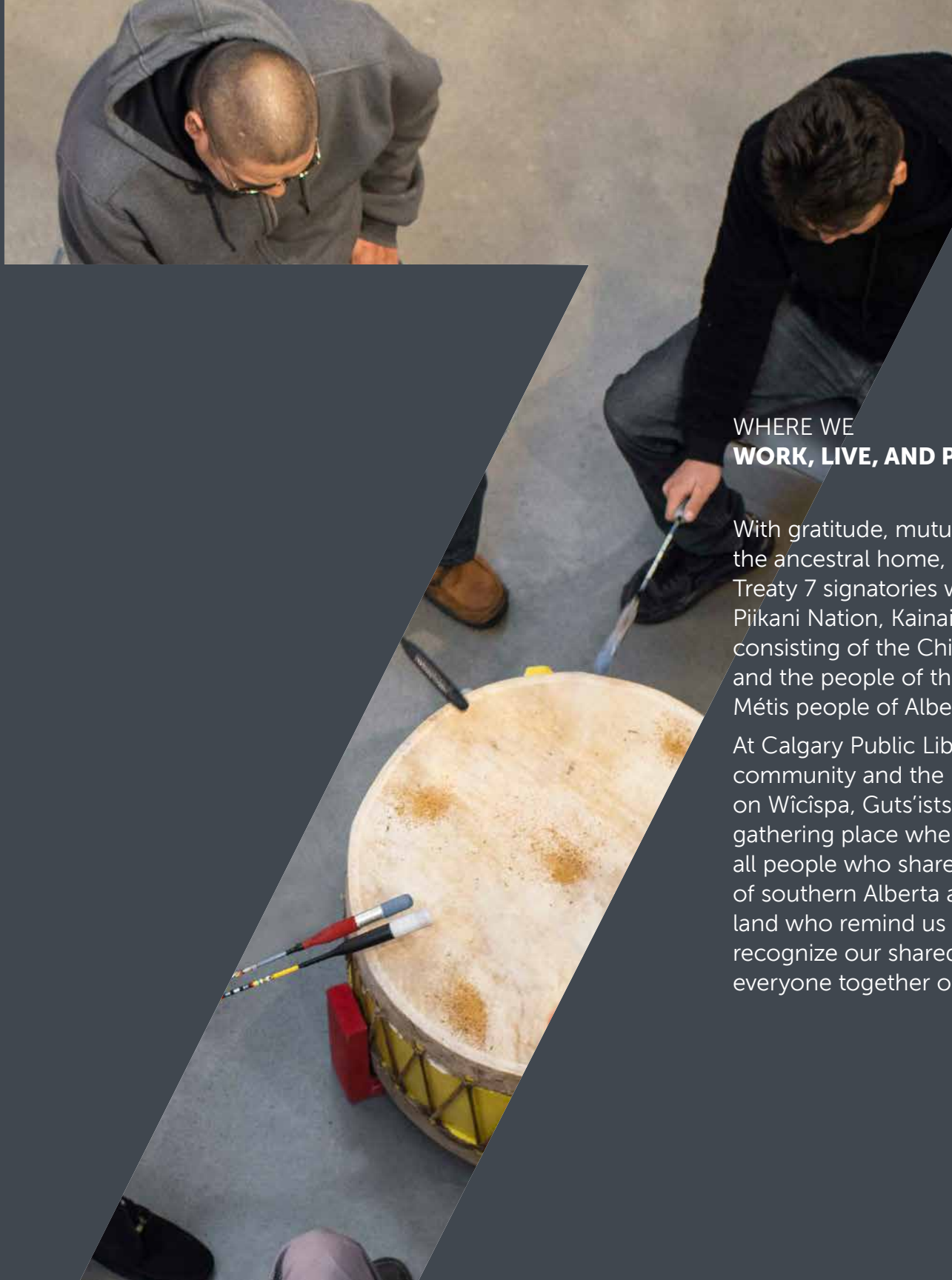




2022
YEAR-IN-REVIEW



CALGARY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION



WHERE WE **WORK, LIVE, AND PLAY**

With gratitude, mutual respect, and reciprocity, we acknowledge the ancestral home, culture, and oral teachings of the Treaty 7 signatories which includes the Siksika Nation, Piikani Nation, Kainai Nation, the Îlethka Stoney Nakoda Nation, consisting of the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Good Stoney Bands, and the people of the Tsuut'ina Nation. We also recognize the Métis people of Alberta Region 3 who call Treaty 7 their home.

