



Annual Report 2017

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2017 Annual Report

Message from the Board Chair

“The 2017 fiscal year saw another 12 months of continued expansion of CBFY’s services. With over 13,800 individuals supported in multiple schools and through varied programming, The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth continues to provide invaluable services to new Calgarian youth. Our funders play an integral role in this, and we must thank IRCC, the United Way of Calgary, FCSS, and RBC for their continued and generous support. Our staff and volunteers deserve particular recognition, as it is their tireless and selfless efforts that keep our services alive and relevant. These employees continue to inspire the Board with their dedication. The appreciation for the work they do in assisting our newcomer youth and their families as they start their journeys in Canada cannot be overstated.

As I reflect back on my first year as Board Chair, it is important to recognize the teamwork involved in providing CBFY’s services. From our relationship with the school systems, to our relationships with other sector organizations, to the collaborative work being done within the Bridge, the teamwork is everywhere. At the board level, our directors are a passionately committed group who bring a diversity of backgrounds to the table. We have lawyers, business professionals, university students, police officers, accountants, and consultants. It is that diversity that makes the team strong, and the singular focus of “what’s best for the CBFY kids” ensures the organization continues to move in a positive direction.

It is an honour to serve all of you as Board Chair.”

- James Shore

Message from the CEO

“As CEO of The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth (CBFY), I am proud to report that our 28th year has been another successful year. As the years go by we continue to grow and make a profound impact in the lives of immigrant and refugee youth and their families, supporting 13,800 individuals in the 2017 year.

Canada has grown out of the desire of humanity from all around the world, and who have entered the shared desire for change for a better life for all its people. Canadians have built a country that is receptive and all-embracing of people that enter. This philosophy has been ingrained into the gene pattern of The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth for over 28 years, making CBFY a robust and collaborative contributor to the settlement and integration of immigrant and refugee youth and their families in Calgary by managing change. People come to us with different experiences, we do not seek to change people, but rather we manage the change they experience, by providing them with the resources they need to feel a sense of belonging and to succeed.

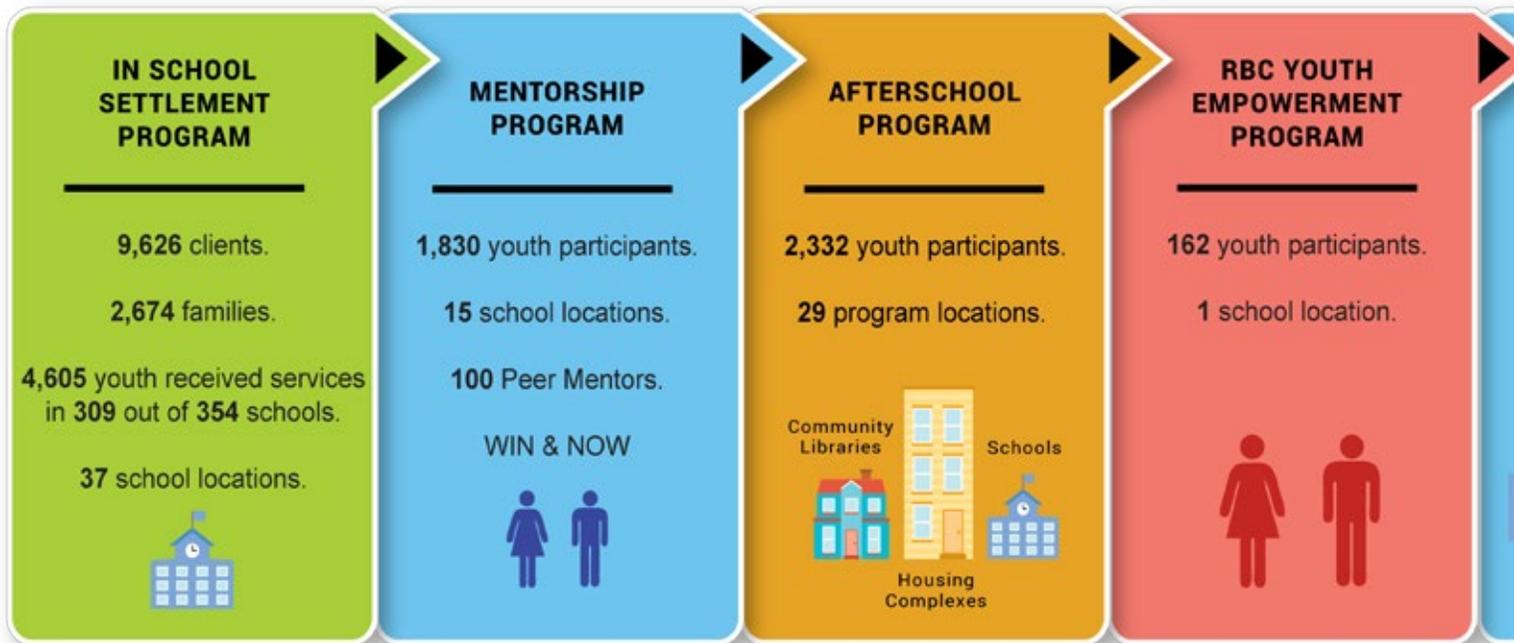
2017 yet again brought unlimited opportunities including but not limited to, the arrival of the Survivors of Daesh and customized program design and delivery in collaboration with the school boards, “Empowering Newcomer Youth: Best Practices Across Cultures and Contexts” Conference funded by IRCC, Annual Multicultural Fair, Power of Voice Conference, Bridgefest at Eau Claire Market Mall, Youth Achievement Awards, 100 laptop donations; re-location of all teams to the new office space; new partnerships and program initiatives and steady growth in client numbers and volunteer base.

