



Scotia Place

Applicant Outreach
Summary

November 2024



Applicant-led Outreach

The project team undertook a comprehensive pre- and post-application review and feedback process that began in the Fall of 2023 and included ongoing engagement and communications with a wide variety of Indigenous, civic and community groups and interested parties.

The learnings and outcomes of this process — along with the significant legacy of previous planning, design and outreach efforts — are reflected in the Scotia Place Design Themes and have directly influenced the proposed building and public realm design.

Key Outreach Strategies

- Integration of past community outreach themes for the Calgary Event Centre, Rivers District Master Plan and the Calgary Culture + Entertainment District.
- Extensive pre-application engagement with a wide range of Indigenous, civic and community groups and interested parties.
- Detailed supplementary Design Brief submitted as part of the Development Permit application.
- Comprehensive project website with key project information, including the Scotia Place Design Brief.
- On-site application notice signage.
- Broad Development Permit application circulation.
- In-person / digital Community Information Sessions
- Detailed feedback responses and revised plan circulation to key affected parties.

Indigenous Participants

- **Treaty Seven First Nations:** The Blackfoot Confederacy - Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations; The Îlethka Nakoda Wicastabi First Nations - Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Goodstoney First Nations; and the Tsuut'ina First Nation
- **Métis Nations of Alberta:** Calgary Nose Hill Métis District and Calgary Elbow Métis District
- **Calgary Urban Indigenous Community**
- **Many Chief Consulting**
- **Indigenous Relations Office (IRO)**

Civic Participants

- **Project Committee:** CSEC & The City of Calgary
- **Event Centre Committee:** Council & Public Members
- **City of Calgary Administration**
- **Development Applications Review Team (DART)**
- **Urban Design Review Panel (UDRP):** 4 Sessions
- **Calgary Planning Commission (CPC)**
- **Advisory Committee on Accessibility**
- **Culture + Entertainment District / Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC)**
- **Calgary Exhibition & Stampede**
- **Heritage Calgary**

Community Participants

- **Community Information Sessions:** Beltline Neighbourhoods Association, Inglewood Community Association, Ramsay Community Association, Victoria Park Business Improvement Area, Inglewood Business Improvement Area, Arriva condo board members (August - September 2024)
- **Calgary Event Centre:** Public Engagement Results, with over 15,000 touch points and 5 roundtables with 22 community groups (July 2020)
- **Beltline Area Redevelopment Plan (ARP):** Part 2 Updates Outreach (April 2019)
- **A Bold New Vision for Calgary's Culture and Entertainment District:** A Bold Engagement Program, with over 10,000 touch points (July 2018)

Key Outcomes

Building upon the significant legacy of previous planning, design and outreach efforts related to the Calgary Event Centre, Rivers District Master Plan, the Calgary Culture + Entertainment District and supporting Beltline ARP update, the most recent Applicant-led outreach with local community groups, Indigenous communities and other interested parties has resulted in broad support for the Development Permit application, including formal support from the Beltline Neighbourhoods Association. Key outcomes of the project team's Indigenous communities outreach process are detailed in the following section.

Indigenous Consultation Process & Learnings

An Indigenous Advisory Committee, comprised of Treaty Seven First Nations, the Métis Nations of Alberta and the Calgary Urban Indigenous Community, was consulted throughout the design process to establish a shared understanding of best practices for cultural representation and design integration. Through a series of in-depth full day engagement sessions and site visits, Indigenous partners guided the design and instilled knowledge of the site's cultural significance as a gathering place at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers.

Consultation with the Indigenous Advisory Committee also helped frame the importance of Indigenous culture, knowledge, and storytelling in establishing lasting partnerships for mutual benefit.

