

YMCA Calgary 2025 Report to Community

Your Trusted Neighbour

Shine On 



Shine On



Who We Are

Since our inception in 1902, YMCA Calgary has evolved into a vibrant charity that helps people live happier and healthier lives. We are passionate about enhancing the well-being of the communities we serve by creating spaces where belonging, play, and potential are ignited.

Mission:

We connect people through diverse and shared experiences. As a trusted charity, YMCA Calgary helps create spaces and communities that are welcoming and inspiring.

Vision:

Our communities are happy and healthy because children, youth, and adults belong, grow, thrive, and lead.

Our Values:

YMCA Calgary is committed to practicing and demonstrating the core values of respect, honesty, responsibility, and caring in all aspects of the organization.

Land Acknowledgement:

In the spirit of reconciliation, YMCA Calgary acknowledges that it is situated on the traditional lands of the Treaty 7 First Nations of the Blackfoot confederacy: Siksika, Kainai, Piikani, Stoney Nakoda Nations: Chiniki, Bearspaw, Goodstoney and Tsuut'ina Nation. Calgary is also home to the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation, Calgary Nose Hill Métis District and Calgary Elbow Métis District, and all those who call this beautiful area home. We honour and respect the inherent cultural respect and relationship that all nations have with Mother Earth.



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The Heart of Your Neighbourhood

Navigating With Heart and Purpose...

CEO Reflection

At YMCA Calgary, we're all about building community and connecting Calgarians. I've seen it myself first-hand, from the friendly greeting a new member receives as they start their health journey, to the lasting friendships that blossom at our summer camps. The YMCA is a gathering place, a place that strengthens relationships, and contributes to building healthier, stronger communities throughout our city. In 2025, approximately 1 in 7 Calgarians accessed a YMCA, a testament to the trust our community has in us and the part we play in supporting, health, wellbeing, and a sense of belonging.

I'd like to thank our members, volunteers, and partners who welcome us into your journeys, and help shape the work we do each day. You are neighbours that we count on to create inclusion and belonging. Our work would not be possible without your passion, commitment, and dedication.

We are also grateful to the donors and supporters whose generosity makes the YMCA experience possible for so many. Your commitment helps remove barriers

and supports more people in accessing essential health and wellbeing opportunities at the YMCA. With the support of donors, we were able to provide financial assistance to 14,000 children and youth in 2025 so they could access fun and safe recreation, as well as day camps and programs.

At the YMCA, we've always believed in the power of people and the connections that bring us together. As our city continues to grow and evolve, we remain committed to walking alongside Calgarians at every stage of their lives; supporting their potential, celebrating their milestones, and creating a space where everyone belongs. Thank you for being part of our journey.

Yours in wellness,

Shannon Doram
President & CEO



2025 Year in Review

2025 was filled with movement, laughter, and a community growing stronger together. Across our branches, people of all ages jumped into new experiences, and discovered their potential. Here's a glimpse into the incredible impact we made.

In 2025, more than **250,000 Calgarians** walked through our doors — along with countless ping-pong enthusiasts, skateboarders, swim-class cheer squads, and community groups making our spaces their own.

Members, Drop-ins and Program Participants



54,431 Children

42,770 Youth

116,567 Adults

12,429 Seniors

628 Children in our childcare program

Building a Community Where Everyone Can Thrive

At the YMCA, we believe that no one should be turned away based on their ability to pay. That's why we provide financial assistance so that everyone has an opportunity to live a healthy, active life.

Our Impact on a Healthier, Stronger Community

We added nearly \$64 million to the local economy and created over 1,200 jobs.

Alberta saved over \$26 million in health care costs because our community is happier and healthier accessing YMCA services.

Volunteer Contributions

2,085
Volunteers

130,605
Volunteer Hours

50 Years
Longest Service

\$5 Million+
provided in subsidies in 2025

\$1.2 Million
for child and youth financial assistance

\$4.2 Million
for adult financial assistance

\$240K
for outdoor camp financial assistance

Jobs Created

380
Full-time Staff

857
Part-time Staff

845
youth in seasonal, full-time, and part-time jobs.



Volunteers Are at the Heart of What We Do

Janet's Story

Celebrating 5 decades of volunteerism

For nearly 50 years, Janet has been building community through movement, connection, and care. Since 1976, Janet has dedicated her time to creating welcoming and supportive spaces at the YMCA where people feel connected and encouraged.

At Saddletowne YMCA, Janet leads weekly Gentle Fitness and Gentle Stretch classes, primarily supporting older adults. What she creates goes far beyond exercise. Her classes provide consistency, encouragement, and a sense of connection; helping participants feel seen, supported, and part of a community. For many, these sessions are a cornerstone of their physical health and social well-being.

