

CONTEMPORARY CALGARY ARTS SOCIETY

Mandate: Contemporary Calgary supports Calgarians and visitors by providing a world-class destination for local, national and international contemporary art experiences.

Service Line: Arts & Culture

Registered Charity

2024 City Investment

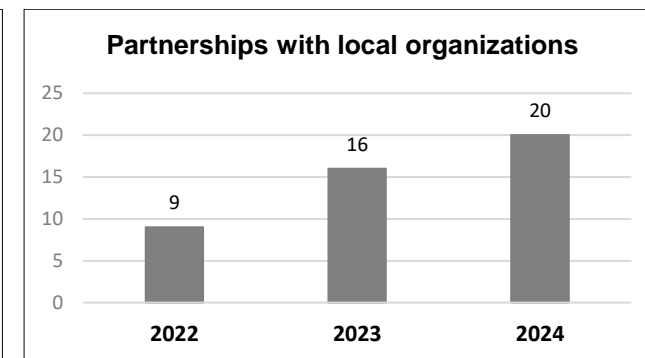
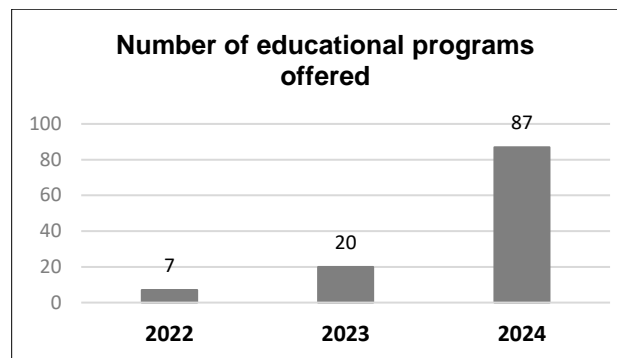
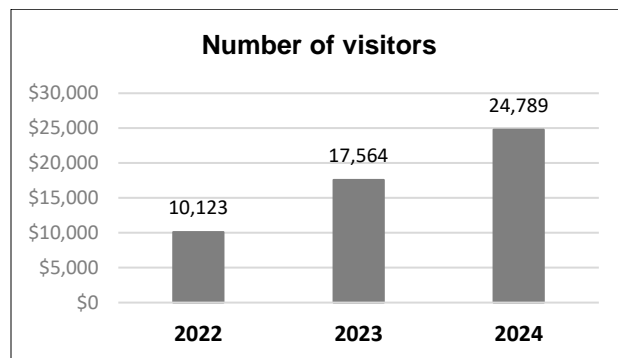
Operating Grant (one time): \$900,000

Capital Grant : \$176,755

Capital Grant (Phase 3 Planetarium Transformation): \$840,000

City owned asset

2024 Results



The story behind the numbers

- Steady, year-over-year growth in attendance. The low-cost or complimentary admission model reduces barriers to entry, targeting increased participation by hard to reach audiences such as young adults and children.
- Continued growth in the development of partnerships includes work with organizations such as One Yellow Rabbit, Sound Atlas, and Pokaiks, among others. Partnerships provide space and marketing resources for other non-profit organizations, supporting the broader cultural community while providing Contemporary Calgary's audiences with a range of experiences.
- Diverse programming opportunities for all ages remains a key focus, including an increased number of school age and child friendly programs to ensure generations can build a passion for the arts. Partnerships with Canoo and the Calgary Public Library provide free access opportunities to newcomers and families.

Benchmarks

- Considers and tracks diversity and representation across its operations, including in the composition of the Board and staff, exhibitions, programs and partnerships.
- Benchmarks admission policies and attendance against peer institutions with a similar mandate and scale of operations.

Looking ahead: 2025 highlights

- The Government of Alberta announced a \$40 million investment for the final phase of Contemporary Calgary's Capital Renovation and Expansion Project. Beginning in 2026, this investment will help transform the historic Centennial Planetarium into a world-class contemporary art facility.
- Participation in Campus Calgary/Open Minds program will offer four weeks of immersive learning experiences to Calgary students as a pilot site.



