

Shifting Gears for a new Calgary



The 2nd Annual Calgary Urban Summit

Wednesday, October 9, 2002 | Roundup Centre, Calgary

OVERVIEW

- ❖ **What is *Canada25*?**
- ❖ **Calgary has a choice**
- ❖ **Our vision for a great city**
- ❖ **How to achieve this vision**
- ❖ **Priorities for Calgary**

CANADA25 SEEKS TO PROMOTE A NEW DEFINITION OF THE ROLE OF YOUNG CANADIANS IN PUBLIC LIFE

Canada25's Mission

To engage the perspectives of young Canadians living around the world in Canada's public policy debates

In doing so, *Canada25* will

- ✦ Work to develop and implement creative and constructive policy positions and initiatives
- ✦ Act as a resource for senior decision makers looking to involve young people
- ✦ Build a network of young Canadians living in Canada and around the world to encourage ongoing engagement in Canadian policy issues

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- To fulfill this mission we will
 - Develop ongoing policy thinking in areas of focus. For 2002, these are:
 - Cities
 - Innovation
 - Canada and the World
 - Execute national initiatives along individual local initiatives

Calgary: Then and now

	1994	2001
Population:	738,184	876,519
Time to drive downtown from Naheed's parents' house, non-rush hour:	12 minutes	12 minutes
Rush hour:	20 minutes	45 minutes
C-train stations:	31	31
Status of East Village development:	Great ideas on the table; construction to start soon	Great ideas on the table; construction to start soon.
Homeless people in annual count:	447	1737

CALGARY HAS A CHOICE... A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Los Angeles, USA

- ✿ Began building freeways in the 1940s
- ✿ Removed transit rail lines in 1950s
- ✿ Commuters by Car, truck, or van in 2000: 3,452,192 or 85%



Curitiba, Brazil

- ✿ Chose universal access over the private auto in 1970s
- ✿ Redesigned streets to accommodate high volume buses
- ✿ Commuters by transit in late 1990s: 1,900,000 or 75%



OUR VISION FOR A GREAT CITY

Density

- We reject urban sprawl
- Smart cities will build up rather than out, reclaiming space to create safe, environmentally friendly neighbourhoods that minimize the cost of transport and infrastructure

Diversity

- We want to live in diverse neighbourhoods in cities that are intersections of the world
- We care deeply and passionately about social inclusion and the alleviation of poverty

Discovery

- Discovery that comes from innovation, both in education and in industry, fuels economic development and ensures a flow of young talent to the city
- Great cities have an element of *human discovery*—that celebration of the human spirit that comes from the arts, culture, inspiring public spaces, and infrastructure that facilitates human interaction.

Cities matter because they are the primary unit for economic and social development, and also the key magnets for attracting and retaining young talent in Canada.

HOW TO ACHIEVE

Density

- Density is high; public transit is a preferred choice

Fighting urban sprawl

and play; young people can afford to live in the city

- Classes and socio-economic

Creating a new national transportation strategy

- Environmental sustainability factor in design of built space and infrastructure

- Public spaces are vibrant and attractive – in all senses

Diversity

Improving human potential & social inclusion

Maximizing the benefits of immigration

importance of their relationships with one another

engagement and

Fostering creativity and culture

- Social capital is strong: citizens are actively building civil society

Discovery

where it is an indisputable

Tuning up the economic development engine

tolerance—supporting

Building great city universities

- Promotion of life-long personal improvement

Solidifying and sending our message

Increasing civic engagement

ACTIONS FOR CALGARY

Our vision

A great city is one that embraces diversity, has a vibrant urban culture and allows the majority of its residents to travel to school and work without having to get into a car.

- from *Shifting Gears*, Calgary Chapter of Canada25 report

Three Priorities

- 1. Calgary must build up instead of out**
- 2. Calgary must reduce the number of private vehicles on city streets**
- 3. We have to enhance Calgary's urban culture and environment.**

CONCLUSION

The country with the strongest cities wins.

-Glenn Murray, Mayor of Winnipeg

- ✳ Young talent matters. Calgary's civic leaders must recognize that retaining its talented young workforce is vital to the city's future economic prosperity.**
- ✳ We believe that Calgary can become a great city only if there is a fundamental shift in thinking by our civic and community leaders.**
- ✳ We look forward to working with Calgary's leaders in our quest to make Calgary a great place to live.**