ISS Welcome Webinar: 
Exploring Calgary

Session Etiquette

• Please keep your microphone off/muted
• Please note that questions asked during the presentation will not be answered. Once the Q&A portion begins, we will start answering questions then.
• If your question is not answered at the end of the webinar, first review the ISS website for resources (ucalgary.ca/iss), then email iss@ucalgary.ca.
• This session will be recorded. The recording and slides will be posted within 2 business days: ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/advising/iss-webinars-workshops
Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations, the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

The University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River, and the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is “Moh’kins’tsis”, which we now call the City of Calgary.

Image: The Cultural Model for the University of Calgary’s Indigenous Strategy, ii’ taa’poh’to’p
Welcome Webinar on
Discover

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9th Dec 2021
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International Student Services
- Coordinate transition support webinars
- Support Orientation events for international students
- Coordinate International Student Stories podcast series

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Webinar Agenda

- Introduction to the City of Calgary
- Using Public Transit (Bus & C-Train)
- Driving, Ride Share, Biking, Walking
- Around University
- Downtown
- Quadrant highlights
- Surrounding Calgary - Banff, Lake Louise, Drumheller
- Summary
- Resources to consult
- Questions

Polls
Calgary

- With a population of 1,581,000 people, Calgary is one of the largest cities in Canada.
- It is divided in 4 quadrants: Northwest, Northeast, Southeast and Southwest.
- Downtown Calgary is in center of the city with numbered streets and avenues.
Public Transit Fare: UPASS

https://www.ucalgary.ca/ancillary/parking/upass
Public Transit Fare: UPASS

1. Download the My Fare app
   • Download the Calgary Transit's My Fare app on the App Store for iOS or Google Play for Android devices.

2. Create your MyID account
   • Click on the menu in the top right corner of the My Fare app and select Profile.
   • Click on the New Account tab and create your MyID account using your UCalgary email address.

3. Get your verification code
   • A verification code will be sent to your UCalgary email address. Enter your unique verification code into the My Fare app.

4. Please wait 48 – 72 hours for your UPass to appear in your My Fare wallet.

5. Activate your UPass
   • Your UPass can be activated for use on the first day of each semester.

https://www.ucalgary.ca/ancillary/parking/upass
Getting Around: C-Train

• Most common challenges
  • Getting on wrong train downtown
  • Forgetting UPASS or fare
  • Delays or accidents = shuttle buses

• Best thing about C-Train
  • Good option after a night out
  • That one driver who tells jokes/weather updates...
  • Easy to read or relax while commuting
Getting Around - Bus
Getting Around: Bus!

• Bus routes extend from train lines or provide alternate options
• Fare is required (show driver UPASS)
• Route ### Name/Neighbourhood
  • Route 300 BRT Airport/City Centre
• **MAX Orange; MAX Teal; MAX Purple**

• Check the weather before leaving home
• Dress for the weather
• Wear adjustable layers
Getting Around: Where’s My Bus!? 

- Calgary Transit App 
- Google Maps 
- Teletext: 74000 
  - Stop number, space, route number
Getting Around: Where’s My Bus!? 

• Most common challenges
  • Missing bus (try to get to stop 5 min early)
  • Forgetting UPASS or fare
  • Hurry up and wait!

• Best thing about the bus
  • You don’t have to drive (or clear snow off your car 😊)
  • Drivers tend to be friendly and helpful!
Getting Around: Driving

- Calgary is built for cars
- Some parts are more walkable than others
- Residential areas—good to have a car
- Exploring outside Calgary—car or bus!

- Renting a Car
- Driver’s License: Registry Office
- Insurance!
- [https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/resources/getting-around](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/resources/getting-around)
Getting Around: Someone Else is Driving

• Uber
• Taxi

• Good options for short trips, errands
  • Taxi & uber good for after a night out or after 12:30ish

• Typically tip taxi/uber drivers 10-15%
Getting Around: Biking/ Scooters

- Bicycle helmets legally required underage of 18; highly recommended for everyone
- **Bicycles must have:**
  - One or more working brakes
  - Have a bell (to warn pedestrians you are approaching)
  - Have a headlight, tail-light, or reflector when riding at dawn, dusk, or dark
- Riders must use hand signals and shoulder check
- Pathways have speed limits (20 km/h)
- Use established bike lanes and pathways; otherwise, usually adults ride on roadways
  - Do not ride on busy major roads; unsafe
  - Always pass pedestrians carefully; on the left; ring bell or say “passing on your left” in advance
- Always lock your bike; thefts are common

Winter Cycling

• The route you take during fair weather may not be the best route in winter.
• https://maps.calgary.ca/PathwaysandBikeways/ - shows which sections The City clears after a snowfall.
• https://maps.calgary.ca/RoadConditions/ – shows when cycle tracks (Priority 1) and on-street bike lanes (Priority 2) are plowed after a snowfall
• Winter bike maintenance
• Winter Cycling Clothing
• Winter cycling equipment
• https://www.calgary.ca/transportation/tp/cycling/cycling-education-and-safety/winter-cycling.html
Getting Around: Walking

• Safety: [calgary.ca/csps/recreation/walking-safety.html](http://calgary.ca/csps/recreation/walking-safety.html)

• Kensington, Inglewood, Music Mile, 17th Avenue SW, East Village, Downtown Calgary

• The **Plus 15** is a network of pedestrian walkways that connect buildings throughout the downtown core.