**CONTEMPORARY CALGARY ARTS SOCIETY
(CONTEMPORARY CALGARY)
2024 Civic Partner Annual Report**

Civic Partner Name: Contemporary Calgary Arts Society

Legal Structure: Independent External Organization (Societies Act)

Manage/operate a City-owned asset: Yes

Mission/Mandate: Contemporary Calgary supports Calgarians and visitors by providing a world-class destination for local, national and international contemporary art experiences.

1. What 3-5 key results did your organization achieve in 2024 that contributed to:

a) One or more Council Strategic Directions- economic resilience, social resilience, climate resilience?

Contemporary Calgary's activities supported all three of Council's Strategic Directions: social resilience, economic resilience, and climate resilience.

1. In 2024, we contributed to social resilience by offering exhibitions and programs that explored experiences and ideas from a wide range of perspectives. Highlights included: *Resistance and Respiration*, an exhibition featuring the work of 15 artists with disabilities and exploring the complexities of living in disabled bodies; *Wagon Burner*, a film-based exhibition highlighting the work of Calgary-based Kainai artist Terrance Houle; and *Curious Nature*, an outstanding exhibition by Winnie Truong that immersed viewers into a magical realm where the plants and humans were one and the same. It was a reminder of the connections between all living things — a timely message in our era of climate change, and one delivered in a highly accessible manner.

We also fostered social resilience through *Perspective*, our monthly film series featuring films that challenge dominant narratives and offer diverse viewpoints.

These diverse exhibitions and programs ensure visitors can see work by artists with whom they may share an ethno-cultural background or personal experience. Visitors with less in common with the artists can gain insight into different lived experiences. Together, these opportunities foster empathy, understanding, and social connections

2. Contemporary Calgary supported economic resilience in 2024 by providing access to the visual arts through low-cost or complimentary admission. Although we increased our admission fees marginally in 2024, from \$10 for an adult day admission to \$12, we simultaneously introduced an admission-by-donation model for people aged 24 and under, reducing barriers to entry for a demographic group that is less likely than average to visit a gallery.

People aged 18-24 are a notoriously hard group to engage, but one that may be encouraged to visit a gallery based on a sliding entry price. The second group to benefit from this policy is families or groups with children. Because children are covered by admission-by-donation, a visit to the gallery for a family with two guardians and two children could cost as little as \$24, assuming no additional donations are made for the children. Alternatively, a family or group could choose to pay a higher amount if it were aligned with their budget.

Alongside this admission model, we expanded our opportunities for complimentary admission through partnerships. We now work with Canoo to offer complimentary access to newcomers, and with the Calgary Public Library to offer an Art Pass – a small book that can be signed out by any library member and used to access Contemporary Calgary, and to record thoughts about the visit.

In 2024, we continued to offer our existing free access opportunities, including our exhibition openings, Free First Thursdays, Stampede breakfast, and children’s educational experiences (supported by the TD Ready Commitment). These opportunities ensure that citizens can participate in community-building events without economic barriers, which in turn develops social resilience and deepens community connections.

3. Contemporary Calgary made meaningful progress towards climate resilience through the advancement of our Phase 3 capital plans. With support from The City of Calgary, we were able to refine our plans to the Development Permit Stage. Through this process we investigated a number of meaningful changes to the Phase 3 plans that, when realized, will substantially reduce the greenhouse gas emissions produced by the building. We are especially excited about the potential of a geothermal heat exchange system that could dramatically reduce our GHG emissions and are currently investigating funding options to support it.

We also advanced work on climate resilience through our adoption of the Bizot Green Protocols. These Protocols take a nuanced approach to the protection of works of art, relaxing indoor climate control requirements where appropriate to reduce an organization’s carbon footprint while still providing an environment suitable for the display of artworks. We are working closely with artists and our partners to integrate these Protocols – which take a “greener practice first mindset” – into our operations.

b) Your own organization’s strategy?