At Calgary Public Library we celebrate stories: the stories of the community and the land that we live on. We serve the community on Wîcîspa, Guts'ists'i, and Moh'kinstsis, which describes the gathering place where the Bow and Elbow rivers meet. We respect all people who share, celebrate, and care for the Treaty 7 territory of southern Alberta and we honour the original caretakers of the land who remind us of the ongoing histories that precede us. We recognize our shared responsibilities going forward to help bring everyone together on this journey of Truth and Reconciliation.

MESSAGE FROM
TRACY JOHNSON

It is hard to believe that it has been **four years** since we celebrated the opening of Central Library. We are so proud to have been on this journey with you, and we are even more excited for what's yet to come with Calgary Public Library's new **four-year Strategic Plan**. This new roadmap promises not only an ongoing dedication to empowering community and lifelong learning, but also the opening of four new Library locations. It is an exciting time to believe in the Library!

In 2022, donor support enabled the Library to dream, to transform and to lead in access, connection and literacy. Thanks to our donors, we can confidently say that we are the best public library in the world...and we will not stop there. Donor support is actively shaping the potential of libraries and what they can be. **Innovation doesn't just happen at the Library, it starts here!**

Our Library is a leader. From our design-first approach to new programming, to recognizing our unique ability to address Period Poverty, to engaging citizens in timely conversations about human rights, Calgary Public Library is leading the way worldwide. Donor support allows the Library to be creative and daring, experimenting with new ideas and creating vibrant spaces that bring people together and meet changing community needs. As we look **four-ward**, and through the support of our donors, we are inventing the future of libraries.

Thank you for being on this journey with us.

Tracy Johnson,
CEO, Calgary Public Library Foundation

MESSAGE FROM
ROB VAN WIELINGEN

The past year has marked a turning point in our world, community, and for the Calgary Public Library Foundation. The Library has begun hosting programming in-person, and libraries across the city are once again becoming **bustling community hubs**. After two years of working and living digitally, we are now meeting and celebrating in person once more, and we have moved from responding to **proactively planning for what's next**.

Our donors have continued to step up in support of the Library, with more than 12,000 gifts made and 500 individuals who demonstrate their commitment each month. You have shown up at our events, purchased tickets for our 50/50 raffle, and ordered local gifts throughout the year from Library Store. Your generosity has enabled the Library to expand its programming, enhance its collections and serve even more Calgarians.

As we look to the future, we are energized by the Library's new four-year Strategic Plan and how it aligns with the Library Foundation's fundraising priorities. I would like to recognize the Board of Directors and the staff of the Library Foundation for their continued commitment, and want to acknowledge your ongoing support. **Thank you for helping to put our Library and city on the world stage**, connecting Calgarians to each other, to information, and to the international community. We are excited to continue our journey of transforming lives here in Calgary and beyond.

Rob Van Wielingen,
Chair, Calgary Public Library Foundation Board of Directors



IN 2022

THE LIBRARY CELEBRATED ITS 110TH ANNIVERSARY

In 2022, the Library celebrated its 110th anniversary and unveiled a new four-year strategic plan with a focus on creating purpose together, championing a sense of belonging, and energizing lifelong learning. The anniversary and strategic plan marked a year of celebration and renewal for the Library as it looked back on its history and forward to the future with a renewed sense of purpose.

The following successes were made possible thanks to the generous support of our donors.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

In 2022, **generous donors supported more than 1,872 hours of the Wellness Desk**, which provides access to mental health and wellness services with mental health professionals. The service is now offered at three locations five days a week; Central Library Tuesday through Friday, Crowfoot Library on Mondays, and Shawnessy Library on Wednesdays.