I am proud and honoured to lead CBFY with the Executive team by my side and the Board of Directors guiding my path. The innovative expertise and passion of all CBFY staff and volunteers is indeed the lifeblood of CBFY. Staff are constantly inspiring ground breaking ideas with innovativeness and continue to take CBFY to higher ground, aspiring to become a Centre of Excellence. For this, I thank them kindly for the great team spirit and camaraderie. With this strong and resilient team, I have no doubt that we will embrace 2018 and beyond with the same enthusiasm.

A very special thanks to the funders, donors and partners, your willingness to walk alongside us to realize our vision of “resilient youth thriving in vibrant and inclusive communities” is gratifying.”

- Umashanie Reddy

Program Continuum



This Program Continuum Model is a well-articulated collaborative of core programs on the surface but underneath it is a strategic model of core partnerships and positive synergies. Core programs on this continuum work as a collaborative and develop internal and external partnerships to build social and emotional learning skills, generosity, cultural, linguistic, leadership, confidence, lifelong learning and most importantly social integration skills for clients so that they will feel a sense of belonging. It is indeed a holistic platform for methodical, strategic and seamless transition from the time the youth enters CBFY and when they are transitioned into post-secondary.

**TRANSITION INTO
POST-SECONDARY
(T.I.P.S)**

36 youth participants.
37 mentors.



**AFTERSCHOOL AND
MENTORSHIP SUMMER
PROGRAM**

550 youth participants form
Afterschool
355 youth participants from
Mentorship



**VOLUNTEER
RESOURCES
PROGRAM**

159 community volunteers
recruited.
4814 hours contributed by
Program volunteers.



This Program Continuum was nominated for the Together We Can Award at United Way's Annual Spirit of Gold Awards.

In School Settlement Program

Sinit is a young lady from Sudan who is one of this year's YAA scholarship award winners. The In School Settlement Practitioner (ISSP) first had contact with the family in St John, Reception Centre. An Intake meeting was set up for the parents in Bishop McNally School with their eldest child to interpret on their behalf. The family had concerns regarding- health, transportation, low income support and government services. ISSP has helped her and her family become more successful by providing needed referrals for food and clothes. Forms and other assistance were provided such as Calgary Fair Entry, Alberta Works, Adult and Child Health benefits, GSTHST and CCTB. Orientation about how services work was also facilitated. Food hamper was arranged for them as well as a furniture referral.