Contemporary Calgary’s Strategic Plan outlines four key priorities:

1. Strengthen the cultural community in support of art and artists
2. Build, grow and support our audience and membership through our exhibitions and programs that create connection
3. Grow our foundations of support to increase organizational sustainability and resilience
4. Advance capital renovations and expansion projects to support expanding our capabilities, increase service to the community and shape the future of the Downtown West

In 2024, we strengthened the cultural community through the many exhibitions, talks, openings, and partnership events that we carried out. We featured local, national, and international artists, fostered inclusive communities through our *Perspective* Film Series, and supported partners who work across artistic disciplines.

Of particular importance to the broader cultural community was our receipt of a Calgary Foundation Community Grant to support hiring a Theatre Outreach Coordinator. In late 2024, we were notified of our successful application, and will hire for this position in 2025. The role of the Theatre Outreach Coordinator is to ensure the newly-renamed Heather Edwards Theatre is well utilized in support of performing artists and organizations in Calgary. While we currently use the Theatre for some of our own programming, we recognize that there are other opportunities to use the space in service of community. To that end, the Theatre Outreach Coordinator will facilitate access for non-profit arts organizations and

provide the space to them at no cost. It is the generosity of Heather Edwards, who donated \$1 million to Contemporary Calgary, that allows us to offset the expenses associated with this initiative. We are truly grateful and excited for this support, and look forward to reporting on the impacts of this project next year.

We advanced work on our second pillar, growing and supporting audiences, through a range of activities, including: an admission-by-donation initiative for people aged 24 and under; a partnership with Canoo to provide complimentary access for newcomers; the creation of the Art Pass program in partnership with the Calgary Public Library; and a strong membership campaign that grew our membership by approximately 30%.

While all these initiatives are important, we are especially proud of another development that came at the end of 2024. We received funding through the Rozsa Foundation's Audience Development Grant to run a pilot program of exhibition tours in languages other than English. In 2025, we look forward to offering tours in Tagalog, Spanish, Punjabi, Cantonese, and Mandarin, the five most commonly-spoken languages in Calgary after English. We will also offer tours in French, Ukrainian, and Farsi. If this pilot program is successful, we hope to incorporate it into our regular programming.

We also made significant progress on the third pillar of our Strategic Plan, growing our foundations of support. As we noted in our last report, we received a one-time operating grant of \$900,000 from the City of Calgary in 2023. We were grateful to receive the same amount again in 2024. This essential funding allowed us to offset the significant costs associated with operating a building of this size, and ensured our continued ability to provide meaningful art experiences and contribute to the ongoing efforts to provide a safe and culturally active environment for those who live in and visit downtown Calgary.

The one-time funding support received in 2023 and 2024 led to our participation in the development of the Civic Partner Operating Grant in the first half of 2024. In November of 2024, we were pleased to have our formal participation in the Civic Partner Operating Grant Program confirmed by a motion arising brought forward by Councillor Penner. This motion was nearly unanimously supported (14-1) by Council, and directed Administration to include Contemporary Calgary Arts Society in the Civic Partner Operating Grant Program, with recommendations to allocate 2026 funding during the 2025 November Service Plans and Budgets adjustments. The success of this motion was a demonstration of support for the role Contemporary Calgary plays in fostering inclusive communities, providing accessible recreation opportunities, and revitalizing the Downtown West End. We are happy to have advanced our relationship with The City in this way and look forward to learning the outcome of our Operating Grant Application in late 2025.

Finally, 2024 saw significant advancement of our capital plans. We completed renovations on the Observatory Gallery in early 2024. This space was originally an outdoor terrace with a retractable roof. Although a permanent metal roof was added when the LRT line was extended, no further work was completed to bring this area inside the building envelope, leading to inadequate temperature controls and damaging freeze-thaw cycles. The extensive renovations finished in 2024 completely transformed the space, bringing it into the building envelope and creating an intimate gallery space suited for a range of exhibitions, including those that offer a fully immersive digital experience. In 2024, we offered three outstanding exhibitions in the new space, exploring concepts as diverse as AI, COVID and isolation, and caregiving for forests.