From January through November, more than 399 individuals were supported through the Wellness Desk. 64% of clients reported accessing the Wellness Desk for the first time, and 30% accessed mental health services for the first time ever. The Wellness Desk extends the Library's place as an integral connector between individuals and the resources they need to improve and enhance their lives.



Provide accessible mental health support in our community:
libraryfoundation.ca/wellnessdesk

*In partnership with: Wood's Homes.
Supported by: the Boone-Poole Family Foundation,
City of Calgary, Totem Charitable Foundation and
donors of the Library Foundation.*

"I would like to thank the staff who work for Wood's Homes at Calgary Central Library. One kindly referred me to the Inglewood location for help. I would also like to thank all the staff at the Inglewood location, for giving me food and the gift cards. Your humanity has been greatly appreciated."

— Wellness Desk Client

LOOKING FORWARD...

we will enable staff to support Calgarians with training, and expand to serve the community's mental health needs by meeting individuals where they are with the services they need.





FREE. PERIOD.

Last year, **generous donors gave \$35,000 towards the Free. Period. Initiative.** Since the program launched in 2021, more than 25,000 products have been distributed via nine dispensers in five Library locations. In 2022, the Library expanded the pilot to include Saddletowne, Forest Lawn, Judith Umbach, and Louise Riley libraries.

The City of Calgary, in partnership with the Library and Youth Central's Mayor's Youth Council, launched this pilot project in September 2021 to combat Period Poverty. *Free. Period.* provides free pads and tampons to anyone who needs them by making them available in Library washrooms—with no stigma or judgment.



Help us expand to provide free period products in all Calgary Public Library washrooms:
libraryfoundation.ca/freeperiod/

"I no longer need menstrual products, however, there were times in my youth that I was forced to choose between food and cleanliness. Food ALWAYS lost. Thank you for doing this."

— Free. Period. Survey Respondent.

LOOKING FORWARD...

we want to expand this initiative to all Library locations and end Period Poverty in our community.

MY FIRST BOOKSHELF

In 2022, donors enabled My First Bookshelf to expand to 2,500 children and delivered 24,325 books through the program, which delivers free books monthly by mail to children from birth to age five.

With only 20% of participants due to graduate in the next year, the demand for My First Bookshelf currently outpaces availability. Additionally, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is increasing pricing by 30 cents per book to accommodate rising postage, fulfillment, transportation and book costs. While this increases the cost of the program, with your support, we are forging ahead to ensure that every child who registers will continue to receive the books through their fifth birthday.



Foster a love of reading and learning for as little as \$6.90 per month:
libraryfoundation.ca/myfirstbookshelf

In partnership with: Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Supported by: Barbara Aitken, Canada Life, Canada Post Community Foundation, CBN Commercial Solutions, The Dollywood Foundation of Canada, Leah & Ernie Hagel, Hunter Family Foundation, Barbara Killick, the McNamara Family, the Moffit Charitable Foundation, Lorraine and Peter Moore, Norrep Foundation, UTILITYNet and Sandstone Energy, Viewpoint Foundation, and donors of the Calgary Public Library Foundation.

"(My son) is excited to walk to the mailbox in case a new book might be there waiting for him. He has memorized the words to a few books and I've caught him "reading" to himself a few times. Thank you for this program."

— My First Bookshelf parent

LOOKING FORWARD...

we will ensure that every child in our community has barrier-free access to books.



HUMAN RIGHTS AND HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

In January, Calgary Public Library and Edmonton Public Library launched a new initiative to raise awareness and engage Albertans in critical dialogue about Human Rights and Holocaust Education. A group of generous donors enhanced Human Rights Collections at both libraries and enabled new partnerships that resulted in classes and events to share ideas and support dialogue.

Since the launch, we have held **12 programs which have reached 2,149 Albertans and 14,322 students**. We have deepened our relationship with Edmonton Public Library, and enhanced our collections with relevant and important Human Rights and Holocaust Education resources.



