

THE INDIGENOUS ECONOMY:

Integral to the economic prosperity of Calgary and the Treaty 7 region

The Indigenous economy is resilient and foundational to the economic prosperity and growth of the Calgary and the Treaty 7 region.

The Indigenous Economic Contribution Study – released in 2023 – sets a benchmark and identifies opportunities to advance the economic participation and socio-economic outcomes for Indigenous Peoples in the Calgary and Treaty 7 region. The region can only realize its full economic potential by understanding current contributions, and championing progress towards Economic Reconciliation together.



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN CALGARY AND TREATY 7 REGION

Indigenous Peoples in the Calgary region are comprised of First Nations, Metis and Inuit.



There are over

40,000 Indigenous Peoples in Calgary, accounting for **3.2 per cent** of the city's total population.



The Indigenous population in Calgary grew by

3.6 PER CENT between 2006 and 2021, nearly **double the growth** of the non-Indigenous population.



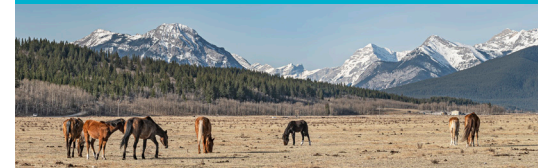
The Indigenous population in Calgary and the Treaty 7 region is young. Approximately

42 PER CENT of the Indigenous population in Calgary is **under the age of 25**, compared with 29 per cent of the non-Indigenous population.

SYSTEMIC BARRIERS FACED BY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Indigenous Peoples in Canada have contributed to their traditional, national, regional and local economies since time immemorial. However, over the last 150 years, this community has also experienced intergenerational trauma and systemic barriers through colonization.

These barriers include, but are not limited to, removal from traditional territories, limitations to access to loans and financial capital, exclusion from programs and limitations due to federally imposed structures. These barriers still exist today.



READ THE FULL INDIGENOUS ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION STUDY

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND PARTICIPATION

The Indigenous economy generates billions in economic output annually in the Calgary and Treaty 7 Region and is fueled by the young and rapidly growing Indigenous population.

- The Indigenous economy generated approximately **\$1.5 billion**, or **1.2 per cent of Calgary's total GDP** in 2021/2022.
- **Total employment supported by Indigenous expenditures was 12,800 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)**. This is equivalent to approximately 32 per cent of the total employment in Calgary's tech sector in 2021.
- **86 per cent** of Indigenous Peoples' household income is generated through employment.
- **The median income of Indigenous Peoples in Calgary (\$38,000) is lower** than the median income of the non-Indigenous population (\$45,200).

CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIGENOUS GOVERNMENTS, HOUSEHOLDS AND BUSINESSES MEASURED BY TOTAL GDP IN 2021/2022.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC RECONCILIATION

Economic Reconciliation is the process of making economic amends for historical injustices to Indigenous Peoples. The *Indigenous Economic Contribution Study* identifies opportunities for the Calgary community to reduce socio-economic gaps between non-Indigenous and Indigenous Peoples in the region and advance progress towards Economic Reconciliation:



Indigenous Procurement Program:

Collaborate with the City in its current development and implementation of an Indigenous Procurement Program to increase access to City contracts for Indigenous-owned businesses.



Strengthen Indigenous economic development:

Work with the Blackfoot Confederacy Nations, Tsuut'ina Nation, Stoney Nakoda Nations, Métis and urban Indigenous economic development organizations to enhance program offerings and support for Indigenous businesses.



Attract Indigenous meetings and events:

Foster a sense of connection by attracting Indigenous meetings and events, laying the foundation for relationship-building and encouraging the establishment of Indigenous businesses in the region.

Calgary can only realize a future-proofed economy that creates long-term prosperity and opportunities for all with intentional, intergenerational progress towards Economic Reconciliation.



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The *Indigenous Economic Contribution Study* was jointly developed by the Indigenous Relations Office of the City of Calgary and Calgary Economic Development