Shovel-Ready funding received in 2024 from The City of Calgary was also vital in advancing our plans. Through a grant of \$840,000, we were able to significantly progress our Planetarium Transformation

Project, ultimately submitting a Development Permit at the end of December. This funding is truly meaningful, not only because it allows us to advance the project, but because it helps us build momentum as we work to secure additional funding. We look forward to continuing funding discussions with all three levels of government and to securing significant private support for this project.

We want to thank you for your ongoing support, and look forward to reporting on significant progress again in 2025.

2. Performance measures help demonstrate the return on The City's investment in a partner's operations, and support continuous improvement. What performance measures reflect your organization's impact in 2024?

	Number of visitors	2022 results	2023 results	2024 results	How does this measure reflect your organization's impact? Growth in attendance demonstrates the public's desire to access meaningful art experiences
How much did you do?		10,123 (attendance impacted by COVID)	55,564 (17,564 core; 38,000 Beakerhead partnership)	24,789	Although a comparison of attendance in 2023 and 2024 ostensibly shows a drop, taking away the anomalous impact of Beakerhead shows significant growth, from 17,564 visitors to 24,789. This growth can be attributed to several factors, including more public programs, including those for children, and the addition of a new exhibition space, the Morris & Ann Dancyger Observatory Gallery.
How well did you do it?					Initiatives to grow our visitorship (like membership drives and advertising) are helping us to steadily increase our attendance.
How are Calgarians better off?					Calgarians have access to a wide range of cultural experiences at various price points. Revenue generated through admission helps us in maintain and expand the diversity of our programming.

	Number of Partnerships with other organizations	2022 results	2023 results	2024 results	How does this measure reflect your organization's impact?
					Partnerships allow us to support like-minded organizations through the sharing of space and resources. They help us grow, reach new audiences, and create connected communities. Partnerships allow us to leverage each organization's skill sets and resources.
How much did you do?		9	16	20	An increasing number of partnerships demonstrates Contemporary Calgary's growing support of the broader arts and culture community.
How well did you do it?					Contemporary Calgary seeks quality partnerships where we work together to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. In 2024, we were pleased to partner with a range of distinctive organizations, including One Yellow Rabbit, Sound Atlas, Design Talks, and more.
How are Calgarians better off?					Calgarians are better off because civic resources are being used wisely. We share our space in order to build community and provide services in an underserved area of Calgary.

	Number of youth education programs offered	2022 results	2023 results	2024 results	How does this measure reflect your organization's impact?
					Our youth educational programs ensure everyone feels welcome at Contemporary Calgary, regardless of their age. They also help us introduce the arts to children and develop future audiences.
How much did you do?		7	20	87	The growth in the number of educational programs we offer reflects the growth of our own team as well as the increasing demand for free programming for families.
How well did you do it?					Our children's programs are frequently at capacity, indicating successful and in-demand programs. Participant feedback confirms that members of the public enjoy these high quality and free programs.

How are Calgarians better off?					Calgarians are better off because there are an increased number of accessible programs for children available in Calgary.
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3. Are there any additional stories or information you wanted to share beyond performance measures that demonstrate the impact of your organization's programs or services?

Several of the accomplishments mentioned above deserve additional commentary, especially our Library Art Pass, an innovative program that speaks to the importance of collaboration with other organizations.

In March of 2024, we were thrilled to launch the Art Pass, an innovative partnership with the Calgary Public Library. Contemporary Calgary designed and printed hundreds of Art Passes: small books that can be signed out from any Calgary Public Library and used for admission at the gallery. These books are meant to serve as a record of a visit, offering a place for borrowers to write their reflections about the exhibitions they have experienced.

The Art Pass program was overwhelmingly successful in 2024, with 645 copies circulated from all 22 libraries and 426 admissions, representing over 900 people (a single pass can admit more than one person). Feedback written in a copy from a Crowfoot Library Art Pass brings these numbers, and their impact, to life: "I am thinking about how grateful I am to be able to tour an art gallery for FREE! We haven't been in this building since it was a science centre. It's much quieter now :) The exhibits are all thought provoking! It's not a place I would have visited or known about. Thank you CC + CPL."

