

Chinatown Program Highlights 2025

Chinatown is a place of living culture, shaped by the people, relationships and traditions that continue to define the neighbourhood. In 2025, The City of Calgary's Arts & Culture Division worked in partnership with the Chinatown community to support projects, programs and collaborations that strengthen cultural spaces and connections. Through the Chinatown Program, this work advances the community's vision for Chinatown as outlined in the [Chinatown Cultural Plan](#) and the [Chinatown Area Redevelopment Plan](#), helping ensure it remains a vibrant, welcoming place to live, work and visit.

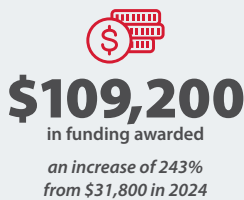
Chinatown Activation Microgrant

The [Chinatown Activation Microgrant](#) aims to revitalize Chinatown through cultural activities while fostering cultural education, engaging younger generations and supporting hands-on learning initiatives. It offers up to \$3,000 to individuals, community groups, businesses, nonprofits and cultural and social organizations.

Given the program's continued success, we look forward to continuing and expanding these efforts in 2026.



2025 Microgrant by the Numbers



**"I haven't seen Dragon City Mall this lively in years!
It reminds me of how Chinatown used to be –
full of life, culture and community spirit."**

– about Dragon City Mall Market Place, led by Alliance of Calgary Community Ethnic Support Society





“For years the community struggled to attract people to stay beyond grabbing a meal. Now there is opportunity for free art and culture classes that have transformed cultural spaces in Chinatown and formed strong bonds and new connections.”

– Alice Lam, community leader and grant recipient



“It was so great to see a diversity of audience members – from local artists to seniors in the area, to youth who were just walking by and came in to see what was happening. The community appreciated seeing a historic building activated with art and building stronger relationships between artists and the Chinatown community.”

– Vicki Van Chau, Alberta Media Arts Alliance Society

Relationship Building

The Arts & Culture division strengthened its community connections by supporting two key groups in advancing the Chinatown Cultural Plan and fostering a stronger relationship between the Chinatown community and The City.

- **Chinatown Community Network:** Hosted quarterly meetings to facilitate information sharing, networking and relationship-building between The City and the Chinatown community.
- **Chinatown Working Group:** Established in 2024 to guide the implementation of the Chinatown Cultural Plan, this group of 10 community organizations collaborated to develop the Next Steps Plan, which outlined 12 strategic investment priorities for Chinatown. In 2025, the Chinatown Working Group continued to meet regularly, using the Next Steps Plan as a framework to advance and implement key initiatives, further strengthening community efforts and ensuring ongoing progress.



Learn more about culture in Chinatown here

