

Calgary Innovation Coalition (CIC)

Empowering Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Alberta

Mission

To accelerate the success of ventures by fostering collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and strategic support, addressing ecosystem needs, and guiding the development of innovation-driven entrepreneurs across Calgary and Alberta.

Vision

A thriving, inclusive, and globally recognized innovation ecosystem that drives economic growth, promotes diversity and fosters sustainable entrepreneurial success in the Calgary region.

Core Values

- **Collaboration:** Building strong partnerships and networks to create synergies within the entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- **Inclusion:** Promoting diversity, equity, and accessibility to empower underrepresented founders and communities.
- **Innovation:** Driving creative solutions that address challenges and unlock opportunities for ventures.
- **Sustainability:** Ensuring long-term growth and impact through strategic initiatives and resource stewardship.
- **Accountability:** Committing to transparent governance and measurable outcomes.

Strategic Priorities

- **Governance Excellence:** Implementing clear governance policies and forming committees to enhance operational efficiency and impact.
- **Partnership Development:** Strengthening relationships with stakeholders, including Platform Calgary, SAIT, Innovate Calgary, VMSA, and others.
- **Ecosystem Support:** Funding programs like Startup Essentials, the Platform Incubator, and Coalition Support for Calgary Entrepreneurs (CSCE) to foster innovation and entrepreneurship.
- **Inclusion and Accessibility:** Addressing barriers for BIPOC entrepreneurs and promoting equitable access to resources and opportunities.
- **Research and Knowledge Sharing:** Conducting internal reviews and studies to inform strategies and improve ecosystem alignment.

Impact Highlights (2023-2024)

- Enabled **33 startups** through the Platform Incubator, which collectively raised over **\$11.8M** in funding.
- Supported mental health awareness through the **Thriving Minds Peer Guidance** initiative, engaging entrepreneurs in critical discussions and personalized advising. ● Facilitated programs in **Due Diligence** through **Startup TNT** and **Founder Fridays** to enhance skills, knowledge, and community connections.

- Strengthened collaboration through our **Community Initiatives grant**, which funded projects advancing innovation readiness and community engagement for entrepreneurial support organizations.

Looking Forward

CIC is committed to addressing ecosystem challenges like funding biases, resource navigation, and inclusivity gaps. Through enhanced collaboration, strategic governance, and targeted programs, CIC aims to position Calgary as a leading hub for global innovation and entrepreneurship.

Contact Us:

For more information about our initiatives, partnerships, or funding opportunities, visit <https://www.calgaryinnovationcoalition.ca/> or email us at info@calgaryinnovationcoalition.ca

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