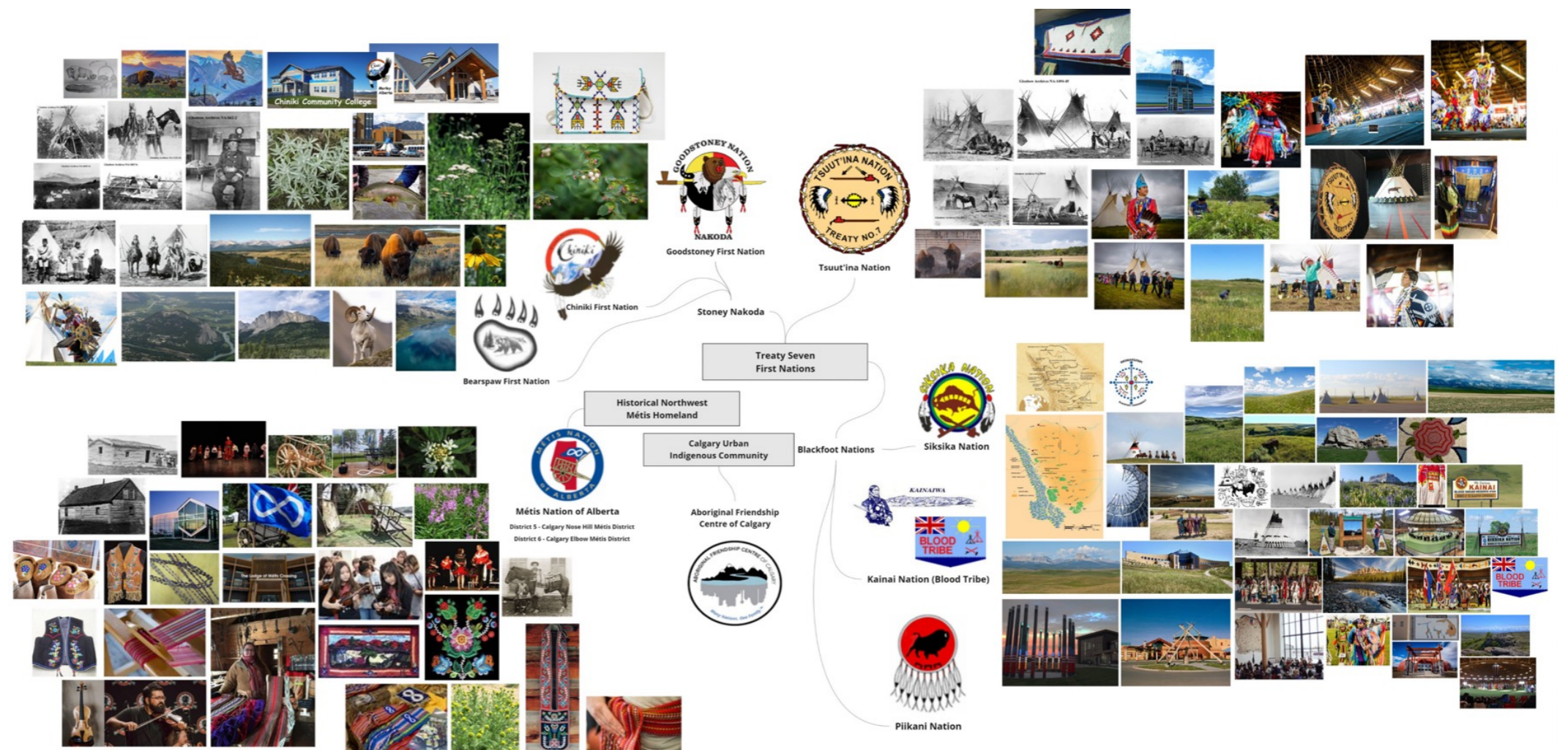
The outcomes of the engagement process resulted in the considered integration of Indigenous perspectives into the design of Scotia Place, emphasizing cultural representation, community relationships, and meaningful collaboration.

This process represented a collaborative effort towards relationship-building with the Indigenous community and a clear commitment towards honouring the Calls to Action for Truth and Reconciliation.

The process will continue through the upcoming phases of realizing Scotia Place, including consultations related to the broader public art strategy and upcoming Call for Artists.

Key Activities

- 4 All-Day Working Sessions
- 2 Pipe Ceremonies
- Ground Blessing Event
- Tsuut'ina Community Tour
- Siksika Community Tour
- Indigenous Art Process
- Ongoing Engagement



Indigenous Design Elements

The following key themes were pivotal in guiding the representation of Indigenous culture within the design of Scotia Place. Each of these themes encapsulates the essence of the knowledge shared during the engagement sessions, and they form the cornerstone of the project's commitment to inclusivity, respect, and authentic representation.



1
Fire, water, land and air.
The four sacred elements of nature.



2
The home fire.
A place to gather, stay warm and exchange stories.



3
Rooted in the land.
A landscape that reflects mountain to prairie with native plantings.



4
A gathering place at the confluence of two rivers.
Nine unique communities coming together.



5
Indigenous Art, Indigenous Artists.
Digital and permanent reflections of Indigenous culture throughout the site and building design.



6
Come in, there is room.
Welcome the community in their own language across key building entrances.

Key Themes & Design Influences



Catalyst for a New Urban Community

The project shifts away from the convention of large, inward-looking event buildings to create a site that will become a catalyst for a vibrant, new urban community. Features and programming are designed to ensure seamless access, integrated uses and lively public spaces for all to enjoy.



Celebrating the Past, Present & Future

Scotia Place incorporates past, present and future elements by celebrating the connection to sacred Indigenous gathering spaces and, later, to the Calgary Stampede and historic East Victoria Park neighbourhood. Indigenous cultural expressions are incorporated throughout the design, in addition to the heritage preservation and reintegration of the historic Stephenson & Co. Grocers building.



Indigenous Knowledge

Indigenous cultural representation is integrated throughout the design and represents four sacred elements, how they work together, and their deeper meaning to life itself – honouring the Nations and Indigenous communities of Southern Alberta. Indigenous knowledge, narratives and traditions are woven into the fabric of the design, fostering a sense of belonging and shared ownership among all community members.



Public Realm Activation

Scotia Place is conceived with generous outdoor spaces, active urban edges, plazas, outdoor living rooms, exterior patios from bars and restaurants, and ample amenities; people from all walks of life may enjoy the facility with or without a ticket to major events. Outdoor plazas and gathering spaces are designed to tie seamlessly into the surrounding context and provide a welcoming and engaging environment.



Public Art & Storytelling

Art installations at key entry points greet guests with signs of 'Welcome' in each of the unique Indigenous Languages of Treaty 7 Nations and Metis Nations. A long, winding digital ribbon display that connects building's interior to the south plaza spaces also present an opportunity for Indigenous storytelling and interpretive uses.



Sustainability

Scotia Place is net-zero ready and demonstrates a clear commitment to long-term environmental stewardship with a robust set of sustainable design and climate resilience features, with an ultimate goal to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by or before the year 2050.