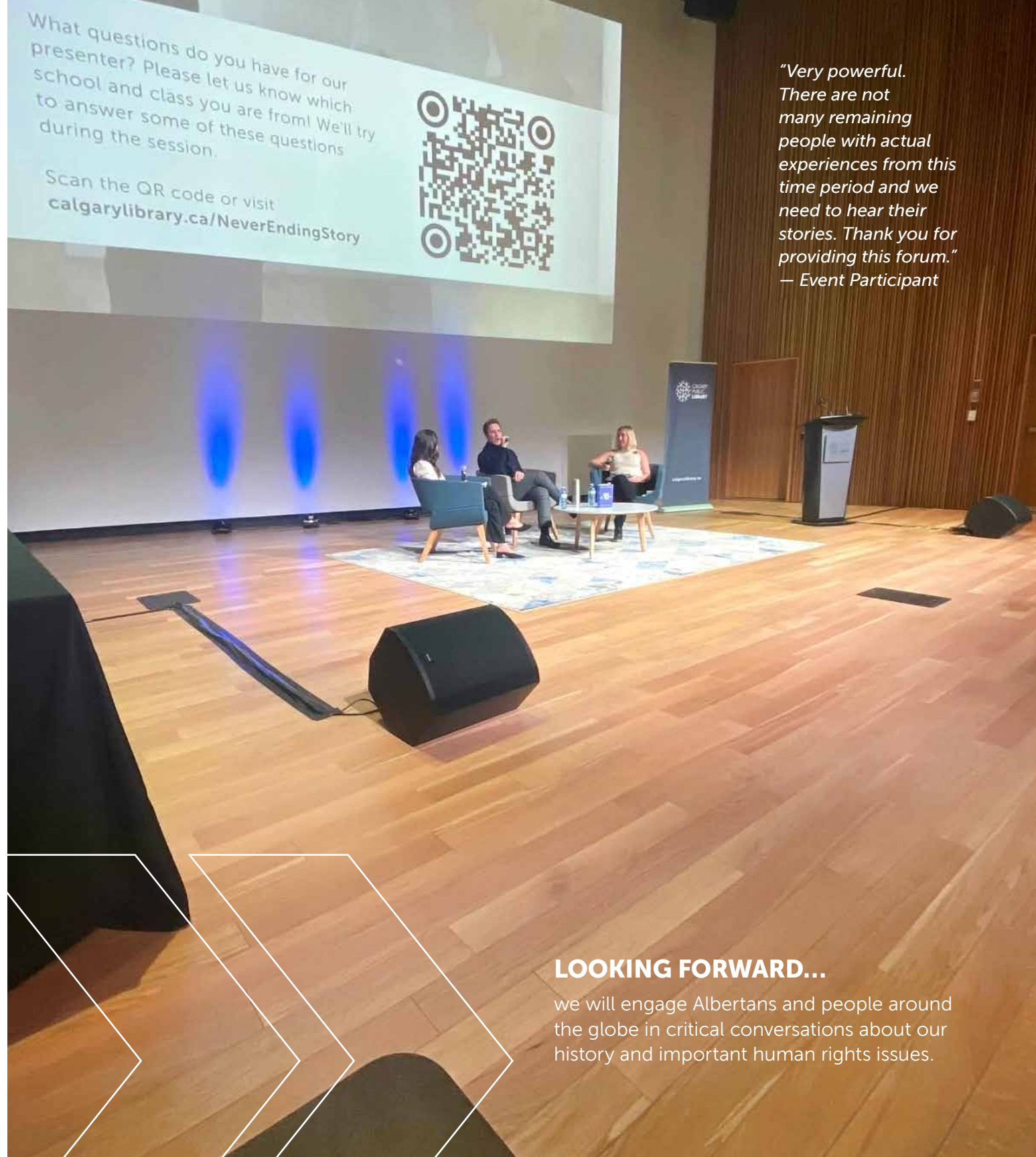
Raise awareness and engage Albertans in critical dialogue:
libraryfoundation.ca/hrhe

Supported by: Isadore and Florence Burstyn Memorial Fund, KSW Calgary Holocaust Education & Commemoration Endowment Fund, Viewpoint Foundation, and donors to the Human Rights and Holocaust Education Fund at the Calgary Public Library Foundation.