“After building a positive relationship, Sinit has connected with ISSP for help several times as she was worried about grades, worried about basic necessities and of course worried about going to college. She had said that she was popular and relatively academically successful in her home country. She was often an ambassador and a mentor in her school and now felt frustrated that she had no friends and was struggling with some subjects. ISSP connected Sinit to the Homework Club to help her improve academically. Despite Sinit's heavy academic load, she craved social activities so ISSP connected her to Kachi of the Mentorship Program where she could make new friends. ISSP helped her and her sister fill in the school rebate. Sinit also advocated for her family and especially for her dad who was a professional back home but his age, poor health and the language barrier kept him from securing work. Her mom had always been a stay at home mom because they were all well provided for. Her eldest sister had settled in Canada with her husband and two young kids below age six. Sinit had to focus not only on school but how to help her home situation get better. She would follow up with ISSP regarding supports available. ISSP got food bank referrals to make home life more stable and ease the tension for Sinit. Sinit and her youngest sister also received a package of clothes from My Best friend's Closet. She looked more put together and felt more confident that she belonged in school. Sinit also accessed her guidance counselor regularly to work on her frustrations in learning the school culture and expectations of teachers. Sinit's counselors partnered with ISSP to help her find programs and support for her and her family, such as translation of documents and tutoring. Now Sinit is still in the process of settling and has recently received a notice of acceptance to the University of Calgary. Sinit is worried about financial support for school and is doing her diploma preps. She is exhausted from late night study groups and early morning rises but she is happy. She is an epitome of our all-around service for a youth accessing all our services in school!”



- Served 2674 families including 9626 individuals; 4605 of which were youth
- Provided support to children in 309 of the 351 CBE and CCSD schools
- 80% of clients strongly agreed that their knowledge of available resources and services increased

Mentorship Program

“I am proud to say that I have been connected to The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth and the Mentorship Program for two years. It all started with a friend of mine that introduced me to the Mentorship Program. Mentorship Program made me feel so welcomed and has given me a sense of belonging. This program engaged my confidence and social skills that allows me to interact more with new people. It also taught me how to be open on different ways of expressing myself with other newcomers in order to create a comfortable environment and to maintain respectful to them. In those two years of connection, I learned to be a better person not just for myself but also within my community.

The Mentorship program has been a huge transition in my life since I started at day one as a shy, isolated, and homesick newcomer that turns out to be a peer mentor. The winter of 2016 was when I finally became a peer mentor. Being a peer mentor has given me the opportunity to get out of my comfort zone and let my potentials grow. In year 2017, I joined to mentorship summer program. I considered it as the most educational and fun experience I ever attended. It made me developed my inner leadership skills, communication skills as well as my confidence. I enjoyed meeting newcomers as I shared my stories and adventures with them. Helping newcomers has challenged me not to be misunderstood by anyone, instead I kept my exciting and optimistic side on me to be able to communicate with them as I encourage them to be the best that they can be. After that summer program, I felt a sudden growth not only for myself but also the strong bond that I shared with my youth counsellors, co-peer mentors, and my new friends. With that, I become more passionate on helping others. Being a peer mentor also inspired me to apply and win the CBFY poster design art competition for the Youth Conference on April 20th, 2018.”

- Nicole Ianne Almonte



- 1,830 newcomer youth participated in school year programs across 19 locations including schools, libraries and reception centres
- 1 day Youth Conference with over 350 participants celebrating their Power of Voice!
- Over 600 newcomers participated in community connection activities and explored resources, historical/ cultural sites, local recreation centres and post-secondary institutions within Calgary
- 50 newly arrived immigrant youth attended a 1-day Winter Newcomer Orientation and Welcome session

Afterschool Program

“I started attending the Calgary Bridge Foundation program in grade 7 at Sir John .A. Macdonald. The Program has allowed me to grow socially and academically. At the start of junior high, I was a very shy kid, seeing that I just recently moved to Canada. The program introduced me to so many people from different parts of the world with different worldviews. The various field trips like bowling or a going to the zoo helped strengthen my relationships with the people in the program and got me out of my shell. The different mentors that I have encountered along the way have all encouraged me to keep working hard and progressing in life. There were instances in which I would fall short in a class. I would always be really upset and go into the program complaining. They helped me to figure out what was wrong and how to improve for next time. In addition, the program has also help me to be watchful and make good use of the resources around me. Instead of just giving up and asking someone to help me do my work, they encourage me to use my textbook, ask my teachers for further explanation and research helpful videos. An example of a time when the program really assisted me was through my journey taking Physics 20. Physics isn't really my strong suit and I was never be able to grasp the different concept and ideas. I was very frustrated and wanted to just give up and drop the class. Odeza, a program tutor, encouraged me not to carry on with this idea. She assisted me with the different labs, homework assignment and helped break down the different ideas. I also received assistance from my peers skilled at physics in the program. Although my final mark of 65% seems not so good, I know the amount hard work, perseverance and late nights it took to achieve this and I am proud of myself. I'm proud that I was able to get the credits. Proud that I stood strong through it all and proud to have the Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth by my side.”

