

CAMPUS CALGARY/ CHEVRON OPEN MINDS

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



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MISSION

To transform teaching and learning by increasing student engagement through community, funder and educational partnerships.

Overview

PEOPLE. PLACES. PARTNERSHIPS.

Campus Calgary / Open Minds is an experience like no other. It provides opportunities for Calgary students and their teachers to experience an immersive 5-day field study at various vibrant community sites across our city. CC/OM brings the community together to meet the unique learning needs of today's students. Over 150,000 students have engaged in this way of learning since its inception, which all started with an idea and a dream. Don Harvie, a well-known Calgary philanthropist, and Gillian Kydd, a specialist with the Calgary Board of Education science team, worked together to create what eventually became Zoo School. Gillian believed that one week at the Calgary Zoo would be rich with learning and could be a catalyst for a year-long study. Thus, Zoo School was born, bringing students and their teachers into vibrant community settings for immersive week-long field studies.

Since that time, the Calgary Board of Education and the Calgary Catholic School District have collaborated with corporate Calgary and local community venues to bring high-quality and immersive experiences to Calgary students and their teachers. This education model is celebrating its 32nd year of excellence and innovation, bringing personalized learning programs to students. Campus Calgary / Open Minds provides a dynamic learning experience by taking students into the community and connecting them to experts who are passionate about experiential learning.

In 2024-2025, there were 11 Campus Calgary / Open Minds sites and three pilot sites:

- 2School: An Urban Experience at the CBE Education Centre
- City EcoAction School at Ralph Klein Park, Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, Reader Rock Garden
- City Hall School at the City of Calgary Municipal Building
- Healthy Living School at Calgary YMCA (Brookfield Residential YMCA at Seton and Shane Homes YMCA at Rocky Ridge)
- ConocoPhillips Hub for Inspired Learning at Arts Commons
- Jube School at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium
- Library School at Calgary Public Library (Central Library)
- Chevron Open Minds Science School at TELUS Spark Science Centre
- Seed School at The Mustard Seed
- Stampede School at Stampede Park
- Chevron Open Minds Zoo School at Calgary Zoo
- Contemporary Calgary Art Studio at Contemporary Calgary - Pilot Site
- Outdoor Leadership School at Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park - Pilot Site
- Youth Singers School at Youth Singers Calgary - Pilot Site

This year, 240 teachers and over 6200 students participated in Campus Calgary / Open Minds for a year of inspired learning. Site coordinators continued to use much creativity and innovation to create meaningful and rigorous site-based experiences for classes.

Passionate educators and experts at community sites continued to offer fascinating, educationally rich opportunities that engaged students in hands-on discovery, exploration, and reflection. Each CC/OM site offers a unique lens with which to uncover and examine curriculum. These dynamic experiences continue to make learning meaningful for students because they are engaged in authentic educational activities that allow them to make personal connections that will have lasting impacts. Campus Calgary / Open Minds creates an inquiry driven environment that allows teachers to gain a deeper understanding of students' skills, knowledge, and aptitudes. This enhances critical-thinking and problem-solving skills related to all curricular disciplines, and facilitates a deeper understanding of community, responsibility, cultural awareness, civic pride, and stewardship.

Students gain confidence as learners and engaged thinkers while seeing that they can make a positive impact through enhanced creativity, innovation, and communication. The CC/OM experience truly opens the minds of students giving each one a clearer understanding of their role within a bigger picture. Students become more connected to their community and take up current issues which push their knowledge beyond their local setting to national and global communities.

A Campus Calgary / Open Minds week is a time for students to ask questions, have meaningful conversations with experts in the community, slow down and reflect, journal and to sketch, and to make sense of the world around them. It is not a week in isolation, but rather a week that is a catalyst to a myriad of connections to personal experiences and classroom learning.

CC/OM has the potential to be a life-changing experience for teachers and students. It embraces a life-long and personalized approach to learning, personal management and well-being, literacy development, citizenship, and generates effective relationships with the community at large. Students, teachers, parents, experts, and community organizations learn alongside one another.



The program is unique for its length, prioritization of deep thinking and first-hand experiences that transcend curricular outcomes, time to slow down and reflect, and the ongoing professional learning for teachers. Campus Calgary / Open Minds experiences truly transform learning to its highest levels.

We are doing together what we can't do alone!

PILOT SITES FOR 24-25

It was wonderful to welcome new sites to Campus Calgary / Open Minds as pilots. Working with coordinators and other site personnel to create Pilots for Contemporary Calgary Art Studio, Outdoor Leadership School, and Youth Singers School provided opportunities to formalize some Pilot Site Structures, including professional learning for pilot teachers, surveys for teachers, Operations Team, students, and pilot site coordinators. Debrief meetings were also integral to provide feedback in a timely manner. It's exciting that all three pilot sites are continuing as pilot sites for the 2025-2026 school year.