We also wanted to share the impact of philanthropy on our organization. In our 2023 report, we noted the very generous donation of Morris & Ann Dancyger, and the subsequent naming of the Morris & Ann Dancyger Observatory Gallery. They demonstrated true leadership within the arts community and offered a meaningful example of how impactful giving can be. Their gift was soon followed by Heather Edwards' very generous donation of \$1 million, which we recognized through the naming of the Heather Edwards Theatre. The exemplary philanthropy of both the Dancygers and Heather Edwards is truly outstanding, and sets a positive tone of generosity as we approach our major capital campaign.

4. Does your organization use benchmarks to evaluate and improve performance and operations, and increase your organization's impact?

Examples of benchmarks:

Representative Content: many arts and cultural organizations offer programming that features artists from diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, as well as artists with diverse sexual and gender identities, artists who live with disabilities, and artists with other characteristics that reflect a broad range of human experiences. Such choices enrich programmatic offerings, improve equity and representation, and reflect the communities in which the organizations are located. Contemporary Calgary considers and tracks diversity and representation across its operations, including in the composition of our Board and staff, exhibitions, programs, and partnerships.

Admission Fees: in the post-pandemic environment, many cultural organizations are experimenting with admission strategies in order to increase earned revenue and increase attendance. While some organizations have increased admission prices, others are moving towards “admission-by-donation” models to focus on attendance. Admission fees for institutions comparable to Contemporary Calgary range from “by donation” to \$20.00 or more.

Attendance: although the impacts of the pandemic are still being felt by some cultural organizations, attendance remains one of the clearest benchmarks for measuring organizational impact. We benchmark against peer institutions with a similar mandate and scale of operations as Contemporary Calgary and evaluate our metrics. Comparable organizations see yearly visitation numbers that range from 2000 to 190,000.

What is your current and targeted performance in comparison to these benchmarks?

Representative Content: Contemporary Calgary offered 10 exhibitions in the 2024 calendar year and featured a total of 26 artists. Highlights include *Resistance and Respiration*, which explored the act of breathing through artworks created by artists with disabilities, *Wagon Burner*, which explored the wagon as a symbol of colonialism and featured the work of Kainai artist and Calgary resident Terrance Houle, and *Kshakomiitapiiks*, our Indigenous residency program, which featured Kainai artist Star Crop Eared Wolf. We also offered representative content through *Perspective*, our monthly film series that challenges dominant narratives.

Looking to 2025, Contemporary Calgary will continue to make programmatic choices that reflect Calgary’s diversity. Awareness of diversity across each programming year, along with awareness of how our exhibitions compliment or contrast with each other, will continue to inform our choices, although artist and exhibition availability will impact our results. We remain, as always, committed to inclusive programming and will also monitor our performance across multiple years.

Admission Fees: After several years of holding admission prices steady, Contemporary Calgary increased adult admission fees from \$10 to \$12 in 2024. At the same time, we introduced the admission-by-donation initiative. This approach allowed us to balance revenue generation with accessibility.

Early indications are that the admission-by-donation initiative has been successful, with donations growing from an average of \$5 in the first month to \$8 more recently. Overall admission is also up compared to the same period last year. While it is difficult to directly attribute this growth to admission-by-donation alone, it is likely a contributing factor. We will continue to monitor the initiative’s performance and make adjustments if warranted.

Our choice to use admission-by-donation alongside regular admission fees is distinct among Calgary’s major visual arts organizations, many of which are able to offer free admission as a result of their operating models. University galleries, for example, offer free admission as part of their educational mandate, and are supported by the larger

institutions to which they belong. The Esker Foundation is funded by its foundation, while Glenbow has announced its plan to make admission – which was previously approximately \$20 for an adult – free thanks to a significant donation to its endowment fund. Should Contemporary Calgary receive a comparable gift, we would consider a similar course of action, although we also recognize that paying admission often helps visitors feel that they received greater value from their visit. Until we are able to fully forgo admission as a revenue stream, we will continue to offer admission-by-donation alongside other accessibility initiatives.

