets and templates, training and workshops, ways to connect with peers in the network, and anything you can think of when it comes to running a non-profit.

AWARDED **53** GRANTS  
TALLING **\$209,945**

PROVIDED **53** WORKSHOPS TO **1042** PEOPLE

COMPLETED **132** AUDITS

Our services and training opportunities help build your understanding of leadership and governance, financial literacy, policy making and strategic decisions, overseeing and monitoring organizational performance, community engagement, and ensuring accountability and success within your organization. With the confidence and skills we offer, you will be empowered to support your organization as a strong, vibrant, and flourishing non-profit.

# ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

No matter what you're looking for, our team is ready to provide you with the information, guidance, resources, or tools you might need to help navigate any possible situation or opportunity that you're working through at your organization.

Our team has expertise in:

- Governance
- Financial Literacy
- Audit
- Urban Planning
- Community Engagement
- Marketing and Communications, and more!

Reach out!

## ONLINE COMMUNITY FORUM

*NEW!*

*CONNECT, COLLABORATE, THRIVE!*

We are excited to introduce your very own online community forum—a place designed specifically for you to connect, collaborate, and share with other community volunteers. This is your go-to hub for networking, asking questions, and building stronger communities together.



Join the conversation

## WHAT CAN YOU DO ON THE FORUM?

- **Connect and Learn:** Ask questions, share insights, and network with passionate peers.
- **Access Resources:** Find and share valuable documents, templates, and guides in one centralized library.
- **Collaborate and Share:** Post your stories and questions directly, creating a dynamic space for members to help each other out!
- **Engage in a Safe Space:** Our forum is a moderated and inclusive environment for respectful dialogue.
- **Explore the Community Marketplace:** Use our community marketplace to post your needs and requests and help others with theirs.

## ONLINE RESOURCE LIBRARY

### TOOLS, TIPSHEETS, TEMPLATES, OH MY!

The Federation has a specialized online resource library, organized by topic categories, with hundreds of carefully selected resources that you can search by areas of interest. Our library is also easy to search by keywords!

#### Categories include:

- |                          |                        |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| • Governance             | • Compliance           | • Communications       |
| • Employees & Volunteers | • Risk Management      | • Community Engagement |
| • Facilities             | • Fundraising          | • Crime & Safety       |
| • Urban Planning         | • Financial Management | • Translated Resources |

Find resources



# WORKSHOPS & TRAINING



Each year, our team provides up to **60 FREE workshops** and other training services designed to meet your needs. Whether you're new to board volunteering, or more experienced and looking for specific topics, our workshops, one-on-one coaching and resource library provide the foundations that will help your non-profit to thrive and succeed. We have a wide range of options, from evening workshops to lunch & learns. There's something for everyone!

## GOVERNANCE

**Board Basics 101, 201**



**Bylaws, Policies & Procedures**

Whether you're looking to understand your new role as a board member, or perhaps trying to bring your non-profit to that next level, our governance sessions are in regular rotation.

## FINANCIAL

**Grant Accounting**



**Demystifying Financial Statements**

Financial management can be tricky in a non-profit, and financial literacy can be a challenge. We help translate your financial complexity into more accessible, digestible terms.

## ENGAGEMENT

**Grow Your Membership**



**Volunteer Recruitment & Retention**

A healthy governance model is only one part of the story! Organizations also have to engage the community, outside "the four walls," to build a stronger non-profit for your community.

## URBAN PLANNING

**Urban Planning Committee**



**Partners in Planning**

Have you ever wondered how planning and development works in our city? Urban Planning impacts the lives of all Calgarians, and our urban planning team will help build your knowledge so you can tackle the planning and development opportunities and challenges in your community.

**Register for Workshops**



# URBAN PLANNING

As Calgary grows and we seek more sustainable ways of living, the voices of community associations and citizens like you help to manage community change in a way that is respectful of community character, mindful of the future, and balances the interests of your neighbourhood with the interests of Calgary as a whole.

At the Federation, we support our members in navigating the planning process in Calgary. We offer workshops, resources, and one-on-one support to not only help you learn and understand planning in the city of Calgary, and to empower community volunteers to engage with planning issues confidently and effectively.

We're here to be your partner in creating vibrant, thriving communities. We provide community leaders with the knowledge and tools you need to effectively participate and make informed decisions for your community.



# One-on-One Support

Our one-on-one support can provide you with the tools, knowledge and resources you need to actively participate at every stage of the planning process and make your voice heard. Whether you are a curious resident or a community champion, we're here to help! Feel free to reach out to our Urban Planning Team!

How do Community Associations participate in Calgary's urban planning process?