- Eni Okelana

- Served 2332 immigrant and refugee children and youth across 29 locations including schools, public libraries, and low-income housing complexes
- Waived registration and transportation fees for all newly arrived refugees who registered in Summer Program
- Hosted 4 community fairs engaging over 500 immigrant youth and their families
- 95% of youth reported new or stronger friendships
- 90% of youth demonstrated increased motivation and persistence
- 91% of youth reported increased confidence and self-esteem
- Hosted 4 community events engaging over 600 attendees in total
- 550 youth enrolled in Summer Programming



RBC Youth Empowerment Program

“I had a little bit of connection with the Calgary Bridge afterschool program that took place in Judith Umbach Library, from there I got my help and support from them since I was in 7th grade as I yet had to master the basics and develop my English skills. When I entered high school I struggled with physics on my second year and when my mother reached out for the program we were told that there was an after school program that takes place in the high school, and they offered free tutoring and support. The RBC Youth Empowerment Program through The Calgary Bridge Foundation has given me not only experience, but also the benefit of developing as an individual. The environment helped me gain more confidence in myself in many ways, be it by expressing myself more or always bringing the best of me to achieve more. The program empowered me, they helped raise my social skills, I felt accepted, and I was motivated to excel. The tutors gave me individual and emotional support, furthermore when I struggled with math this year I received even more support from them and I couldn't be more thankful. They provided me with a one on one tutoring, and I was able to identify my issues which helped me fill in the gaps I was missing, and I saw quite an improvement.

In the past when I was in leadership I used to volunteer at my little sisters day care as I was interested in working with the kids. Wanting to not only have fun but also develop my volunteering experience. The Calgary Bridge Foundation has given me many opportunities to volunteer such as the Winter drive, CBFY Youth Conference, Youth Achievement Awards, and my most memorable experience and best one being WE Day. Many of these experiences helped me gain confidence with handling conferences and developing communication skills.”

- Aya Gaili



- 162 students served at John G. Diefenbaker High School 5 days a week
- 82% of participants that graduate from grade twelve are enrolled in post-secondary
- 77% of participants reported that they met or exceeded their pre-set academic goals with the help of the program
- 83% of students reported that the program gave more opportunities and confidence to take part in community or school programs.
- 77% of participants reported that they have made new or stronger friendships

Transition into Post Secondary (TIPS)

“At the beginning of grade 11, I got to know a lot of Chinese International students that went to my school. I started to hone my Chinese speaking skills as I wanted to fit in with them. It was upon their recommendation that I stayed after school, for something that the ‘Canadian’ kids in my class did not go to, and began going to the RBC Youth Empowerment Program. At first, I only went there because my friends were there and not because I thought I needed help with schoolwork, which to my classmates and I, was such a ‘foreigner’ thing to do. However, RBC did not give me the feeling of being out of place, and soon I enjoyed going there very much and started going as often as possible. I got a lot of help from the amazing tutors there on who helped me with everything from math and chemistry to university advice. The RBC program also introduced me to two other programs under CBFY, the Mentorship Program at St. Mary’s School and the TIPS program for high school students. I loved working with immigrant students at St. Mary’s. They were curious about my cultural background and for the first time in many years, I talked about my life in China and reminisced about the plum tree that I found fascinating. I was a mentee in the TIPS program in October of 2017. My mentors were both from U of C and they helped me out a lot in terms of learning about how post-secondary institutions function. My friend and I were enthusiastic to go to all of the TIPS meetings and enjoyed having talks with our mentors. One thing that I love about CBFY is how included the people and programs made me feel. For the first time, I felt like speaking in Chinese to my peers and had the urge to share my heritage with others who were part of the program. The people in CBFY made me see that Canada does care about my culture and does value my beliefs and heritage. Being part of CBFY has made me strive to become like a plum tree, by being able to exist and grow in both worlds.”