Janet's impact extends beyond the walls of the YMCA. Through outreach with organizations such as Silvera for Seniors, she brings accessible fitness programming directly to those who may face barriers to participation. Janet works to bring the Y Way beyond just the walls of the YMCA and brings the same sense of care to each fitness session she hosts.

Over the years, Janet has celebrated milestones alongside participants, supported them through challenges and built lasting relationships rooted in trust and care. Her long-standing dedication reflects the heart of volunteerism and the power of showing up for others.

"The YMCA has been a safe place to call home"

- Janet



"2025 Top 20 Under 20"

Community Events

Throughout the year, our community came together to celebrate what it means to belong at the YMCA. These moments are the heartbeat of our community, reminding us of the joy and connection that happens when people come together.



Summer Qamp Screening

To launch Pride Month with purpose, YMCA Calgary and the Centre for Sexuality hosted a special screening of *Summer Qamp*. The documentary film follows a week at Camp fYrefly, a summer camp for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth run by the Centre for Sexuality and hosted each year at Camp Chief Hector YMCA. The event brought together staff, volunteers, alumni, families, and community allies for an evening rooted in courage, connection, and candid conversation.

At YMCA Calgary, we believe allyship isn't a title but a way of life. It's the way we listen, how we show up, and the spaces we choose to shape. We're honoured to host Camp fYrefly at Camp Chief Hector YMCA, a place where joy is shared, voices are lifted, and every young person is free to shine.

YMCA Markets

Our YMCA markets were bustling with local vendors and community members connecting and celebrating the beauty of the season. And for participants of our youth leadership program, our winter market was an opportunity to engage with the community on a special project they had been working on.

This group of innovators created 3D-printed ornaments to sell at the market, with every ornament sold helping fund opportunities for other young people at the Y. Along the way, our youth leaders discovered new strengths within themselves. They stepped outside their comfort zones, learned how to engage people in conversations, and confidently shared the stories behind their work – becoming advocates for youth potential and innovation.

Top 20 Under 20

We had the honour of partnering with Avenue Calgary Magazine to launch the inaugural Top 20 Under 20 in Calgary. As sponsor of this event, we were thrilled to share our theatre space at Shane Homes YMCA at Rocky Ridge with over 175 guests to celebrate the amazing young leaders of our city.

The 20 youth selected for Top 20 Under 20 by a panel of judges were inspiring in every way. From creative minds, community builders, wellness advocates, and tech movers and shakers, this group of young people will no doubt make a lasting and positive impact on our city and country. We're looking forward to continuing this partnership.



"Summer Qamp Screening"

Breaking Down Barriers, Increasing Youth Activity

Physical activity plays an essential role in youth development, and at the YMCA we are finding new ways every day to engage children and youth in getting active.

We offer a wide variety of programming, with over 51,000 children and youth registering in our programs and day camps in 2025. These range from arts like choir and drama programs, to sports programming like girls-only basketball. With our programs, we are removing the barriers that children and youth face to increase participation in physical activity.

School Service Disruption Support

We're committed to being a trusted neighbour in our communities, which means creating spaces for children and youth to grow, learn, and play. While school services were paused in October 2025, we offered 3-hour registered programs for kids ages 6-9, increased onsite staffing to support drop-in visits to our youth room, pools, and weight floor, and a special overnight Camp Chief Hector experience. These programs were offered until school services resumed.

During this time, 4,100 children participated in these special day camp offerings, and 120 children participated in the Camp Chief Hector Overnight Camp Experience.

Esports

YMCA Calgary's esports program is an inclusive space where youth can build social connections and develop their sportsmanship and emotional regulation abilities. Many of the youth who join this program have formed bonds with one another that go beyond just video games.

Part of the esports program is Gamers Night Out, which blends the best of both worlds—exciting gaming in our esports Lab and active fun in the pool. Each session includes esports activities that promote teamwork, strategic thinking, and digital skills, followed by recreational swimming time to get moving and continue connecting with new friends. The esports program acts as a stepping-stone to increase physical activity and social connection in youth.

Calgary Flames Grade 6 Memberships

Every grade six student is eligible to receive a free 13-month YMCA Calgary membership to support youth at a critical point in their growth by encouraging them to explore new interests while preparing for junior high.

In 2025, 4,890 students received were part of the Calgary Flames Grade 6 membership program. These youth have been able to keep active and gain independence by participating in both independent and programmed activities like open swim, special events, and tournaments.