Our admission model is also distinct among comparable Civic Partners, both for its relatively low price and for the number of complimentary access opportunities we provide. Other Civic Partners, including the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo, Heritage Park, TELUS Spark, and the Hangar Flight Museum, charge admissions that range from \$17 for an adult (Hangar Flight Museum) to \$30 to \$45 (TELUS Spark and the Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo, the latter which uses demand-based dynamic pricing). Contemporary Calgary offers the lowest admission fees of these organizations.

Attendance: Contemporary Calgary has seen steady, year-over-year growth in attendance – with the exception of 2023, when a partnership dramatically boosted our visitor levels. Even without that partnership, our attendance has grown by over 7000 visitors each year.

Attendance is impacted by many different factors, including our programming choices and admission structures. As we look to 2025/26, we hope to continue to grow our visitorship through ongoing promotion and awareness activities, including a marketing campaign associated with Free First Thursdays.

How this information is being used to support continuous improvement?

Contemporary Calgary's Board and senior management meet regularly to review these benchmarks. We compare these benchmarks year-over-year to help us understand the efficacy of our policies and their responsiveness to community needs.

Since it can be challenging to link a single outcome directly to a single policy or action, we look to overall trends, as well as oral and written feedback from staff, volunteers, and visitors, to gauge our efficacy. Conversations with peer institutions also help us understand how our actions fit within the sector.

When areas of improvement are identified, we implement strategies to help us better meet our goals.

Currently, the positive reception of our diverse content, positive feedback about our admission model, and our growing attendance numbers suggest our operations are currently on track and well received by our communities.

5. How does your organization address equity, diversity or inclusion, or support racial equity?

Equity, diversity, inclusion and access are foundational values that inform all aspects of Contemporary Calgary's operations, including governance, staffing, exhibitions, and programming. We recognize that advancing these values is an ongoing and imperfect process, and seek to continually evaluate and improve our actions as we grow.

Contemporary Calgary continues to build a strong, skills-based Board of Directors that reflects the diversity of the community that we serve. As of our most recent AGM (December 2024), our board consists of ten women and seven men, of whom 29% belong to BIPOC communities. The Board also includes people of diverse sexual identities. We seek to grow this diversity on the Board by actively developing relationships with underrepresented people and groups as we recruit new Board Members.

We also seek to attract a wide range of candidates when hiring. Our job postings include clear statements about equal employment opportunities and provide transparent compensation information. Job candidates are provided with interview questions in advance in order to accommodate candidate needs, and we ensure that we short-list and interview qualified candidates who represent Calgary's diversity.

We offer an inclusive workplace environment with an equitable benefits package that covers affirming medication for trans, non-binary, and gender diverse people. We offer a flexible work environment that supports work-life balance and offer a generous leave policy that covers a wide array of life circumstances. All employees sign a code of conduct and ethics which outlines the expectations of a safe and supportive work environment free of discrimination. Staff members have access to EDIA training, including options to take the Indigenous Canada course offered by the University of Alberta.

We have been fortunate to be able to offer a number of grant-funded positions specifically for members of the BIPOC community. Our TD Educational Initiative has allowed us to hire three people of colour for a two-year period. We will be reopening conversations with TD Bank Group shortly to determine how we can maintain and grow this vital program.

As discussed throughout this report, we foster equity by providing a range of accessibility initiatives and free public programming so all members of the community can participate in the visual arts at our gallery.

