



Letter of Support: Indigenous Gathering Place Project in Calgary

To Whom It May Concern

This letter is in support of the Indigenous Gathering Place in Calgary. As our city's designated arts development authority, Calgary Arts Development has been paying close attention to the work of the Indigenous Gathering Place Committee since 2016. We deeply appreciate the approach of using both traditional Indigenous and western processes and protocols in creating a gathering place that is imbued with Indigenous arts and culture.

Calgary Arts Development supports the vision and principles laid out in the Indigenous Gathering Place Summary report published in February 2019 and subsequent updates on the Indigenous Gathering Place website. Our arts spaces strategy report, *Building on Our Momentum*, incorporates recommendations from The City of Calgary's *Cultural Plan for Calgary* (2016) and in the *White Goose Flying Report* (2016) in calling for support "toward projects that will fill an identified gap in Calgary's arts and culture infrastructure, such as infrastructure that supports Indigenous culture." Finding 1.1A of our report further notes that Calgary lacks "a year-round purpose-built space to serve as a gathering space for Indigenous Calgarians to practice cultural traditions and as a learning and meeting space for all Calgarians."

Please contact me if I can answer further questions about Calgary Arts Development's support for this important initiative that will further all Calgarians' journey of reconciliation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Patti Pon', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Patti Pon
President & CEO

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