Youth Activity By the Numbers

4,890
Grade 6
memberships

128
Esports Tournament
registrations

2,100 Children
in school service
disruption day camps



Drum & Dance Program Connects to Culture

Providing spaces for connection and community is essential to the work we do at the YMCA. For the past 25 years, the Drum & Dance program has been a trusted space for belonging, healing and pride.

For 25 years, YMCA Calgary's Indigenous Drum & Dance program has created a culturally grounded space where Indigenous youth, families and community members can connect, learn and grow together. Guided by Elders, drum keepers and cultural instructors, the program reflects our commitment to reconciliation by centering Indigenous knowledge, culture and community within its spaces.

In 2025, the program engaged over 1,200 participants, many of whom found the program brought a deep sense of home and belonging. Youth demonstrated growing confidence and leadership, with some stepping into the drum circle for the first time and others mentoring newcomers. Many families deepened their connections through shared cultural experiences, including one foster parent who supported their children in embracing their heritage by gifting them regalia.

The program's impact reaches beyond the dance floor. It creates space for healing, reconnection and pride, strengthening relationships not only among participants but within the broader YMCA community. For some families, it offers rare and intentional time together, while for others it becomes a place to learn and grow alongside their children.

Through every song, step and shared teaching, the Indigenous Drum & Dance program nurtures identity, strengthens belonging and builds community through lived experiences and connections.

"We have learned so much about the culture from this program for our children, including smudging, prayers, dancing, singing and lessons about the drum and its significance."

- parents of program participant



"2025 Indigenous Drum & Dance Summer Celebration"

Here for the Long Term

YMCA Calgary has been part of your community for 124 years, and we are steadfast in our commitment to Calgary's families, youth and communities. Every project we complete and investment we make is designed to make our programs and spaces remain strong for generations to come. As our city grows, the Y will continue to grow alongside it, creating a lasting place where everyone can connect, learn and thrive.

West District

In Fall 2025, Calgary City Council approved \$3 million to advance the proposed West District YMCA and Library project. YMCA Calgary, Calgary Public Library, and Truman began exploring the potential for a new recreation centre and library in West District after hearing community feedback about the pressing need for amenities to keep pace with rapid population growth. City Council's investment of \$3 million in 2026 enables detailed design and permitting that will make the project "shovel ready" for potential municipal, provincial, and federal investment that has yet to be confirmed.

The West District YMCA and Library would expand access to recreation and library services, ease long waitlists, and create new welcoming and inspiring spaces that will foster community belonging and skill development for Calgarians who live, work, and play in West Calgary.

By investing in modern recreation centres and libraries, we are tackling some of the most pressing issues facing our community head on, including rising physical inactivity rates, social isolation, and unemployment.

Love, Camp

Thanks to the generosity of our community, \$15.6 million has been pledged toward our \$17 million goal. To date, we have invested \$9 million in infrastructure revitalization projects, including a renovation of the Bowfort Lodge Kitchen in 2025. In 2026 we will be enhancing our main entry gate and building a new Welcome Pavilion that will serve as a sport court, creating more functional and exciting experiences for campers of all ages.

These upgrades go beyond just infrastructure; they will preserve the legacy of our camp for years to come. By revitalizing Camp Chief Hector's facilities, we are investing in our future youth so they can continue to have a space to grow their community, resilience, and leadership skills.



"Renovated Bowfort Lodge Kitchen Space"

Major Donors (Gifts \$10,000+)

Donors are a driving force behind every meaningful moment we create. We are grateful to our donors for their generosity and belief in shaping better and brighter futures for our community.