- Yu (Sally) Zhou

- 37 youth participants and 37 mentors at 4 library locations
- 100% of clients feel prepared to apply for post-secondary in the next 1-2 years after the program
- 100% of youth would recommend TIPS to their friends
- 100% of youth felt a strong connection between themselves and their mentor(s)
- 100% of clients know what program and institute they would like to apply to after the program



Volunteers Resources Program

“My name is Bruce Hewitt and I am a CBYF volunteer. I volunteer as a high school math and science tutor. I began at Diefenbaker High School and now I am tutoring at Forest Lawn High.

I was born right here in Calgary 60 years ago. I am a graduate of the engineering department of the University of Calgary and have spent my career in electronics engineering, first in Montreal and then here in Calgary. In my work at Baker Hughes I develop electronics for “Smart Pipeline Pigs” which are tools used in pipeline maintenance to safely move oil and gas to the marketplace. Pigs are inserted into the pipelines and ride with the flow for a few hours up to several days. As it travels through the pipeline it gathers data which is analyzed after the run is completed. Through this analysis we can detect corrosion or rust in the pipeline walls. We can detect spots of corrosion as small as 10mm X10mm.

I am thankful for the career opportunities which have been available to me as a Canadian; opportunities which were available primarily because of a solid education.

At 60 years old I am not in the phase of life where one is focused on building a career, but am coming to the end of that life stage. I still have something to contribute. I did a self-assessment exercise with a group of friends and the result of my assessment is that I am thoroughly mathematical and technical in my talents and skills. At the same time I was becoming increasingly aware that we live in a world that needs individuals who use their talents and skills in ways that build up other people and enrich our communities.



I actively went searching online for tutoring opportunities where I could use what I've been given to encourage and support others who are pursuing goals similar to what mine were at their age. In my search I found CBFY, a local organization which I knew of by their excellent reputation in the community. As I recall, from my web search, the CBFY was looking for math and science tutors to work with high school students. It seemed pretty clear that this was an opportunity which fit my skill set. And here I am.

Tutoring math and science students at Forest Lawn High School is a joy! I am so impressed with the students; with their work ethic and determination. These are very impressive young people. It is a privilege for me to be in some way helpful to them as they pursue their academic and career goals, whatever those goals may be; a high school diploma and a good job or graduate studies in engineering or physics.

CBFY is doing it right, connecting students with appropriate and encouraging assistance.”

- 159 community volunteers were recruited, trained and placed in The In School Settlement Program, The Mentorship Program, The Afterschool Program and The RBC Youth Empowerment Program
- Program volunteers contributed 4814 hours which is equivalent to \$81,838

CBFY Recieves 100 Donated Laptops

The Electronic Recycling Association (ERA) donated 100 refurbished laptops to CBFY, which were distributed to CBFY youth and their families. As a Valentine's day gesture, 10 students from CBFY's Mentorship and Afterschool program received 1 of these refurbished laptops.

The First Volunteer Appreciation Celebration

The Volunteer Resources Department celebrated its first Volunteer Recognition Event where 30 volunteers attended. Congratulatory and inspirational speeches were made as volunteers and CBFY staff celebrated the night with great food. The Volunteer Resources Department was created and set up in July 2016 and had a pool of 159 volunteers volunteering in all of the programs of the organization.

Youth Conference: Power of Voice

The Mentorship Program successfully hosted its second annual Youth Conference where over 350 youth registered for this fun-filled, inspiring day. Several of Canada's diverse cultures were showcased at this event through dance and music and a cross-cultural fashion show. Throughout the day, the youth were inspired by motivational speakers and the eight breakout sessions provided them the opportunity to learn more about a topic of interest. The day's events equipped and encouraged them to use their voices confidently and to empower others to make a difference.

Youth Achievement Awards

CBFY celebrated its annual Youth Achievement Awards where 15 distinguished men and women were celebrated for their outstanding accomplishments. The night was filled with grandeur, celebration and mingling.

