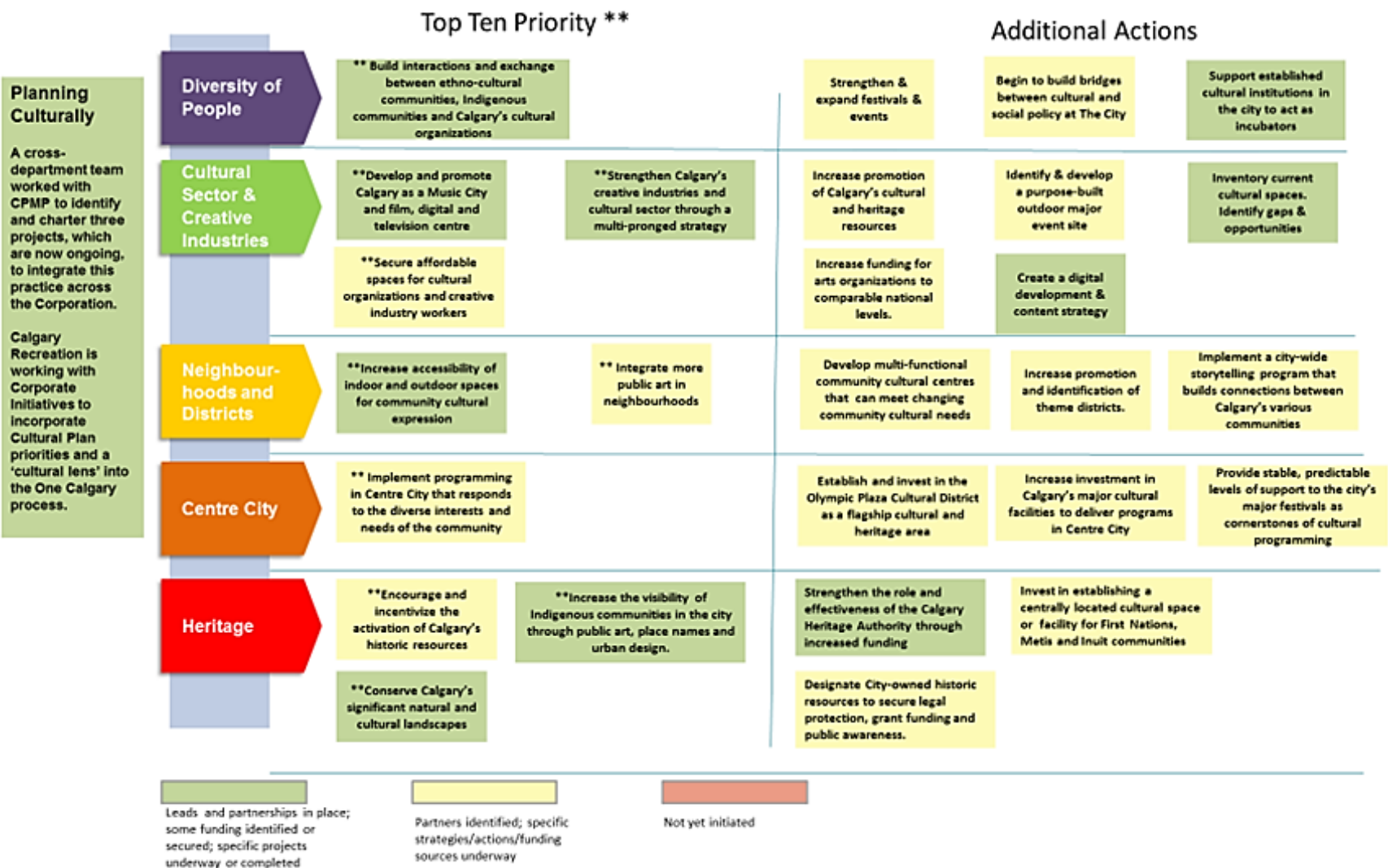


Cultural Plan for Calgary: Progress Update



Maximize Calgary's Diversity Advantage		
Partners	Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary (ECCC) , Calgary Arts Development (CADA), Tourism Calgary (TC), Arts Commons, Cultural Sector City of Calgary: Calgary Recreation, Calgary Neighbourhoods, Customer Service & Communications	
Actions		Update
Top Ten Priority A 1.1	Build interactions and exchange between ethno-cultural communities, Indigenous communities and Calgary's cultural organizations to develop new programming, funding and exchange opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An intercultural exchange has been developed between the Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary (ECCC) and members of the Indigenous community, resulting in a year-long cultural exchange and programming commitment. Arts Commons has developed a relationship with Fiesta Filipino to provide performance space and promotion during the extended annual festival. CADA is developing an equity and diversity census of Calgary's arts sector and piloting a new investment program that focuses on ensuring equitable access to resources and knowledge for diverse members of the arts community. The Asian Heritage Foundation and Vertigo Theatre presented 'Painting My Maple Leaf Arts Forum' to explore how more diverse and inclusive arts and cultural places, programs and practices can be built.
Other Actions A 1.2	Strengthen and expand the use and promotion of festivals and events as one of the most effective means of responding to the cultural interests and needs of diverse communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism Calgary's 'Destination Strategy' identifies the need to expand event offerings to include cultural events throughout the year and strengthen event awareness to benefit both the economy and the community. Arts & Culture Division of Calgary Recreation is conducting a festivals and event venue review, which will include a list of gaps and opportunities. The above research will inform a community-wide strategic and business plan for the evolution and growth of festivals and events, to be initiated in 2018.
A 1.4	Begin to build bridges between cultural and social policy at The City to support the integration of new immigrants and ethno-cultural communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECCC has identified three focus areas to support implementation of the Cultural Plan: cultural expression, accessibility and policy input. Administration is working with the ECCC and other stakeholders to help inform City policy and plans in relation to cultural opportunities and needs of diverse communities.
B 1.5	Support established cultural institutions in the city to act as incubators for emerging groups servicing ethno-cultural communities and Indigenous communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016 Arts Commons and ECCC partnered to identify performances of interest to ethnocultural audiences. The ECCC facilitated attendance of community members through their cultural brokers. The partnership will move forward in 2018 and beyond to see how the experience can be enhanced.