• 15 feet above street level and include over 50 bridges

• The Plus 15 includes over 16 kilometres of pathways, making it the world’s most extensive pedestrian pathway system.
  - Available from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

• [https://www.calgary.ca/csps/athome/active/community-walks.html](http://www.calgary.ca/csps/athome/active/community-walks.html)

North West
UCalgary Campus

Follow @myucalgary on Instagram!
Getting Settled: Near Campus

• Brentwood Village
  • Bed, Bath, and Beyond
  • Canada Post
  • Dollarama

• North Hill Mall
  • Registry Express
  • Safeway
  • Walmart Supercenter

• Market Mall
  • Safeway
  • Clothing stores

• Cell Phone Plans
• Banks
• Post-Office
• Groceries
Outdoor Centre

- Gyms and Courts
- Studios Fitness and Lifestyle
- Field
- Pool
- Mountain
- Roads Pathways and Trails
- Lakes Rivers and Oceans
- Sky
- Climbing and Bouldering
- Skating Arena
- Classroom
- Camps
Nose Hill Park
Hexagon Cafe
Higher Ground Café (open late)
Best Ramen by Garrett Beatty
Also in Kensington
Sunnyside
North East
Genesis Community Wellness Center
Downtown & a few Inner City Neighborhoods
Chinatown
Riverwalk
Prince’s Island Park
The Peace Bridge
Downtown/Eau Claire > Kensington Sunnyside Station
Bow Building & Calgary Tower
Plus 15, 7th Ave (C-Train line), Downtown Calgary
Stephen Ave (8th Ave)
Pedestrian Walking Area
Downtown Train Stations
The Core
Devonian Gardens (indoor!)
Downtown Calgary
3rd Street Train Station
The Saddledome
17th Ave; Beltline
Victoria Park/Stampede Station
St. Patrick’s Island
Studio Bell: National Music Centre
East Village
The Central Public Library
Inglewood
Inglewood

• Independent Stores

• Some examples:
  • Madison’s 1212 (Nacho Place)
  • Recess (Stationary store)
  • Cold Garden (local Craft Brewery)
South West
Canada Olympic Park (COP)
South East
The South East

• Mostly residential & industrial areas
• Car (or bus)
• International Avenue
  • Diverse cultural food options
• IKEA is located in Deerfoot Meadows shopping area
• “Barley Belt”
• Farmers Markets
Surrounding Calgary
Commute surrounding Calgary

Calgary to Banff
(https://www.onitregionaltransit.ca/)

Calgary to Edmonton
(https://www.myebus.ca/)
Summary

• Parks:
  • Prince’s Island Park
  • Fish Creek Provincial Park
  • Confederation Park
  • Nose Hill Park
  • St. Patrick’s Island Park

• Grocery:
  • Real Canadian Superstore
  • Walmart
  • Safeway
  • Co-ops

• Landmark buildings:
  • Calgary Tower
  • Bow Tower
  • Canada Olympic Park
  • Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre

• Restaurants:
  • 17th Ave & Beltline
  • Kensington

• Places to visit near Calgary:
  • Banff and Lake Louise
  • Kananaskis, Canmore
  • Okotoks, Cochrane, Drumheller
Set Yourself up for Success!

Events

• ISS Winter Campus Tours
  January 1st week
  Registrations coming soon on ISS events page!

• Virtual Drop-In Advising
  https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/advising/international-student-services-advising

• View our COVID-19 FAQs

• International Student Stories
  Podcast Series
  https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/student-life/international-student-stories

Orientation events & programs

• Sign up for an International Student Mentor!

• Graduate International Student Orientation: Jan. 5, 9-10 a.m. MST

• Undergraduate & International Exchange Student Orientation: Jan. 5, 11am-12pm MST

• International Student Panel: Jan. 6, 11am-12pm MST

• Student panels, social events, and extended orientation workshops throughout January!
ISS Contact Information

• **Website:** [ucalgary.ca/iss/contact-us](http://ucalgary.ca/iss/contact-us)
  • ISS Newsletter: [ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/student-life/iss-newsletter](http://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/student-life/iss-newsletter)
  • Social events: [events.ucalgary.ca/international-student-services/](http://events.ucalgary.ca/international-student-services/)

• **Advising:**
  • **Remote:** email us; M-F, 9am-noon & 1-4 pm Calgary Time (MDT/MST)
  • **In-person:** email for availability
  • **Group (Webinars):** [ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/advising/iss-webinars-workshops](http://ucalgary.ca/student-services/iss/advising/iss-webinars-workshops)

• **Email:**
  • General & non-immigration: iss@ucalgary.ca
  • Canadian immigration: issimmigration@ucalgary.ca

• **Social Media:**
  • Facebook: [facebook.com/UCalgaryISS/](http://facebook.com/UCalgaryISS/)
  • Instagram: @ucalgaryiss
Questions?