

Student Preparedness for the Workforce Sessions

The Journey Forward

- The Journey Forward program begins on December 1st at 3:00pm in the theatre
- The Journey Forward program promotes high school completion by having volunteers share their personal stories and journeys into their respective professions through small, informal discussion groups (5-15 students). Each session focuses on the importance of setting obtainable goals, navigating the world of work, overcoming challenges and self-discovery.
- December's speaker is an advanced care paramedic
- See Mr. Hurley for more information



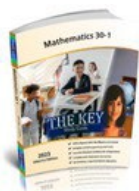
EducationMatters has partnered with Castle Rock Research to offer students a special discount on study guides for grades 3-12 in Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies.

These print and digital resources are aligned with the Alberta curriculum and have been updated to reflect the 2025-26 curriculum. They are an excellent support for all students, including those preparing for finals and diploma exams.



SOLARO, \$30.00 (\$200 retail)

- 1-year access to up to 10 courses across grades 3-12 in Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies, available on any desktop, laptop or mobile browser.
- Offers more courses than are available in print, 10x the practice questions compared to print, plus tests and additional study tools



The KEY Study Guides, \$30.00 (\$34.99 retail)

- Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies editions have been updated for the 2025-2026 school year
- New Pre-Test/Post-Test sections (Pre-Tests assess skills from the previous grade, Post-Tests reflect course content in which students must demonstrate proficiency)



SNAP Workbooks, \$30.00 (\$34.99 retail)

- Student Notes and Problems (SNAP)
Instructional content, practice exercises and unit assessments covering the breadth and depth of select Science and Mathematics courses.



Problem Solved and Class Notes, \$22.00 (\$24.95 retail)

- All of the questions from the respective SNAP workbooks are presented along with the detailed solutions. Included are excerpts that focus students on the explanatory notes for each topic.

For more information, click the button below, or copy the link to place your order. Orders will be individually packaged and shipped to the school for pickup by your student.

If interested, please order: <https://schoolorders.solaro.com/9860>

Resources

 **YYC Christmas Resources – Referral Required**
For Social Workers, Community Agencies, and Support Professionals

 **KINETTE CLUB OF CALGARY – ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM**

Email: info@kincalgary.com

Website: [Adopt-A-Family \(kincalgary.com\)](http://Adopt-A-Family(kincalgary.com))

Referral Process:

- Must be referred by a Social Worker or agency where the family is actively engaged in programming

Eligibility:

- Families must meet the Low-Income Cut-Off (pre-tax) criteria
- Single adults or adult-only households are not eligible
- Families cannot receive a hamper from another source
- Families may only access this program once every 3 years (eligible again in year 4)

 **MADE BY MOMMA – CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

Website & Contact Form: madebymomma.org/contact-us-2

Programs Offered:

- Adopt-a-Momma (family sponsorship)
- Santa's Workshop
- Holiday Food Hampers
- 12 CANS till Christmas Food Drive

Eligibility:

- Families must have at least one child aged 1+ living in the home
- Referral must come from a Social Worker or agency where the family is actively involved



Referral Timeline:

- Open from October until one week before Christmas (exceptions may be considered)

**NORTHEAST CALGARY ADOPT-A-FAMILY SOCIETY**

Phone: (403) 590-6656

Email: necaafs@shaw.ca

Website: necaafs.com

Referral Timeline:

- Opens October 2025

Referral Process:

- Families must live in NE Calgary
- The family's Social Worker or Teacher can refer families, but must contact via email

**SENIORS SECRET SERVICE – CHRISTMAS CHEER PROGRAM**

Phone: (403) 257-8339

Email: coordinator@seniorssecretservice.com

Website: [Christmas Cheer | Seniors Secret Service](#)

The Christmas Cheer program connects over 6,500 isolated or lonely seniors with Secret Santas.

Supports:

- Vulnerable and isolated seniors aged 60+
- Referrals accepted from agencies and professionals

**THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS**

Phone: (403) 803-1619

Website: [The Magic of Christmas](#)

Referral Timeline:

- Open October 1 – December 10

Referral Process:

- Families must be referred by a qualified professional (e.g., Social Worker, Teacher, Doctor, Nurse, Police Officer)
- Program includes Christmas Eve visits
- Families may access this program once every 3 years

**YYC Christmas Resources – Self-Referral**

For Families Seeking Holiday Support in Calgary

**CALGARY FOOD BANK**

Phone: (403) 253-2055



Email: info@calgaryfoodbank.com

Website: [Need Food? Get Your Food Hamper | Calgary Food Bank](#)

Food hampers include regular items only (no holiday extras).