Grow Calgary's Cultural Sector and Creative Industries

Partners	Calgary Economic Development (CED), Calgary Arts Development (CADA), Tourism Calgary, Calgary Heritage Authority (CHA), Cultural Sector City of Calgary: Calgary Recreation, Planning & Development	
Actions		Update
Top Ten Priority A 2.1	Develop and promote Calgary as a Music City and film, television and digital media centre to best utilize and connect cultural resources and support local talent. Ensure The City's policies and processes support this development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Alberta Music Cities Initiative, founded by Alberta Music, the National Music Centre (NMC), Music Canada and the Scotlyn Foundation, has been formed to stimulate the growth and sustainability of Alberta's music industry through an economic lens. A report on the project is due in Q4 2017.
A 2.2	Strengthen Calgary's creative industries and cultural sector through a multi-pronged strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work has been initiated with an investment in a digital strategy for CED.
A 2.3	Secure affordable live/work space and shared work space for cultural organizations and creative industries. Investigate possibilities such as publicly owned, heritage and/ or 'dormant spaces' across the city.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Calgary Heritage Authority, working with City Administration, is updating the Calgary Heritage Strategy, working to integrate/strengthen current directions. The City has reached a temporary agreement with the new Beltline Neighbourhood Association (BNA) to use the restored, historic McHugh House as a community hall and the BNA will be renting out smaller spaces to individuals or small enterprises.
Other Actions A 2.4	Increase promotion of Calgary's cultural and heritage resources to both tourists and residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Destination Strategy from Tourism Calgary was released in April 2017 and outlines several related strategies including developing year-round programming, better marketing of current festivals, event, performances and experiences and better branding Calgary's personality.
A 2.5	Identify and develop a purpose-built outdoor festival and event space for major events to maximize economic and cultural opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calgary Recreation is working cross-corporately to identify a major event site, developing a matrix of requirements for a qualified festival and event space; a comprehensive picture of existing site capacities, community activities and demographics. Tourism Calgary's Destination Strategy outlines a number of key cultural recommendations including enhancing Calgary's hosting infrastructure.
A 2.6	Collaborate with CADA to inventory current cultural spaces, gaps in spaces and leading practice in cultural space development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CADA has completed an updated Infrastructure report 'Building on Our Momentum' that will inform planning and design considerations going forward. Calgary Recreation is taking that into account in determining the sites for up to 8 community cultural centres approved in principle by Council.