DIVERSE LEARNERS & CC/OM

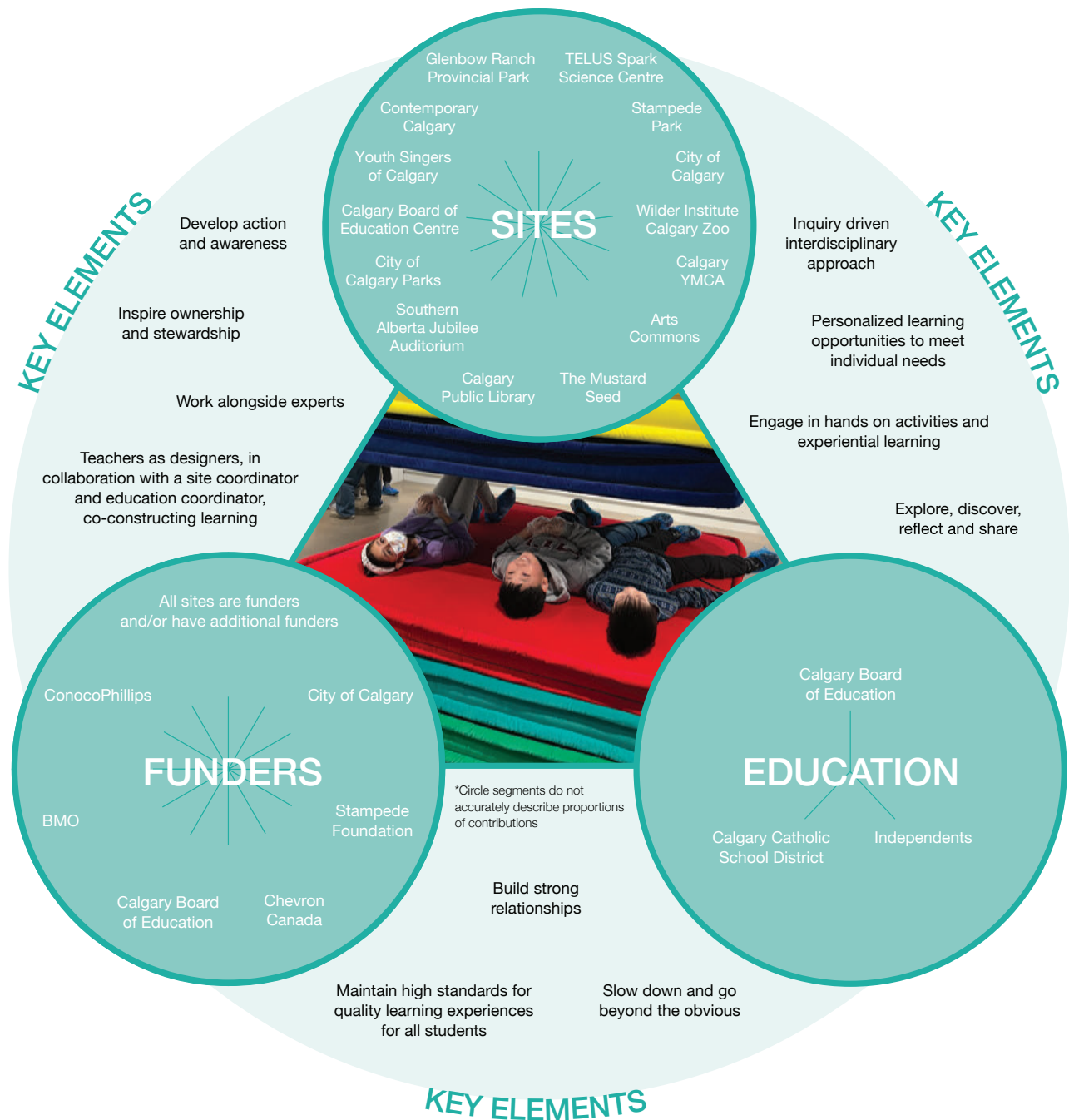
This year there were various diverse learners from both CBE and CCSD who participated at sites. CC/OM experiences are for all learners and help strengthen the entire program through ongoing learning and program development.

Community

Support for the Campus Calgary / Open Minds model comes from funding partners, community sites, and education institutions that collectively share the responsibility and privilege of ensuring that the philosophical tenets of the program are upheld. We are indebted to all the partners for their commitment to the success of this innovative way of teaching and learning. Annual contributions to this program from community and education are in excess of **\$1,800,000**.

OPEN MINDS	Chevron Canada Resources	Jacqueline Harris, Advisory
Zoo School	Wilder Institute Calgary Zoo	Daniel Gregorash, Coordinator
Science School	TELUS Spark	Zack Anderson, Advisory Donna Kipta, Supervisor Megan Jarman Clark, Coordinator David Moore, Coordinator
CAMPUS CALGARY		
City Hall School	City of Calgary Calgary Municipal Building	Jenelle deJesus, Coordinator
Stampede School	Stampede Foundation Stampede Park	Aaron Park, Advisory Andrew Morrow, Coordinator Angus Docherty, Coordinator Susan Arthurs, Education Manager
2School: An Urban Experience	Calgary Board of Education	Margeaux Montgomery, Coordinator
ConocoPhillips Hub for Inspired Learning	Arts Commons	Karen Youngberg, Program Associate Jenny Dale, Coordinator
Jube School	Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium	Brianna Ross, Coordinator
SEEDSchool	The Mustard Seed	Cecily Letendre and Danielle Burns, Coordinators
City EcoAction School	City of Calgary Parks	Leah Eford and Rachelle Gauvin, Coordinators
Healthy Living School	YMCA Calgary	Morgan Fong, Coordinator
Library School	Calgary Public Library	Sam Ross, Coordinator
EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS	Calgary Board of Education	Joanne Pitman, Chief Superintendent Jennifer Turner, Superintendent, School Improvement Garry Tink, Director, Education Partnerships and Campus Calgary / Open Minds
	Calgary Catholic School District	Bryan Szumlas, Chief Superintendent Helmut Kaiser, Director of Learning Services Kirk Linton, Supervisor, Learning Services

Doing Together What We Can't Do Alone



Sharing Our Story

This school year provided opportunities to share and celebrate Campus Calgary / Open Minds story in a variety of ways. Firstly, City Hall School celebrated 25 years and secondly, the stories which teachers share in their Application Supporting Documents as to why they want a Campus Calgary / Open Minds experience, for themselves and their students.