To book a hamper, call the hamper request line at 403-253-2055. Phone lines may be busy due to high call volumes—please be patient and keep trying.

Call Centre Hours:

- Monday–Thursday: 8:15 AM – 7:00 PM
- Friday: 8:15 AM – 4:00 PM

Note: ID is required for all household members.



CENTRE STREET CHURCH – CHRISTMAS HAMPERS & COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

Eligibility:

Christmas hampers are available to individuals connected to:

- Centre Street Church community
- New Canadian Hub
- The Well Café

Registration Process:

- Register in person at The Well Café (3900 2nd St NE) on Mondays or Wednesdays, 5:30–7:30 PM, starting November 3
- Or register after any Central Campus church service beginning November 1

Additional Supports (for the wider community):

- **The Well Café** – Free hot meals (Mondays & Wednesdays, 5:30–7:30 PM, closed stat holidays)
- **ReNew Clothing** – Free clothing shop open during Well Café hours
- **Calgary Food Bank Depot** – Call 403-253-2055 to register for a hamper



All services are located at 3900 2nd St NE (north side entrance). These programs help reduce food and clothing costs so families can focus their income on essentials like rent and utilities.



CLOSER-TO-HOME – ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM


This holiday season, Closer to Home provides gift cards to over 400 families experiencing financial hardship, helping them access food, essentials, and meaningful gifts. Families are matched with donors and can choose what they need most.



Eligibility:


- Priority is given to families living north of 16th Avenue and west of Deerfoot Trail, up to Crowchild Trail. If outside this area, staff will help connect you to other supports.
- Families must have children under 18 living in the home.



 **Next Step:** Call (403) 543-0555 and ask for the Intake & Assessment Worker.

 [Visit the FAQ](#) for more details.

ELVES OFF THE SHELF – FREE ALL AGES CHRISTMAS PARTY

 Saturday, December 20, 2025 | ⌚ 1:00–4:00 PM MST


 The Arrowhead, 4630 Macleod Trail South, Calgary

 **FREE** admission – tickets required via Showpass

Enjoy crafts, live entertainment, free gifts from Santa, and festive fun for all ages!

 Free gifts for kids |  Holiday crafts |  Photos with Santa |  Live MC & performances by Jayme Minor

 All ages welcome – arrive early, lines may form

 Interested in sponsoring? Email Jayme@maxgreen.ca

 [Get Tickets](#)

SACRED HEART CHURCH – CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROGRAM

Each year, this program provides food hampers just before Christmas to families in need. A heartfelt way to share the spirit of giving.

Phone: (403) 244-2741

Website: [Sacred Heart Christmas Hamper Program](#)

Referrals are open. Contact the church directly for details.

 **SALVATION ARMY – CHRISTMAS TOY PROGRAM (Ages 0–12)** **Contact:** General Inquiries – (403) 410-1111 | Tech Support – (403) 410-1158

Website: [Salvation Army Calgary](#) – Registration available online

Overview: Supports low-income families with children aged 0–12 by providing toys for the holiday season. Appointments are booked with staff to select gifts.

Registration: Opens November 3 at 9:00 AM. Call tech support if you experience issues.

Eligibility: Must live in designated Calgary communities, be low-income, have children aged 0–12, and not be receiving toys from another program.

WOMEN IN NEED SOCIETY (WINS)

WINS is currently able to support referrals to the **Magic of Christmas**. If families are unable to access Magic of Christmas, WINS can provide information about other agencies and organizations where self-referrals are possible.

To book an appointment:

Phone: 825-540-4717 (leave a voicemail)

Email: hubs@winsyyc.ca (recommended)



Website: winsyyc.ca


Support available through WINS Community Resource Hubs: Beltline, Dover, Erin Woods, Temple.


Note: Appointment required.


Stay tuned....

FRESH ROUTES

The holiday season is almost here — a time for cozy kitchens, shared meals, and the comfort of being together. But for many families in our community, the holidays can bring a very different feeling — stress. Food prices are higher than ever, and too many parents are forced to choose between paying bills and putting a special meal on the table.