[Reach out!](#)

## Urban Planning Committee

The Federation's Urban Planning Committee is a forum for open discussion on pre-determined planning topics. We meet every second month and include a mix of regular and rotational (topic-specific) participants. Our planning team facilitates these discussions, providing a supportive and respectful platform for members to share their diverse perspectives and expertise.

[Learn more](#)

## Partners in Planning

Partners in Planning (PIP) is a free, [award-winning certificate program](#) offered by the Federation of Calgary Communities in partnership with The City of Calgary. The program is geared towards helping community association planning volunteers and the public develop skills for effective participation in the planning process.

**How do you earn your Partners in Planning certificate?**

**3 CORE COURSES**

**1 ELECTIVE COURSE**

There is no time restriction to complete the courses!

[Learn more](#)

# good places project



We created the Good Places Project with support from The City of Calgary. The program builds on the success of ActivateYYC, which helped launch over 180 community-led projects since 2017. We saw how small actions—like painting a mural or installing a bench—could bring neighbours together and change how people experience their city. Good Places expands that effort by providing a grant program, workshops, and capacity building opportunities to support community-led activation of public spaces.

Calgary's neighbourhoods are growing and changing. Good Places helps communities lead that change with opportunities to shape the public spaces that bring us together. Many communities have great ideas but need support to make them real. We created this project to give local groups the tools, funding, and confidence to improve the places they care about.

## **Fund**

local projects through the Good Places Grant.

## **Meet**

with community members to plan and organize ideas.

## **Guide**

groups through design, budgeting, and permitting.

## **Connect**

mentors and peers across Calgary.

## **Build**

capacity for projects through education and mentorship

## **Share**

stories that inspire others to act in their own neighbourhoods.

**Be Part of It!**

# FUNDING FOR YOU!



## Good Places Grants

Good Places Grants offer \$500 - \$15,000 for placemaking initiatives, community-building projects and engaging programming—like murals, seating, recreation, concerts, markets, and gatherings—that activate and bring life to publicly accessible spaces. No idea is too big or too small!

[goodplaces.calgarycommunities.com/grants](https://goodplaces.calgarycommunities.com/grants)



## ActivateYYC Microgrants

ActivateYYC uses the principles of tactical urbanism to support small, temporary, and low-cost initiatives that help change how people move around and interact with spaces. Tactical urbanism initiatives spark neighbourly conversations that build community connection, increase the movement of residents in a community, and can create safer streets.

[activateyyc.calgarycommunities.com/grants](https://activateyyc.calgarycommunities.com/grants)

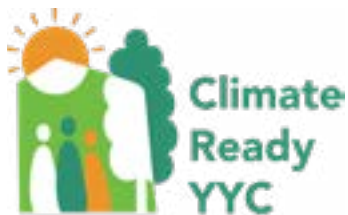


## Action Grants

Navacord Action Grants are barrier free microgrants, up to \$1,000 each, that help you re-engage with your residents, as you see fit. Action Grant Winners will be drawn randomly from all member organizations who apply and attend the awards event!



[calgarycommunities.com/navacord-action-grants](https://calgarycommunities.com/navacord-action-grants)



## ClimateReadyYYC

Designed to help communities prevent or adapt to changing climate conditions, ClimateReadyYYC offers grants (up to \$25,000) to community-minded individuals and organizations for projects, activities or events that help build climate resilience in your community.

[calgarycommunities.com/climatereadyyyc](https://calgarycommunities.com/climatereadyyyc)





## Energizing Spaces

Energizing Spaces powered by ENMAX is a 100% reimbursement grant to help your organization become more energy efficient, while reinvesting dollars saved into programs and services that enhance neighborhood life in Calgary. Energizing Spaces and our partnership with ENMAX has provided community groups across Calgary with much needed appliance and lighting upgrades.

[calgarycommunities.com/energizingspaces](https://calgarycommunities.com/energizingspaces)



## Friends of the Federation

The Friends of the Federation of Calgary Communities (the Friends) is a registered charitable organization empowering Calgary communities through education, awareness and collaborative partnerships. The Friends partners with like-minded organizations to support community-driven activities, such as sports, recreation, cultural and social activities, to improve neighbourhood life for all Calgarians.



## Neighbour Grant

As a charitable partner, the Friends can work with non-profits to leverage funds through The Calgary Foundation Neighbour Grants. Depending on your project, the Friends may be able to partner with your organization to support your community project. If you are interested in partnering with the Friends, please contact us to discuss the Friends charitable purposes as early as possible!

