## 2024 CAI GARY AWARDS RECIPIENT

## Community Advocate – Individual Recipient

Karen Begg is a long-time community advocate, volunteer, and outstanding neighbour; not to mention a professional artist with artwork displayed in five installments along the 17 BRT Max Purple line. For over 40 years, Karen's enrichment of our city has also been exhibited through her actions as a dedicated community advocate, and her interest in the betterment of our city and her fellow community members.

Karen goes out of her way to make a positive impact and support initiatives that add value to the lives of her fellow residents. As a resident of Dover, Karen has initiated and supported several community-based projects including Jane's Walk, Resident Plex Free Pantry, anti-graffiti initiatives, little free library, The City's Neighbourhood Grants Committee and the beautification of her Community Garden. Karen is also the President of Elephant Artist Relief Society (EAR) and champions the arts community through initiatives and programs she oversees in that role that provide professional and personal support and resources to creative professionals.

Karen optimizes the definition of community advocate with the transformative and positive work that has impacted Calgary and made life better every day for the residents in her community.

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