Celebrating 25 years of City Hall School • By: Jenelle de Jesus

This year marks the 25th anniversary of City Hall School in Calgary! Acknowledging this milestone requires reflection on the journey that brought us to this place in time – from an idea, to a pilot site, to a full-time program in a permanent place on the main floor of the municipal building here in Calgary – City Hall School has involved students (and adults!) in learning about local government, what it means to be an engaged citizen and how these pieces have a direct impact on their lives as Calgarians.

City Hall School was officially launched in March 2000, beginning with six pilot classes and Coordinator Diane Murray laying the foundation for the program. The City had transformed a committee room into a classroom, located on the main floor, giving the public a glimpse into how young people can engage in learning about municipal government and civic engagement.

Over the years, City Hall School has shaped a legacy of educating youth in the city. Some of the achievements include:

- 2002: Campus Calgary / Open Minds City Hall School receives 2002 Mayor's Excellence Award – Calgary Partnerships in Education Foundation – City Hall School: Professional Development Award
- 2014: Celebrates 10,000 students taking part in the program
- 2020: City Hall School shifts to connecting with students virtually, due to COVID-19 pandemic, and continues to engage students in community. This includes a collaboration with Jube School for a project titled the Gratitude Project
- 2021: City Hall School returns to in-person learning
- 2025: City Hall School celebrates 25 years of programming and over 17,000 students participating

Those early years helped to form the cornerstones of the program that continue today. Each week, students have the opportunity to attend a meeting in the Council Chambers, meet Calgary's Mayor and their Councillor, and connect with city employees and community experts. These experiences connect to their yearlong big question and have classes understanding more about how decisions are made, as well as the impact that those decisions have on themselves and their communities.

To celebrate the occasion, we hosted a gathering where students, previous teachers and Coordinators, delegates, city employees, Campus Calgary/ Open Minds staff, school board representatives, and community experts came together to share stories and reflect on the impact that the program had and continues to have on youth in Calgary.

“
The 25th Anniversary of City Hall School is a testament to the hard work, dedication and passion of everyone involved. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the teachers, students, partners and community for their ongoing commitment to creating welcoming spaces for all Calgary citizens.
Together, we will continue to build on this legacy of engaging youth in understanding municipal government and civic engagement.”



Application Supporting Document

Teachers applying for Campus Calgary / Open Minds are asked a series of questions that include what their big idea or question is and how this experience will impact both them and their students. Here is a small sample of some of the stories that teachers shared with us on the applications this year.

What is your Big Idea or Question or Provocation and how do you see this influencing your year's work?

- How does human ingenuity affect our shared spaces to build strong communities?
- How can we cultivate genuine empathy for others in a global community and how can this empathy drive change in ourselves and others?
- How can we incorporate the teaching of the medicine wheel to promote health and well-being in our daily lives?
- What is the meaning of home?
- "How do stories shape our understanding of ourselves, others, space and place?"
- What can we do today to make tomorrow better?

What do you hope and/or want students to come to understand as part of this Campus Calgary / Open Minds experience?

- We hope for our students to come to understand the interconnectedness of home, community, and city. The connection between all three are like the ripples in a pond – they all influence each other even though we may not see it directly all the time.
- We want our students to recognize that choices and actions have power, and that part of their job as citizens is to engage their power in a positive manner.
- We want our learners to see the value of our past and how it has shaped who we are today with the tools we use, the systems we follow, and what we value.
- We would like students to understand that learning happens everywhere and that teachers are everywhere.



Campus Calgary / Open Minds is just as much for teachers as it is for students. With that in mind, what do you want to come to understand as part of this CC/OM experience?

- I think it's about time I stop sitting on the sidelines and just go for it. In the words of one of my favourite teachers "Take chances, make mistakes, get messy!"
- We want practices in place that will leave a legacy for our school, so that long after this program is done, it will continue in the following years.
- We believe that the Open Minds experience is irreplaceable for creating community, belonging, and understanding.

Why this site? How do you anticipate this site supporting your big question / idea / provocation and your students' yearlong learning?

- These students are our future scientists, and we hope that by igniting their early curiosity in math and science, they are inspired to activate their learning and continue to contribute to making this a better world for everyone.
- The site's commitment to accessibility ensures that all students have equal opportunities to participate fully in the learning experience, regardless of their abilities or backgrounds.
- It is not lost on us that these students have been missing the connection to the world around them. This cohort has been seeking belonging.

Tell us about your students and school community.