B 2.1	Increase funding for arts organizations to comparable national levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 2018 July 18 the Priorities and Finance Committee approved a one-time budget of \$2M to CADA to provide bridge financing to the Cornerstone arts organizations. CADA will report back in Q2 2018 on a recommended framework for sustainability, to be developed in collaboration with the Cornerstones. An approach that provides stable, predictable funding for arts organizations that is comparable to other major Canadian cities will be considered as part of the renewal of the Civic Arts Policy in 2018.
B 2.2	Create a digital development and content strategy to maximize benefits for all members of the creative industries and cultural sector. Digitize and distribute important tangible and intangible cultural artifacts as part of this strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CED received a matching grant from Invest Canada Community Initiatives to conduct a study to clarify the size and scope of the digital media sector in Calgary; gain an understanding with respect to the opportunities available to Calgary; establish a vision for the sector and develop an action plan to achieve the vision. In addition, the vendor will provide CED with a list of investment targets in the sector. The \$80,000 study is set to be completed by Q4 2017.

Activate Culturally Vibrant Neighbourhoods and Districts		
Partners	Federation of Calgary Communities (FCC) , Calgary Public Library (CPL), Calgary Heritage Authority (CHA), Calgary Board of Education (CBE), Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary (ECCC), Calgary Arts Development (CADA), Tourism Calgary (TC) City of Calgary: Calgary Recreation, Calgary Neighbourhoods, Community Standards, Transportation Planning	
Actions		Update
Top Ten Priority A 3.1	Increase accessibility of indoor and outdoor spaces for community cultural expression through: examining and implementing best practices in creative place-making; enabling bylaws and simplified approval processes; promotion of spaces; access to festival/event infrastructure such as lighting, sound systems etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calgary Recreation is developing a series of cultural spaces design standards so that current and potential spaces can be purpose- built or retrofitted to accommodate a range of cultural activities. Calgary Recreation is participating in internal projects such as the Integrated Civic Facility Program, Green Line City-Shaping and Tactical Urbanism projects to provide input on cultural and outdoor spaces. Calgary Parks continues to work with events such as Beakerhead to find/promote appropriate public locations including Central Memorial Park, Memorial Drive, Fire Hall #6.
B 3.4	Integrate more public art in neighbourhoods, which may include small, large, temporary, iconic, or permanent pieces that reflect and add to the character of the neighbourhood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Public Art Program's presence in communities has been increased through collaboration with This is My Neighbourhood projects and by enabling communities to propose projects in their neighbourhood.
Other Actions A 3.2	Develop multi-functional community cultural centres that leverage City of Calgary spaces and places and that can meet changing community cultural needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural MSI funding has been approved for up to eight community cultural centres. Calgary Recreation is working with numerous internal and external stakeholders to explore investing these funds in cultural amenities within multi-purpose sites in various communities.
A 3.3	Increase the promotion and identification of theme districts, e.g. Cultural District, Design District or Culinary District, that can attract locals and visitors, spur economic activity and support local talent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourism Calgary's Destination Strategy sees a defined cultural district as key to revitalizing the cultural offerings currently available in the Olympic Plaza and expansion into the Rivers District. Transit infrastructure, walkability and marketing will support this evolution.
B 3.1	Implement a city-wide storytelling program that bridges the divide and builds connections between Calgary's various communities, both geographic and by interest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPL, FCC, CADA, and Calgary Recreation (Public Art) have initiated or are considering storytelling projects. Opportunities for collaboration and leveraging will be explored.

