

**2024 Civic Partner Annual Report** 05.22.2025

PLATFORM calgary

### **Essential Civic Infrastructure**



# Gentral Library 8 Ave SE Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre 9 Ave SE 9 Ave SE

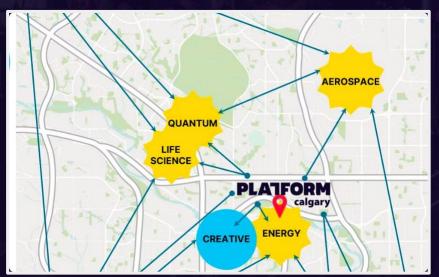
#### **Single Point of Access**

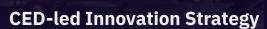
Platform Calgary operates as the front door to Calgary's innovation ecosystem, connecting **ALL Calgarians** to the city's tech and innovation resources.

#### **Municipal Partnership**

A joint commitment to animating a neighbourhood, fostering local innovation and economic growth in a 73% City-owned parkade.

## **Essential Civic Infrastructure**





Key component of Calgary Economic Development's comprehensive Innovation Strategy, strengthening the city's network of innovation nodes.



#### **Trusted & Thriving Community**

Central nexus linking 800+ companies, 180+ partner organizations and thousands of individuals to create a vibrant, collaborative, inclusive innovation community.

## **Proven Impact & Economic Value**

The Platform community is creating significant economic value for Calgary's economy, quickly becoming one of the leading organizations in Canada. Our focus on inclusive innovation has helped Calgary emerge as North America's fastest growing tech hub, now ranking among the top 50 emerging regions globally.

428

5+ employee companies since 2021 On track to exceed a goal of 1000+ by 2031. 6,750

Employment associated with Calgary-based Platform members

\$709M

**Wages Generated** 

Salary impact from Platform member companies in 2024

237.5%

**Ecosystem Value Growth** 

Calgary tech ecosystem now valued at \$8.1 billion

140k Visitors in 2024

230% Member Growth

77% Growth in new 5+ employee tech companies. 140 in 2024 vs 79 in 2021

40%
of municipal funding compared to peer

# Extraordinary Growth Comes With Challenges

Since transforming into Platform Calgary in 2019, we have aligned our work to civic priorities to build a resilient and inclusive economy and to revitalize downtown.

ISC: Unrestricted

# **Alignment with Council Priorities**



#### **Economic & Social Resilience**

- Creating 1.7x more tech jobs than Canadian average
- Supporting 3.4x more startups than peers
- Building diverse pathways into innovation economy
- Entrepreneurship as a pathway to opportunity for everyone



#### **Global Positioning**

- Top 50 emerging innovation region
- Top 20 talent market in North America and Global Startup Visa offering
- First stop for international talent, founders, events, investors & enterprise



#### **Downtown Vitality**

- Strategic connector between downtown core and East Village
- Driving foot traffic to Culture
   & Entertainment District
- Attracting entrepreneurs from across the city who revitalize surrounding areas

# **Building an Inclusive Ecosystem**

Platform Calgary prioritizes diversity in tech entrepreneurship, creating pathways for underrepresented founders and diverse companies across sectors and technologies.

33%

**Racialized Founders** 

35%

**Women Founders** 

20%

**Newcomer Founders** 

3.8K

**Founders Supported since 2022** 

200+

**Volunteers** 

20+

**Diverse Community Partners** 



+ Follow

We're thrilled to announce a powerful new partnership between AgeCare and Platform Calgary! Together, we're joining forces to accelerate innovation in the senior living sector and advance the future of AgeTech—technology designed to improve the lives of aging adults.

Through this exciting collaboration, we'll create opportunities for startups, industry leaders, and innovators to come together and explore new ways to support aging with dignity, independence, and community.

Stay tuned as we build a future where technology and compassion go hand in hand.

#AgeCare #PlatformCalgary #collaboration #seniorliving #longtermcare #futureofaging #calgarytech #seniorcarereimagined



# City funding is the essential first-in investment that enables Platform Calgary's impact



We've contributed \$1.7M in-kind space usage since 2022, living up to our goal of being the "innovation centre for everyone," borne out in the diversity of our community.

# **Why Your Support Matters**



#### **True Public Access**

We provide genuine pathways for diverse Calgarians to join the innovation economy. Our center serves as essential civic infrastructure for all.



#### **Demand > Supply**

The demand for our services is overwhelming our team. Most inquiries come from non-profits and informal groups, key connectors in the innovation economy.



#### **Critical Inflection Point**

Global turbulence calls for increased efforts to build the local economy.

We are accelerating beyond our 2031 goal of 1,000 new tech companies.

# Thank You!