- Our students come from diverse backgrounds through language, culture, family dynamics, history, and socioeconomic status. We want to allow them a place to build teamwork skills and cooperate.
- This experience would be impactful for our students and our school community because of the diversity of the students we teach...provide them with the opportunity to slow down, journal, and reflect on their learning. This opportunity can help develop awareness, tell their story, build human connection, and develop lifelong learning.
- This experience will help many students have an experience that they don't normally get to have. The kids wear their hearts on their sleeves, and the parents are so supportive of opportunities like this because they understand the importance of their children having experiences like this to grow and the lasting impact it can have on them.

Operations Team

A Campus Calgary / Open Minds' week is a time to ask questions, have conversations with community experts, to slow down and reflect, to document, to journal, and to sketch. It is not a week in isolation, but rather a week that brings all classroom learning together. Students gain confidence as learners when learning is structured to capitalize on each student's interests, skills, and aptitudes. **All stakeholders benefit from this educational model.**

Representing both CBE and CCSD, the CC/OM Operations Team informs and supports the educational integrity of the program. This team ensures optimal learning by implementing actions designed to meet CC/OM goals and ensuring the program philosophy is preserved at all sites. We really are doing together what we can't do alone!

We represent Campus Calgary / Open Minds within the greater community and keep CC/OM vibrant & sustainable through:

- Professional and personalized educational leadership throughout the CC/OM Year; collaboratively empowering all stakeholders
- Information and Application Workshops, Spring Welcome In-services, Summer Workshops, Fall Pedagogy Sessions, ongoing Professional Learning Workshops (both in-person and virtual)
- School-based planning meetings with teachers and site coordinators
- Site visits with site coordinators, teachers, students, parents, and experts
- Site coordinator planning sessions, professional learning, meetings, and application process
- Calgary City Teachers' Convention session and booth
- Event and conference planning
- Advisory meetings and Advisory committee work
- Education team meetings and district meetings
- Working with pilot sites and ensuring processes are followed for success and mentorship
- Connecting all to a larger Professional Learning Community using social media spaces, including @yycccom on Instagram, connecting and broadening our audience through social media.
- Face-to-Face meetings with CC/OM Advisory and sites
- Stakeholder meetings
- Annual Report, resource development, marketing, and awareness
- Conference presentations: local and international
- Consultation with inquiring districts - local and national
- Development of Journey into Journaling Resource to support participating teachers and CC/OM coordinator team
- Professional development opportunities within school district and co-taught lessons to classrooms



“We are grateful to steward this work with diverse stakeholders within the Calgary community. Working with site coordinators, teachers, students, parents, advisory members, and community experts provide opportunities for us to share the importance of in-community learning for students of all ages. When students see themselves in community spaces and places, they know they belong – **this is the power of CC/OM.**”

- Operations Team

Teachers from both the Calgary Board of Education, the Calgary Catholic School District, and independent schools all understand the benefits of learning in this way. CC/OM continues to seek new partnerships to ensure continued growth to meet demand. Our CC/OM Operations Team works closely with our CC/OM Advisors to pursue growth in sustainable ways.

Benefits

TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

- Provide meaningful professional learning and structures that allow regular exchange of ideas and best practices
- Instill qualities and abilities to be creative thinkers and engaged citizens
- Offer relevant, rigorous, and rich learning opportunities through the process of inquiry and experiential learning within a safe environment
- Inspire to become engaged in interdisciplinary inquiries, personalized for their own passions and interests
- Build and strengthen relationships within the community

FUNDERS

- Meet community investments goals
- Understand and contribute to the needs of community and education
- Increase employee pride and satisfaction
- Seen as organizations that gives back to their community

CAMPUS CALGARY/OPEN MINDS COMMUNITY SITES

- Become engaged partners in the education of Calgary youth
- Provide leadership and expertise
- Increase utilization and access to a broader audiences
- Increase employee pride and satisfaction

PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- Ensure resources are utilized sustainably and efficiently
- Build teacher capacity
- Engage public and reinforces the importance of education
- Empower learners to become problem solvers, creative thinkers, and engaged citizens

PARENTS, FAMILIES, AND VOLUNTEERS

- Learning and leading alongside classes
- Acting as experts, connecting to community

“It was the best week of my teaching life!

Thank you for this amazing opportunity.”

- Teacher



Advisory

The role of the Campus Calgary / Open Minds Advisory is to provide advice and support the day-to-day work of the Operations Team while anticipating and planning for the future needs of partners at community sites, at schools and education districts, as well as with funding partners.

Through the development of the CC/OM Advisory Road Map, we clarified our focus, being that of Stewardship, Community, and Decision Making. This Map is an anchor document that can be adapted and revised as necessary, based on changes in education and needs of sites and community. The map further clarifies advisory direction being about: Community Partnerships, Community Knowledge and Reputation, Sharing Through Story and Data, and Program Sustainability. These areas will continue to be the direction moving forward in 2025-2026.

Face-to-Face Meetings

Every year, the CC/OM Operations Team and Advisory meet with our sites to discuss updates of the advisory and check in to see areas of support we can offer and to review programming. These are important conversations as they intentionally connect the various stakeholders involved in site schools, such as coordinators, their supervisors, other site personnel who are involved and support the CC/OM programming. Each CC/OM site is unique, bringing with them their own mission, vision, and guiding principles. Ongoing conversations are important to maintaining and supporting the integrity of Campus Calgary / Open Minds.