Holocaust Programming is held in partnership with the Calgary Jewish Federation.

—

Pictured: The Never Ending Story: a Conversation with Ben M. Freeman. November 10, 2022



*"Very powerful. There are not many remaining people with actual experiences from this time period and we need to hear their stories. Thank you for providing this forum."
— Event Participant*

LOOKING FORWARD...

we will engage Albertans and people around the globe in critical conversations about our history and important human rights issues.

"My children and I have made use of the children's programs and enjoy hanging out and borrowing books from the Shawnessy branch. As a teacher working with children and families struggling to access the services and supports they need, I believe the services the library offers are so valued."

*— Kate C., 2022
50/50 Winner*

EPILOGUE SOCIETY

In the spring, we unveiled the Epilogue Society, our newly-named legacy giving group. We were guided by what has been shared by many donors when making the decision to leave a gift in their will; the importance of building the future and directing how their story will be remembered. Leaving a legacy gift is a type of epilogue, setting the stage for the future and preparing the community for what is to come.



To learn more about leaving a gift in your will, visit libraryfoundation.ca/legacy

PAY IT FORWARD

Every year, we ask our Library community to Pay It Forward to help us reach more people with services that support them, for free. Our annual appeal took place in April on Library Giving Day, an international day promoting library philanthropy and advocacy.

Donations were matched by a generous group of donors. Inspired by the generosity of our community, a family offered an additional \$5,000 to expand the match and its impact.

Supported by: Judith Umbach, Glen & Nancy Charitable Gift Fund, and Anonymous (2)

50/50 RAFFLE

In 2022, we held three 50/50 raffles which raised \$62,140 for physical and digital Collections at the Library. With 95,000 new members last year and more than 16.3 million items borrowed, the demand for Collections has never been greater.

ENDING THE YEAR ON A STRONG NOTE

Our annual Charitable Gift Guide allows donors to support the area of the Library that means the most to them. The most popular areas of support this year included highest priority, collections, and My First Bookshelf.

Ten donors offered to match all donations made, and on December 31, a generous donor added additional incentive by tripling all donations made that day. Thanks to you, we surpassed our target and raised \$385,636!

Supported by: Anonymous (8), Judith Umbach, Michael and Ashley Lawson

The Library spent \$2.6M in donor funds this year on projects like:

- Collections
- Programming for all ages
- Early Learning
- Digital Services
- Indigenous Services
- Support for Job Seekers
- Residency Program
- A Scholarship for Youth Volunteers

LOOKING FORWARD...

we are excited to expand further into the community and inspire even more Calgarians to support their Library.



"Thanks so much and for providing such a nourishing place mentally, intellectually and physically for all Calgarians. The library really is a haven of community and connection when people need it most."

— Heather Bala Edwards

\$4,098,876 raised for the Library for today and the future

12,686 gifts

507 donors supported the Library every month

750,000+ active Library members

16.3M items checked out

9,054 programs delivered

44,115 bookings in 107 meeting rooms



YOU HAVE CHANGED LIVES IN OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH THE CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Looking forward....over the next four years, donors will help to transform Library services through innovative new projects and empowering our community. In addition to adding 57,000 square feet of public library space with the creation of Skyview Ranch Library, Belmont Library, Walden Library and Symon's Valley Library, we will further build our capacity and work at becoming an international leader in this area, attracting new talent and enabling the Library to share its expertise and findings with libraries and other organizations around the globe.

Join us as we invent the future of libraries together at libraryfoundation.ca

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Follow us @LibraryFdnYYC

LOOKING FORWARD

FORWARD

...a new Early Learning Space in 2023!