



Downtown | HFH1 + NWT Bldg

Key Statistics

\$0

Current project funding

Downtown's History

A historic landmark including historic art works painted on the walls of the former "Fireman's Lounge" located in the basement

2021-2023

Plan and Design

2024-25

Build and Live

Activating Historic Fire Hall 1 + North West Travellers Buildings

Breathing new life into historic downtown landmarks with arts, culture, and complementary private market uses

Project Vision

These heritage buildings represent a rare, genuine opportunity for adding vibrancy downtown. The unique character, quality, identity and scale of the buildings, coupled with their prime location adjacent to the Bow building, results in immense potential for adaptive re-use. Repurposing these buildings for arts and culture and food and beverage-based encounters will create a new iconic destination. This project will support and enhance Calgary's vibrant cultural ecosystem, contributing to how all Calgarians think, feel, and experience our City.

Project Approach

The project leverages an integrated approach to planning City facilities in partnership with a cross-departmental team and CMLC. The team worked collaboratively with key arts and culture stakeholders to develop a vision for the buildings as a new arts and culture hub supported by commercial, retail and food and beverage establishments. As the project moves into the planning phase the team will explore innovative solutions for the delivery of these proposed uses while restoring and preserving the buildings' heritage elements.

Implementation Strategy

Further exploration is required to better understand the activation opportunities, funding sources, operational costs, revenue generation opportunities and the potential for City or third-party delivery.

Key Considerations

- Support Calgary's arts and culture sector
- Improve the area's vibrancy
- Attract downtown private sector investment and diversification
- Build social, cultural and economic and physical resiliency for Calgary's downtown
- Rehabilitate and preserve historic City landmarks in a sustainable manner
- Fulfill a cultural space commitment in alignment with Council's direction for North West Travellers to become a "cultural campus"