New Partnerships

This year, the Campus Calgary / Open Minds Advisory and Operations Team have met with various community partners to explore the possibility of new organizations becoming pilot CC/OM sites in the future.

The Advisory team this year engaged in a variety of activities that have strengthened partnerships and continued to steward the Campus Calgary / Open Mind program.

Thank you to Trish Savill who served as CC/OM Community Chair and Jennifer Meredith who served as CC/OM Education Chair of the Advisory. We are grateful for your work and your commitment to this complex work. With guidance from Executive Sponsors and Stakeholders, future goals will continue to align with our vision *“Each student experiences personalized learning within a connected community”*.



“
This was a
good opportunity
for many students to
**experiment with
thinking in new and
different ways.**”

- Teacher



Thank you to our Advisors for their time and commitment:

Trish Savill – Community Chair

Jennifer Meredith – Education Chair, CC/OM Operations Team, CBE

Marta Albertin – CC/OM Operations Team, CCSD

Zack Anderson – Site Representative from Open Minds Science School

Kevin DeForge – CCSD

Jacqueline Harris – Chevron

Kirk Linton – CCSD

Chris Lough – Community Member

Natasha McKay – CC/OM Operations Team, CBE

Aaron Park – Site Representative from Campus Calgary Stampede School

Allison Schulz – Calgary Foundation

Gary Tink – CBE



Executive Sponsors:

Jennifer Turner – Superintendent, School Improvement – CBE

Helmut Kaiser – Director of Learning Services - CCSD



“ Thank you for the incredible experience.

I can't say enough THANK YOUs to you and your team.

It truly has been the best experience!”

- Parent



The Coordinator Team

The Campus Calgary / Open Minds' Coordinator Team meets regularly alongside the Operations Team for Community of Practice conversations. These conversations focus on effective practice, designing intentional and purposeful tasks, and site-based learning opportunities for classes. Together, we collaborate to consider program opportunities and challenges and to engage together in meaningful collaborative conversations and learning.

This year the coordinator team contributed words that both inspired and shared their hopes for the upcoming year. These words became the intentions and throughlines for our time together at each coordinator meeting, weaving together individual hopes for collective learning and sharing.

This year we continued to have the opportunity to gather in many places and spaces as a coordinator team:

- We had our first meeting of the year at Sweetgrass Lodge at Stampede Park. Along with a Stampede School experience, we created watercolour paintings and met with the CC/OM advisory, coming together as our larger CC/OM community
- We explored beautiful Ralph Klein Park as part of City EcoAction School and dug into our intentions of *Connections, Cha(lle)nges, and Questions*
- We discovered ways to engage *Wonder, Rhythm, and Ignite* our thinking and learning at Science School at Telus Spark

“Coming together as part of the CC/OM community is so pivotal to the practice of being a site coordinator because you get an opportunity to share in the learning and practice at all the sites. **This allows us to learn from one another and be inspired by the unique contexts that reflect the many different sites and site staff.** Even as a longer term member of the CC/OM community, I still find myself learning so much from other sites and engaging in inquiry during the meetings allows me to expand my repertoire of journaling strategies and techniques.”

- Site Coordinator



- We wondered and observed while at Zoo School at the Wilder Institute Calgary Zoo filled with *Anticipation*, focussing on being Slow and Intentional while experiencing some *Rejuvenation*
- We shared *Gratitude, Flow, and Engagement* together during our Seed School experience at The Mustard Seed
- We were filled with *Questions, Excitement, and Connections* as we spent time together at City Hall School at the Municipal Building
- We came together at Sweetgrass Lodge at Stampede Park for our application review meeting and looking towards next year, filled with *Anticipation*, and *Excitement* while focussing on *Balance* as we worked together as the *Dynamic* team we are
- We celebrated all the opportunities and experiences of the year at Library School, as we finished the year with an incredible feeling of *Gratitude*.

At the close of every meeting, we asked everyone to share their 'takeaway thought or learning.' Together these created a tapestry of our collective work and shared learning for the year.



“Getting to meet as a coordinator team has been instrumental in my professional development as a coordinator.

Learning from each other through interdisciplinary curricular ways continues to open my eyes to the world around me and what learning opportunities are available for teachers and students. It is also a space to gather and listen to others who are deeply engaged and passionate about this work.”

- Site Coordinator



Professional Learning for Teachers

As part of a Campus Calgary / Open Minds experience, teachers have many Professional Learning opportunities throughout the year. We know that these Campus Calgary / Open Minds' experiences are for students, but they are also very much for teachers. Teachers consistently share that their work with the program results in enduring and meaningful change of practice. This change is the result of many touch points and ongoing communication.

CC/OM INFORMATION SESSIONS:

Information Sessions are opportunities for new to CC/OM teachers to learn more about site experiences, the philosophy of our program, changes to application requirements, and the benefits of a field study experience. We hosted two presentations, at Teachers' Convention in the City Hall School classroom and one in April at Sweetgrass Lodge at Stampede Park.

