

# University of Calgary

## Senate Support of Strategic Plan

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The Senate is an independent body of diverse professional community volunteers and university leaders who share a passion for, and a belief in, the importance and immeasurable value of the University of Calgary.

The Senate harnesses talent, relationships and experience to support and advance the University of Calgary's strategic objectives in partnership with the community. The Senate plays a key role as ambassadors, connectors and champions of the university in advocating for post-secondary education and supporting the university's ***Ahead of Tomorrow*** strategy.

There are the 4 key pillars of the ***Ahead of Tomorrow*** strategy that all Senators must understand, incorporate and champion in the course of their activities:

### 1. Increase Access to Impactful and Future-Focused Education

- **Advocate** for more access to education for qualified candidates and more inclusive educational policies that make education more accessible for underrepresented and marginalized communities
- **Promote** initiatives that increase the diversity of voices represented within Senate and university leadership.
- **Support** university efforts to create inclusive learning and research environments.
- **Foster community engagement** initiatives that prioritize underrepresented, marginalized and Indigenous communities.
- **Champion** scholarships, mentorship programs, and experiential learning opportunities

**Senate Contribution:** Championing 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Students, Chancellor Mentorship Program, Youth Science Fair, Lecture of a Lifetime, Food Security

### 2. Harness the Power of Research and Innovation to Tackle Society's Biggest Challenges

- **Act as a bridge** between the university and external organizations, fostering collaborations that address societal challenges through research and innovation.
- **Support** initiatives to promote the university's research breakthroughs / findings to the broader public in clear and accessible ways.
- **Advocate** for increased funding and recognition for transformative research projects with lasting impact.

**Senate Contribution:** Lecture of a Lifetime, Honorary Degree Awards, OTUC's

### 3. Locate Community at the Centre All We Do

- **Strengthen public engagement** by encouraging community participation in university events, initiatives, and decision-making.
- **Strengthen relationships** with alumni, donors, and community leaders to enhance public understanding of the university's impact.
- **Enhance** Senate's role in providing strategic advice and community perspectives to university leadership.

**Senate Contribution:** Community Engagement Events, Recruitment, Youth Science Fair, Lecture of a Lifetime, Honorary Degree Awards, Convocation, Senate Alumni

### 4. Make our Processes Clearer, Simpler and Better than Any Other University

- **Champion good governance** within the Senate.
- **Prioritize Simple, Efficient Processes** within the Senate.

**Senate Contribution:** Simplified HD/OTUC nomination process, Senate Recruitment/Renewal, Onboarding/Offboarding, Skills Matrix, Senate Evaluation