[friends.calgarycommunities.com](https://friends.calgarycommunities.com)

# AUDIT SERVICE

We partner with public practice accountants, who act and work independently of the Federation to conduct professional financial audit and tax services for non-profits and charities, exclusively. In addition to audit and tax, our auditors provide workshops and tip sheets to help increase your organization's financial literacy and address compliance issues.

Whether you choose to scan your audit information, have us onsite or drop off a box, our team will work with you to ensure they have the information needed to provide an audit opinion. The best part is your auditor will spend the time explaining the audit results with your team.

*NOT AN AUDIT  
CLIENT ALREADY?  
ASK US FOR A QUOTE!*

See how our service compares to your  
existing auditor.

**CONTACT US!**



# WORD ON THE STREET

## Get Engaged!

Looking for the scoop on all things Federation?

Check out our e-newsletter, Get Engaged! In the newsletter, you will find all kinds of useful information about grants, learning and networking opportunities, and so much more!



[Read past editions](#)

## Your Moment in Planning

Want to know more about what's happening at The City and the Federation?

Our urban planning e-newsletter is the place for you to gain access to facts and information on everything urban planning! Federation Workshops, Partners in Planning, City Council and Policy!



[Read past editions](#)

# CELEBRATE COMMUNITY

## Community Hero Awards



In partnership with our proud sponsor Navacord Insurance, we support our members in recognizing the many unsung heroes who make outstanding contributions to their organizations every year through dedicated volunteerism!

**Nominate your hero!**

**1,383 people attended in 2025**

## Jane's Walk

**50 walks over 4 days!**



Jane's Walk is a global event of free walking tours to celebrate walking and observing communities that create a strong sense of belonging. Held around the world and in Calgary each May!

**Explore your city with us!**



# PARTNER BENEFITS

## Navacord Insurance



Since 2007, Navacord Insurance (formerly Lloyd Sadd) ensures community-based organizations continue to be protected at levels far greater than what's available in the standard marketplace. The insurance program offers a complete commercial insurance policy package where all elements of risk have been considered.

**Our insurance broker of choice, Navacord also offers a discount program for board members and staff of our member organizations!**

[Learn More](#)

## Servus Credit Union



Servus is our Financial Institution of choice. Federation members are eligible for an exclusive banking package that helps put money back into our communities.

Servus Credit Union has served Albertans for over 80 years with a full line of secure financial services. They have more than 100 branches in 61 communities throughout the province as well as options for online, mobile and telephone banking. Servus's noble purpose is to help members reimagine their financial fitness so that they feel good about their money.

**For more information, please visit [servus.ca/nonprofit](https://servus.ca/nonprofit).**

Servus is a trade name of Connect First and Servus Credit Union Ltd. All rights reserved.



# ConnectUs HR



Human Resource Management is often a challenging and important job for boards. With constant changes to employment law and legislation, it is important that your organization has professional support to navigate.

We have partnered with ConnectUs HR, a virtual assistant that offers policy templates, employee manuals and hiring letters to help you build your own manuals. Most importantly, they send you emails if the laws change so you can update your manual!

**Get 50% off!**

**CalCom50**

# Communal



Communal is a Calgary-based startup software company that has co-created, with community associations, a cloud-based software solution “designed to tackle the modern problems member-based organizations face today”. It is a robust software that offers tiered features, including memberships, programs and events, facility rentals, donations, and volunteering. The price point is flexible, tiered and priced with smaller non-profits in mind.

**Subscribe to Communal & our members qualify for 3 free months!**

# Cloverdale Paint



Whenever your organization, you, or your members need to buy paint or paint supplies, simply go to your closest Cloverdale Paint!

**Mention being a Federation of Calgary Communities Member!**

**RECEIVE MORE THAN 25% OFF PAINT!  
15% AND UP OFF PAINT SUPPLIES!**

# University of Calgary



## SAPL

**Citizens + Students:** Your community has the opportunity to collaborate with Master of Planning graduate students from the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) at The University of Calgary to identify issues regarding density, physical planning, urban design, and land use, to create a visioning document for your community.

Your community's input will drive the project and form the basis for students to create design solutions.

[sapl.ucalgary.ca/professionalplanningstudio](http://sapl.ucalgary.ca/professionalplanningstudio)

Watch our Get Engaged Newsletter for important announcements!





## **ALREADY A MEMBER?**

Don't forget to renew your membership so you can continue to access our incredible member services!

## **NOT A MEMBER YET?**

Let us know and we would be happy to help get you signed up!

### **We're here to help.**

(Tel) 403-244-4111  
[memberservices@calgarycommunities.com](mailto:memberservices@calgarycommunities.com)  
[calgarycommunities.com](http://calgarycommunities.com)

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