Our exhibitions and programs reflect diversity across multiple areas, including gender identity and presentation and ethnic and cultural origin. Programming also covers a range of media and practices. We offer two ongoing programs that are dedicated to advancing equity: *Perspective* and *Ksahkomiitapiiks*. *Perspective* is a monthly film series that screens works sourced from around the globe, with the aim of offering viewpoints alternative to dominant narratives and frameworks. *Ksahkomiitapiiks*, our Indigenous residency and mentorship program, specifically addresses Truth and Reconciliation by providing the opportunity for an emerging Indigenous artist to create and exhibit a new work that ultimately encourages all viewers to consider their relationship to the land.

We seek to support accessibility across all of its operations. We look to the Accessible Canada Act (ACA) and its definition of barrier to guide our decisions. The ACA defines a barrier as "...anything — including anything physical, architectural, technological or attitudinal, anything that is based on

information or communications or anything that is the result of a policy or a practice — that hinders the full and equal participation in society of persons with an impairment, including a physical, mental, intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment or a functional limitation.”

We strive to meet the spirit and word of this definition, recognizing that its expansive nature requires efforts on many fronts. Our current area of focus in relation to accessibility is physical barriers. While the existing building is fairly accessible, we recognize that the most significant impacts will be realized upon completion of Phase 3.

Other areas of accessibility currently being explored are best practices to increase the accessibility of the visual arts to people who are differently abled, including people who experience vision and hearing impairment. A past trial of audio descriptions to accompany each work in an exhibition was largely successful but requires further refinement and resources. Resources for people with low vision have been investigated, but would be more impactful if implemented in the post-renovation state.

6. How is your organization advancing Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation? (For example addressing specific calls to action in the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action](#) report or [The City’s White Goose Flying Report](#))

The *White Goose Flying* report interprets call 69 (iii) as the need to “support public awareness programming in libraries, museums and archives.” Contemporary Calgary contributes to the realization of this goal through its programming.

In 2024, we closed the first iteration of *Ksahkomiitapiiks*, an ongoing mentorship program that pairs an Indigenous mentor and mentee to produce a work of art that will be displayed in Contemporary Calgary’s atrium and act as a visual land acknowledgement. The first work produced in this series was by Star Crop Eared Wolf and was unveiled in June of 2023. It remained in place until May 2024. Shortly after, we began the second iteration of the residency, this time with artist Lauren Crazybull and mentor Faye HeavyShield. The finished work will be presented in early 2025.

In 2024, we also featured *Wagon Burner and Other Stories*, a film-based installation featuring the work of Calgary-based Terrance Houle, a member of the Kainai Nation, with ancestry from the Sandy Bay Reservation, Manitoba. Timed to coincide with the Calgary Stampede, the exhibition explored the social and political history of the wagon and the ways in which it has shaped our collective imaginaries of both the North American landscape and the Indigenous communities that have lived on this land since time immemorial.

Our programming is also aligned with Call to Action 63 (iii), which calls for “building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy and mutual respect.” *Ksahkomiitapiiks*, as well as exhibitions like *Wagon Burner*, are jumping off points for the many school groups that visit the gallery.

Also related to Call to Action 63 is our partnership with *Pokaiks – The Children*. In our last report, we mentioned a potential partnership with them on September 30. We are thrilled to let you know that this partnership came to fruition in 2024, with Contemporary Calgary acting as the gathering space for participants and visitors following a walk to commemorate the children who died in residential schools. We hosted over 700 people during that day and offered an expansive suite of programs coordinated by *Pokaiks*, including opening and closing ceremonies, drum performances, children’s activities, an

Indigenous Market, and a men's healing circle. We plan to work with *Pokaiks* again in 2025 to mark this important day.

RESOURCES

7. Please estimate how The City's operating funding was allocated in 2024.

%	Advertising and promotion
20%	Programs or services
%	Office supplies and expenses
%	Professional and consulting fees
%	Staff compensation, development and training
%	Fund development
%	Purchased supplies and assets
80%	Facility maintenance
%	Evaluation or Research
%	<i>Other, please name</i>

8. Did volunteers support your operations in 2024? (including board and committee members)

How many volunteers?	100
Estimated total hours provided by volunteers:	1500

9. Did your organization receive any awards or recognition in 2024, or have any client or participant feedback that you want to highlight?