SITE-BASED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING:

Professional Learning includes Site-Based Experiences such as Spring Inservices, Summer Workshops, and Fall Pedagogy Sessions. The Spring In-service provides an opportunity for teachers to learn about the vibrant community site they will be working with. The Summer Workshop is an immersive experience where teachers are able to step into experiences similar to what they and their students will experience during their field study. The Fall Pedagogy Session provides an opportunity to learn more about the Journey into Journaling resource, a variety of sketching techniques, thinking routines, and how using a sketchbook can enhance a CC/OM experience and be beneficial throughout the school year.

PLANNING MEETINGS:

Each teacher has a personalized planning meeting at their school with the site coordinator and a member of the Operations Team to discuss their big question, classroom complexities, anticipated curricular connections, and their hopes and dreams for their time on site. At each meeting teachers are given a chance to adapt and/or emphasize certain aspects of their application based on their experience with the classes that they have come to know more closely throughout the course of the year. Teachers are also encouraged to engage in journaling opportunities and reflections at school in preparation for their 5-day field study!

WORKSHOPS:

Teachers are invited to participate in Professional Learning opportunities throughout the year that are reflective of trends in education and aligned with CC/OM philosophy and key elements. The feedback from participants was very valuable and validated that we have been very purposeful in creating Professional Learning opportunities that are authentic, responsive, and help to build capacity for teachers.



“
Through our experiences in CC/OM, we hope to develop a habit of reflective practice, where we can critically examine our teaching methods, assess student learning outcomes, and identify areas for improvement.”

- Teacher



In-Person Workshops: This year, we offered two in-person workshops, open to all participating teachers and the Campus Calgary / Open Minds' Team.

Our fall workshop on October 1st, "Coming to Know and Understand Communities as Places for Learning" was hosted at Bowcroft School in the North and Sibylla Kiddle School in the South. Teachers learned new and interesting ways to use their school's community as a place for exploration and community building, and to expand their Campus Calgary / Open Minds experience, making connections between their site and their own school communities. Participants also were provided with many resources about community learning opportunities.

Our winter workshop on March 11th, 'Sketchnotes with Sam Hester', was hosted at Telus Spark. We had the opportunity to work with local Calgary graphic artist Sam Hester, who led us through various strategies to create visual notes which can help to synthesize knowledge and make connections. Sketchnotes are a form of creative expression that improve focus, promote active listening, aid in recognizing connections, and promote being present and slowing down. Sketchnotes combine creativity and communication.

Virtual Workshops: We offered four virtual 45-minute Professional Learning sessions this year that shared a variety of topics. These virtual mini-sessions were:

- Coming to Know and Understand Communities as Places for Learning ONLINE RESOURCES - After hosting our in-person workshop titled: Coming to Know and Understand Communities as Places for Learning, we offered the opportunity to dig deeper into the resources that were shared more in depth, by members of the CC/OM team
- Hexagonal Thinking and Event Mapping - In this workshop we explored how journaling and using various thinking routines help to make sense of the time on site and used throughout the school year in transdisciplinary ways. Participants learned how to use 'Hexagonal Thinking' and 'Event Mapping' to elicit deeper connection and thinking in students
- Connecting with the Importance of Journaling - We shared the importance of journaling and how it can be part of participants everyday in-class practice, in addition to an integral part of the on-site experience. This workshop shared various ways journals can be used to engage students and share creativity
- Curiosity Chains and CSI: Colour Symbol Image - Participants learned more about two of the Thinking Routines found in the Journey into Journaling resource. Curiosity Chains stimulate questions which lead to more observations, which lead to more questions, and so on. CSI: Colour, Symbol, Image provides opportunities for students to identify and distill the essence of ideas from reading, writing, viewing, or listening by using CSI to represent ideas

All of these workshops offered participants opportunities to learn new skills and have various touch points throughout the year with the Campus Calgary / Open Minds' community.

POST-SECONDARY CONNECTIONS: Teachers were offered opportunities to engage with a new thinking routine monthly, a info virtual session, and a 1hr co-taught cross-curricular journaling class for grades 1-6.

DISTRICT BASED OPPORTUNITIES: We always appreciate opportunities to connect with university teacher candidates about CC/OM. This year, we had the opportunity to work with both University of Calgary and Mount Royal University education classes, sharing CC/OM philosophy, task design, and engaged in journaling.

“
**Thank you
so much for this
amazing opportunity**

for not only the students but also for ourselves to learn and grow as a team! Looking forward to more opportunities this year to engage other PD opportunities to further our practice!”