The Indigenous Education for Newcomers Initiative

The Centre for Newcomers hosted an Indigenous Education event which aimed to educate guests about the historical injustices and trauma that has contributed to the deep social, cultural, economical and spiritual challenges that Canada's Indigenous people face. CBFY took part in this event, bringing our Reconciliation tree made by Afterschool kids.

CBFY Participates in PRIDE Parade

Staff, friends, family and volunteers of The Calgary Bridge Foundation for Youth took part in the annual Calgary Pride Parade through downtown Calgary. CBFY was honoured to take part in this event!

The Shepherd Leadership Award

CBFY was awarded by The Calgary Catholic School District with the Sheperd Leadership Award. CEO Umashanie Reddy attended the ceremony and graciously accepted this award on behalf of all of CBFY. We wouldn't have been able to achieve this great accomplishment without the collaborative help from all CBFY staff.

The Annual Multicultural Newcomer Fair

CBFY held its 4th Annual Multicultural Newcomer Fair at Bishop Grandin High School. This year was a collaborative effort from both the In School Settlement and Mentorship team. The fair successfully achieved the goal of connect families and youth to community partners, providing a safe space for newcomers to share their stories and experiences, and provide workshops that will help support newcomers' journeys in adjusting to Canadian Society.

Ted Rogers Fund Visits CBFY

CBFY partnered up with The Ted Rogers Scholarship Fund to help support the ASP's NxtGen High School Homework Club. A representative from Rogers visited the Homework Club at Forest Lawn High School and our students were delighted to share their stories and accomplishments with her. To show their appreciation, the students created a collage of pictures and 'thank you' written in their languages to give to Rogers.

Spirit of Gold Nomination

In February of 2018, CBFY was nominated for the Together We Can Award at United Way's Annual Spirit of Gold Awards. This award recognizes a collaborative initiative which has developed significant partnerships with community agencies, community groups, government, businesses and/or citizens to address and alleviate complex social problems that can't be solved by one sector or organization alone in order to achieve large-scale, lasting social change.

Statement of Financial Position

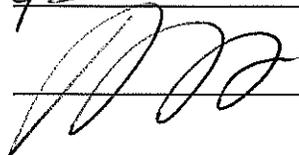
December 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	\$1,232,256	\$1,430,665
Short-term Investments	-	12,032
Accounts receivable	9,285	2,140
Government remittances recoverable	21,323	15,602
Prepaid expenses and deposits	68,779	45,717
Total current assets	1,331,643	1,506,156
Long-Term investments	20,167	-
Capital assets	94,897	92,666
	\$1,446,707	\$1,598,822
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 97,800	\$ 93,872
Deferred capital contributions	277,849	514,198
	375,849	608,070
Non-current liabilities		
Deferred capital contributions	48,016	44,979
Total liabilities	423,665	653,049
Net assets		
Invested in capital assets	46,881	47,687
Unrestricted	976,161	898,086
Total net assets	1,023,042	945,773
	\$1,446,707	\$1,598,822

Approved by the Board:



Director



Director

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Revenues		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	\$ 25,410	\$ 29,255
Registration	59,942	58,616
Fundraising	51,026	51,580
Donations - restricted	21,053	32,082
Donations - unrestricted	20,472	17,524
Programs:		
Government of Canada	4,386,977	3,567,467
City of Calgary	926,086	619,451
United Way	503,211	503,178
Other Programs	51,618	16,939
RBC Foundation	38,372	38,696
	6,084,170	4,934,788
Expenses		
Amortization of capital assets	47,331	44,524
Registration and administration	2,794	38,933
Fundraising	29,456	28,550
Donations - restricted	21,053	32,082
Loss on disposal of capital assets	-	749
Programs:		
Government of Canada	4,386,977	3,567,467
City of Calgary	926,089	619,451
United Way	503,211	503,178
Other Programs	51,618	16,939
RBC Foundation	38,372	38,696
	6,006,901	4,890,569
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 77,269	\$ 44,219

Funders & Partners

Funders



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



United Way
Calgary and Area
Building a great city for all.



RBC Foundation

Rotary
Calgary North



Partners



**Calgary Board
of Education**



**CALGARY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**



ALCATHOLD





THE CALGARY BRIDGE
FOUNDATION FOR **YOUTH**