Reinvigorate Centre City as the Cultural Heart of the City

Partners	Arts Commons, Calgary Arts Development (CADA), Calgary Public Library (CPL), Calgary Heritage Authority (CHA), Cultural Sector City of Calgary: Calgary Recreation, Urban Strategies	
Actions		Update
Top Ten Priority A 4.3	Implement programming in Centre City that responds to the diverse interests and needs of the community, including for Indigenous and ethno-cultural communities and for disadvantaged residents. Ensure access to low-cost venues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Commons is regularly working with Arts & Culture to develop programming for events such as Canada Day and New Year's Eve and is interested in expanding that work Arts & Culture is building new relationships with diverse communities to help strengthen programming for events, adding Chinatown in 2016 for a total of over 14 community partners.
Other Actions A 4.1	Establish and invest in the Olympic Plaza Cultural District as a flagship cultural and heritage area- Calgary's 'living room'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Civic District Public Realm Strategy was approved by Council in January 2016 and the design and public engagement report for the Olympic Plaza Cultural District project was released in October 2016. The next steps involve working with CMLC to create a roadmap for delivery of the project, which is on hold pending funding.
B 4.1	Increase investment in Calgary's major cultural facilities and festivals to ensure long-term financial stability and the capacity to deliver programs in Centre City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calgary Neighbourhoods is working with partners to investigate lifecycle and facility operating needs of current arts infrastructure and the means to address deficits.
B 4.3	Provide stable, predictable levels of support to the city's major festivals, recognizing their key role in cultural programming in the Centre City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An approach that provides stable, predictable funding for festivals that is comparable to other major Canadian cities will be considered as part of the renewal of the Civic Arts Policy in 2018.

Conserve and Celebrate Calgary's Built, Natural and Indigenous Heritage		
Partners	Calgary Arts Development (CADA) , Calgary Public Library (CPL), Calgary Heritage Authority (CHA), Cultural Sector City of Calgary: Calgary Recreation, Calgary Parks, Facility Management, Planning & Development	
Actions		Update
Top Ten Priority A 5.2	Encourage/incentivize vacant or underutilized heritage buildings (especially city-owned properties) to provide affordable live/work space for individual artists and shared work space for creative industries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City has reached a temporary agreement with the new Beltline Neighbourhood Association (BNA) to use the restored, historic McHugh House as a community hall and the BNA will be renting out smaller spaces to individuals or small enterprises.
A 5.4	Increase the visibility of Indigenous communities and heritage in the city through public art, place names and urban design; whenever possible employ Indigenous artists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous content will now be considered in planned capital projects in progress including: the LRT Green Line, Anderson Pedestrian Bridge. Public art plans (UEP and Parks) will now integrate a focus on Indigenous art. Public Art, Parks and Calgary Neighbourhoods will be working with Indigenous stakeholder to explore ways to creatively/artistically commemorate Calgary's only Residential School site.
A 5.5	Conserve Calgary's significant heritage natural areas with site specific plans, appropriate policies, processes & human resources such as a City archaeologist to provide educated and quick responses for heritage sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A City archaeologist has been hired to complete a city-wide inventory of culturally significant areas and update Calgary's evaluation system to accommodate natural landscapes and archaeological resources.
Other Actions A 5.1	Strengthen the role and effectiveness of the Calgary Heritage Authority (CHA) through increased funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CHA signed a funding agreement with Facilities Management which will fund the CHA to Dec 2018, allowing CHA to employ their Executive Director full-time and for additional organizational goals to be met. CHA Administration is working to further support CHA and its work.
A 5.3	Invest in establishing a centrally located space/ facility for First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities can gather, practice their cultural traditions and express their identities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calgary Neighbourhoods has begun conversations with Indigenous leaders regarding an Indigenous spiritual place and will be bringing together a team to initiate the project.
B 5.1	Designate City-owned historic resources to ensure legal protection, to secure grant funding, and to increase public awareness of the significance of the various resources. Provide adequate staff resources and increased grants to accomplish this work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reader Rock Garden and Confederation Park were municipally designated in January 2017. National Historic Site applications have been submitted for 7 City sites, including 3 historic cemeteries, Reader Rock Gardens, Central memorial Park, Signal Hill and Paskapoo Slopes.