- Teacher



Program Statistics

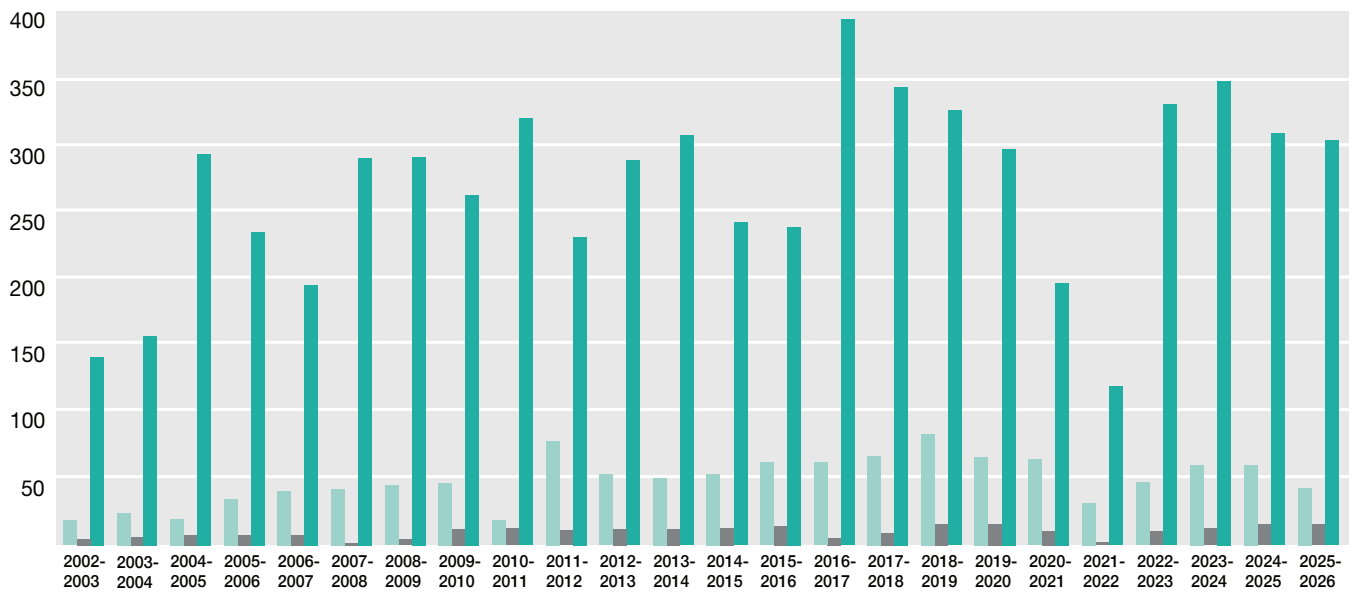
DATA FOR CAMPUS CALGARY / OPEN MINDS PROPOSALS ACCEPTED FOR 2025/26 (AS OF JUNE 2025)

Site	CBE Applied	CBE Accepted	CCSD Applied	CCSD Accepted	Independent Applied	Independent Accepted	Total Applied	Total Accepted for 2024-25
2school	33	25	0	0	0	0	33	25
City EcoAction School	42	11	2	1	0	0	44	12
City Hall School	10	24	1	0	0	0	11	24
Healthy Living School	18	15	5	4	0	1	23	20
ConocoPhillips Hub for Inspired Learning	21	16	10	9	0	0	31	25
Jube School	15	10	0	0	0	0	15	10
Library School	21	18	2	2	2	2	25	22
Science School	28	21	3	3	1	0	32	24
SEED School	7	10	1	2	0	0	8	12
Stampede School	63	21	5	4	0	0	68	25
Zoo School	50	20	11	6	0	0	61	26
Pilot - Contemporary Calgary Art Studio accepted 4 weeks for 25-26 school year (CBE x 4)								
Pilot - Outdoor Leadership School accepted 4 weeks for 25-26 school year (CBE x 2 and CCSD x 2)								
Pilot - Youth Singers School accepted 6 weeks for 25-26 school year (CBE x 5 and CCSD x 1)								
TOTALS	308	202	40 +2 to pilots directly	34	3	3	353	239

CAMPUS CALGARY / OPEN MINDS TEACHER / STUDENT PARTICIPATION 1993 - 2025

Community Site / Organization	Starting Year	Number of Teachers	Number of Students
CBE Education Centre	2010	340	9,056
City of Calgary Parks (Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, Ralph Klein Park)	1997 - 2013 2020	433	13,447
City Hall	2000	651	17,527
Calgary YMCA	2017, 2019	94	2,498
Arts Commons	1999-2001, 2015	199	5,323
Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium	2016	86	2,298
Calgary Public Library	2017	112	2,980
Science Centre / TELUS Spark	1997	753	20,532
The Mustard Seed	2017	89	2,328
Stampede	2003	559	15,068
Wilder Institute Calgary Zoo	1993	846	22,819
Aero Space Museum	2005 - 2017	111	2,997
Canada Olympic Park	1997 - 2012	202	5,398
Ann & Sandy Cross Conservation Area	2000-2021	160	4,320
Fire Training Academy	2007-2013	15	390
Glenbow Museum	1996 (on hiatus due to renovation)	672	18,144
Talisman Centre	2006 - 2009	48	1,264
University of Calgary	1997-2017	227	6,129
Vivo for Healthier Generations	2011-2019	131	3,497
Leighton Arts Centre (pilot)	2007	4	110
Reader Rock Garden (pilot)	2007, 2012, 2013	14	378
Camp Riveredge (pilot)	2002-2003	8	216
Manning Foundation (pilot)	2016	4	108
STEM Learning Lab (Social Enterprise and Tinker Schools)	2017-2020	39	1,053
Contemporary Calgary	2025	4	100
Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park	2025	4	100
Youth Singers of Calgary	2025	4	100
TOTAL		5,821	158,470

APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO CAMPUS CALGARY / OPEN MINDS



- Calgary Catholic School District
- Independent Schools
- Calgary Board of Education

For the 2025-2026 school year, we are approximately 50% OVERSUBSCRIBED. Demand for the program exceeds our current capacity.