In October of 2024, we opened the exhibition "Paola Pivi: Come check it out." Later that year, it was listed as one of "the 10 best things about visual arts in 2024" by the Globe and Mail (Dec 12, 2024). It received a glowing review in the same paper on January 3, 2025 ("Contemporary Calgary delights with provocative, Instagrammable art shows"). This important media coverage generated significant public awareness of the show and of Contemporary Calgary.

This popular show will tour to the Yukon Arts Centre and Montreal in 2025 and 2026, helping to grow Contemporary Calgary's reputation while ensuring other Canadians are able to benefit from this engaging exhibition.

10. How did your organization address climate change in 2024, for example, operational or program changes that reduced green house gas emissions (GHG), air/water pollution, or waste that aligned with [The City's Climate Change Program](#) including Council's Climate Emergency Declaration?

As reported in 2023, we are fortunate to have a number of energy-saving fixtures already in place as a result of the base building renovation in 2019, including light sensors in washrooms and offices, low flow toilets, faucets that automatically shut off, and high efficiency boilers. Building automation systems, along with preventative maintenance, help us maximize building efficiency. We also have recycling, composting, and waste diversion programs. We offer bicycle parking and are located immediately next to public transit.

To reduce the environmental impact of our staff, we offer options to work from home to reduce emissions from commuting. We also encourage our visitors to select methods of transportation other than private vehicles, and hope one day to have our name added to our closest C-Train station to further promote transit use: the Contemporary Calgary Station.

We are also closely monitoring changes in conservation standards in Canada. As mentioned in Question 1, historic practices have required strict adherence to temperature and humidity requirements in order to maintain a safe environment for works of art – but at a cost of increased energy use. As the climate crisis worsens, the allowable limits are being reconsidered to decrease the energy requirements of museums and galleries. Our adoption of the Bizot Protocols, which advocate for case-specific conservation requirements, will help in decreasing our carbon footprint.

While these efforts are beneficial, it remains that the greatest reductions in GHGs will be achieved through significant renovations, including increased insulation, improved air tightness, and adding ventilation heat recovery. To that end, we have revised our major capital plans to meet ambitious climate targets. The project includes energy savings of 50 to 65% over current performance and a 35% decrease in GHG emissions despite a 40% increase in total usable area.

Currently, the project will meet the Zero-Carbon Building Design Standard V3 through the use of a transition plan. However, we recognize that there are multiple advantages to achieving V3 without a transition plan, including significant future cost savings and immediate, positive environmental impacts. To that end, we are working to secure funding for a geothermal component of the project, alongside our efforts to raise funds for the rest of Phase 3. The efforts are an organizational priority.

11. Are there any projects, initiatives or plans for 2025 that you want to briefly highlight?

- We look forward to formally announcing \$40M in funding from the Provincial Government in support of our Phase 3 Plans in February of 2025. This announcement will launch our ambitious Phase 3 Capital Campaign. We will be working closely with all levels of government, as well as the private sector, to achieve our fundraising goals for this transformative project.
- 2025 will see Contemporary Calgary participate in Campus Calgary/Open Minds for the first time. We are a pilot site that will offer four weeks of immersive learning experiences to Calgary students. Following program evaluation, we hope to participate again later in 2025 or in 2026.

- In late 2024, we were excited to learn of our successful application to the Downtown Vibrancy Fund. In 2025, funds from this program will support the expansion of our Free First Thursdays, ensuring lively experiences are available in the downtown core after regular working hours.

THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS FOR CIVIC PARTNERS MANAGING CITY-OWNED ASSETS

12. CAPITAL PROJECTS AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

Asset: *Centennial Planetarium*

a) How did you use The City's capital funding in 2024?

Project	City Funding (2024)	Benefit (service improvement, efficiency, improved condition)
Essential repairs and maintenance (CPIG)	183,000	Improved building condition and longevity, improved building safety
Shovel Ready Funding	840,000	Advancement of the Centennial Planetarium Transformation Project to the submission of a DP