- Adam Pekarsky and Sonia Heroux
- Amrop Rosin
- Andrew and Deirdre Melton
- Anonymous (9)
- Anthony and Mary Melton
- ATB Financial
- Beth Pollock
- BMO Financial Group
- Botting & Associates Alberta Ltd.
- Brookfield Residential
- Calgary Flames Foundation
- Calgary Sport Council Society
- Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC)
- Clarke and Adele Hunter
- Courtyard & Residence Inn by Marriott, Calgary South
- Craig and Lynnette Borgland
- Cynthia Milson
- David & Leslie Bissett Fund at Calgary Foundation
- Ella Chan
- Eric and Marilyn Brown
- Gibson Energy Inc.
- Government of Alberta
- Government of Canada
- Imperial Oil Limited
- Jackie Pyke and Evan Hazell
- James Smith
- Jim and Vicki Wilson Family Fund at Calgary Foundation
- Joan and Marc Lee
- Julia and Samuel Gray Foundation
- Larry Vetsch
- Lin Yi Chon and Wu Pi Ling
- Melcor Developments Ltd.
- NuVista Energy Ltd
- Poelzer Family Foundation Fund at Calgary Foundation
- PRECOR Corporate
- Randy & Lori Green
- RBC Foundation
- Remington Development Corporation
- Rogers Charity Classic Foundation
- Shane O'Leary
- Sysco
- Tara and Ed Rihn
- TC Energy
- TD Bank Group
- Terry & Marion Poole
- The Anonymous Family Legacy Fund at Calgary Foundation
- The City of Calgary - FCSS - Critical Hours Funding
- The Estate of Kenneth Bremner
- The Estate of Olive Claire Bentley
- The J5 Foundation
- The Jack Carter Family Fund at Calgary Foundation
- The Melton Foundation
- The Paterson Foundation
- The Rotary Club of Calgary - Downtown
- The Sarjeant Family
- UFA Co-operative Limited
- United Way of Calgary & Area
- Wayne Foo Foundation
- William S. Herron Family Charitable Foundation
- William Sembo & Toshimi Sembo



Program Partners

Our programs are supported through the generous contributions of many organizations. By working alongside partners who reflect our shared values, we are helping to drive meaningful change in our communities

Anonymous: YMCA Calgary Healthy Living School Program an immersive learning experience for students in grades 3–12

Anonymous Family Legacy Fund at Calgary Foundation: YMAP, Back on Track, Indigenous, Tutoring Table programs

ATB Financial: YMCA Achievement Program for youth new to Canada (YMAP)

Calgary Flames Foundation: Calgary Flames Grade 6 YMCA Membership program

CIBC Bank: Brave Dog Clan (HON) a cultural high school leadership and educational program for Indigenous youth

City of Calgary - FCSS: YMCA Calgary Indigenous Programs

Gibson Energy Inc.: YMCA Calgary Indigenous Programs

Government of Canada Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada: Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC)

RBC Foundation: YMCA Leadership Institute, YMCA staff and volunteer leadership training

Rotary Club of Calgary – Downtown: Lou MacEachern Scholarships for YMAP participants

Servus Credit Union: YMCA Achievement Program for youth new to Canada (YMAP)

TC Energy: Brave Dog Clan (HON) a cultural high school leadership and educational program for Indigenous youth

TD Bank: Brave Dog Clan (HON) a cultural high school leadership and educational program for Indigenous youth

United Way Calgary & Area: YMAP, Back on Track, Indigenous, Tutoring Table programs

William S. Herron Family Charitable Foundation: YMCA Calgary's Lifesaving Sport program, basketball for youth

Government of Alberta: Early Childhood Education Inclusive Spaces grant, Childcare Wage Top-Up Grant, and Affordability Grant, Canada-Alberta-Job Grant, Every Kid Can Play grant, pool upgrades, Alberta Foundation for the Arts grant for arts programming, capital improvements at Camp Chief Hector YMCA through investing in Canada Infrastructure Grant Program (ICIP)

Government of Canada: Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC), Enabling Accessibility Fund grant to replace elevator at Melcor YMCA in Crowfoot



2025 Summarized Financial Statements

As at and for the Year Ended December 31, 2025

(with comparative figures for 2024)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2025 (\$000s)	2024 (\$000s)
Revenues		
Memberships	34,375	32,236
Programs and services	20,219	19,146
Government grants	9,218	7,522
Rentals	3,546	3,184
Donations	2,218	2,119
United Way of Calgary and Area	1,068	1,021
Other	2,628	3,107
	73,272	68,335
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	40,087	37,364
Building operations	15,823	15,468
Administration	7,954	7,536
Programs and services	4,096	4,016
Amortization	3,347	2,507
Asset lifecycle obligation	2,316	2,556
	73,623	69,447
Investment income	3,267	4,173
Gain on disposal of capital assets	2,418	77
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	5,334	3,138

SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2025 (\$000s)	2024 (\$000s)
Assets		
Current assets	21,982	16,153
Investments	36,457	33,489
Capital assets	28,961	27,972
Prepaid software implementation costs	228	176
Total assets	87,628	77,790
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities	9,288	9,650
Deferred sponsorships	3,283	3,655
Deferred contributions	672	295
Deferred capital contributions	9,443	6,233
Asset lifecycle obligation	18,726	17,243
Net assets	46,216	40,714
Total liabilities and net assets	87,628	77,790

This summarized financial information is extracted from the annual financial statements audited by PwC. It has been prepared in accordance with criteria developed by management. A copy of the complete audited financial statements is available on our website at ymcocalgary.org.



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