Awards & Achievements

May 2025 – CC/OM nominated for Calgary Awards - Community Organization

March 2025 – Celebrated 25th Anniversary of City Hall School

June 2024 – CC/OM hosts the Beyond the Classroom Conference

May 2024 – Donna Kipta honored with (CASC) Cascade Award for Outstanding Career

June 2023 – Celebrated 25 years of Chevron Open Minds Science School

June 2023 – CC/OM Operations Team attends Harvard Project Zero Classroom Conference

June 2023 – 20 years of Campus Calgary Stampede School

April 2023 – Celebrated 30 years of Campus Calgary / Open Minds, and 30 years of Chevron Open Minds Zoo School

June 2020 – 10 years of Campus Calgary 2School: An Urban Experience

June 2020 – 20 years of Campus Calgary City Hall School

June 2018 – Celebrated 25 years of Campus Calgary / Open Minds

June 2018 – CC/OM hosted the Beyond the Classroom Conference

June 2018 – Proclamation from The City of Calgary for the 25th Anniversary of Campus Calgary / Open Minds.

April 2017 – Chevron Nominated for AFP Generosity of Spirit Award

March 2017 – Calgary Board of Education Lighthouse Award 2017: Chevron Science School at TELUS Spark

April 2016 – 100 000 Student Celebration

April 4-8, 2016 – Mayor Nenshi proclaims this to be Campus Calgary/ Open Minds Week

June, 2015 – Cenovus, CBE Lighthouse Award, Campus Calgary, Healthy Living School at Vivo

May, 2015 - Arts Commons, CBE Lighthouse Award, Campus Calgary, Hub for Inspired Learning

June, 2013 – Chevron, CBE Lighthouse Award, Open Minds Zoo School, Museum School and Science School

September, 2012 – Global Best Award for Building Learning Communities, International Partnership Network, Durban, South Africa

June, 2012 – Encana EcoAction School, CBE Lighthouse Award

January, 2012 – Mayor's Excellence Award, Calgary Partnerships in Education Foundation

September, 2008 – Global Best Award for Building Learning Communities, International Partnership Network, Helsinki, Finland

November 19 – 23, 2007 – Mayor Bronckonier proclaims this to be Campus Calgary/Open Minds Week

2007 Heritage Awareness Award – City Hall School for exceptional and innovative achievement in the heritage field

2007 – Woman of Vision Award – Gillian Kydd, program founder

2006 Calgary Board of Education Lighthouse Award: Stampede School

2006 SIGTEL – online learning award. First place project – Calgary Stampede and Treaty 7 First Nations, a historical perspective. International society for technology in education.

2005 Mayor's Excellence Award – Calgary Partnerships in Education Foundation – Chevron Open Minds: Special Settings

2004 Canadian Environmental Award (Silver) – Petro-Canada Bird School

2004 Mayor's Excellence Award – Calgary Partnerships in Education Foundation – Stampede School: Curriculum Enhancement & Development

2003 Alberta School Boards Association – Premier's Award for School Board Innovation & Excellence – Campus Calgary/Open Minds (Finalist)

2003 City Hall School – Calgary Heritage Award for Heritage Education

2002 City Hall School – CH2M-Hill Sustainable Community Award, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities

2002 Mayor's Excellence Award – Calgary Partnerships in Education Foundation – City Hall School: Professional Development

Calgary Awards 2001 – City Hall School – Community Achievement Awards - Honorable Mention: Education

The Emerald Awards 2001 – Education – Petro-Canada Bird School – (Finalist)

The Calgary Awards 2001 – Environmental Achievement: Individual – Cathy Cochrane for Petro-Canada Bird School

Alberta Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development: Innovative Practice Award 2001 – Gillian Kydd

Global, Environmental & Outdoor Education Council: Appreciation of Service Award 2001 – Campus Calgary/Chevron Open Minds

Museums Alberta 2000 – Award of Merit

Calgary Board of Education Lighthouse Award 2000 – Chevron Zoo School

Pan Canadian Learning Innovation Award 2000 – Campus Calgary/Chevron Open Minds (Honorable Mention)

Conference Board of Canada – Broad Community Collaboration Award 1999 – Campus Calgary/Chevron Open Minds

Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching 1999 – Awarded to Lindsay Johnston – Site Coordinator at Chevron Science Centre School

Royal Bank Partners in Education Award – 1999

Canadian Association of Zoos & Aquariums – 1998 Tom Baines Award – Chevron Zoo School

Museums Alberta – 1998 Recognition of Contributing Organization – Chevron Glenbow Museum School

Financial Post Award for Business and the Arts 1997 – Chevron Canada Resources for Chevron Open Minds Program

Calgary Downtown Merchants Award 1997 – Chevron Open Minds

The Calgary Awards – 1997 Citizen of the Year – Donald Harvie of the Devonian Foundation for his work on Campus Calgary/Chevron Open Minds

American Association of Science & Technology: Honor Role of Teachers – Sue McIntyre, participant in Chevron Science Centre School

American Zoological Association Award 1997 – Chevron Zoo School

Mayor's Environmental Award 1997 – Chevron Zoo School

Celebrating Partners

We continue to celebrate the many partners that contribute to the incredible experience of Campus Calgary / Open Minds and that make these opportunities possible to all stakeholders.

We truly are doing **together** what we can't do alone!



Vision: Each student experiences personalized learning within a connected community.



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