 At Fresh Routes, we believe every family deserves to celebrate with dignity and joy. That's why, this year, we're setting out to provide over **300 families** with full **Holiday Meal Kits** — complete with fresh produce, turkey or chicken, dessert, and a printed recipe to share.

 **On Giving Tuesday (December 2)**, we'll be inviting our community to come together to make this happen.

 Until then, stay tuned for stories and ways to make your impact count — because this holiday season, you can be the reason a family gathers around a warm meal.

With gratitude,

 *The Fresh Routes Team*

 freshroutes.ca

Dignified Holiday Meals for Those in Need

Fresh Routes is a non-profit social enterprise delivering fresh, affordable food to communities through Mobile Grocery Stores.


Customers: Visit freshroutes.ca for market schedules.

New Locations & Food Donations: Contact CEO Nikita at nikita@freshroutes.ca.

Sponsors & Media Inquiries: Reach out to Communications at cindy@freshroutes.ca.

Volunteers: Fill out the onboarding form to receive the manual and shift sign-up link. Questions? Email volunteers@freshroutes.ca.

General Inquiries: Expect a response within 2 business days.

 Head Office: Bay 4, 1925 39 Ave NE, Calgary, AB T2E 6P7

 Website: www.freshroutes.ca

Holiday Giveaway – Siksika Nation Christmas Hampers

Siksika Nation is spreading holiday cheer this December with a Community Turkey Hamper Giveaway for Siksika members in both Siksika and Calgary.



We will be distributing 2,000 Christmas hampers, each filled with:

🦃 Turkey | 🍲 Stuffing | 🥔 Potatoes | 🥘 Gravy | 🍷 Cranberry Sauce | 🍎 Onions | 🌿 Celery

As the season sparkles with lights and celebration, we recognize it can also bring added stress. These hampers are offered with care, and our warmest wishes for a peaceful, nourishing holiday.

📅 Dates and locations will be announced in December.

Stay tuned for updates!

[Turkey Giveaway! - Siksika Nation](#)

YMCA Summer Work Student Exchange program



Are you 16 or 17 years old and live in Canada? Participate in Summer Work Student Exchange to get real work experience, make new friends, and live in another province.

For six weeks in July and August, you will...



Travel with other youth to Québec and practice your French skills



Get a paid, full-time summer job and stay with a local host family



Get involved in fun activities, build new friendships, and experience the local culture



Learn more and apply online today

[@ymcaexchanges](#)



This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada



Youth-Led Leadership Program



Subject: Invitation to Nominate Youth for Closer to Home's Youth-Led Leadership Program

Dear Community Partners,

Closer to Home is excited to announce the upcoming launch of our **Youth-Led Leadership Program**, designed to empower young people to build leadership skills, strengthen their voices, and make meaningful contributions to their communities. We are inviting community partners, service providers, and parents/guardians to nominate youth who may benefit from and be inspired by this opportunity.

This program is intended for **youth ages 14–17**, with a maximum of **15 participants** in our inaugural cohort beginning **January 2026**.

Program Rationale

The Youth-Led Leadership Program was developed to:

- Create a safe, supportive environment for self-expression and idea-sharing.
- Empower youth to identify community needs, explore social issues, and take meaningful action.
- Strengthen peer connection, mentorship, and collaboration.
- Connect youth to resources and supports—including mental health services and community programs—that enhance their wellbeing and success.

Program Goals

Participants will have opportunities to:

- Build confidence and leadership capacity.
- Strengthen public speaking, communication, and problem-solving skills.
- Develop knowledge in self-advocacy and positive leadership practices.
- Gain confidence in discussing mental health and reducing stigma among their peers.
- Enhance self-awareness and interpersonal communication skills.
- Build teamwork, decision-making, and conflict-resolution abilities.
- Engage in civic and community involvement.
- Experience inclusive, youth-led leadership and peer mentorship.
- Design and lead a **youth-driven community impact project**.
- Demonstrate social-emotional competencies through hands-on activities.
- Improve their understanding of how to access supports and resources.
- Learn practical tools for navigating challenges and conflict.
- Plan and deliver a community impact project from start to finish.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, participants will be able to:





- Demonstrate leadership through initiative, collaboration, and responsibility.
- Communicate effectively in a variety of group and community settings.
- Apply goal-setting, project planning, and problem-solving strategies to real-world scenarios.
- Understand and integrate empathy, equity, and inclusion into their leadership approach.
- Present a completed youth-led project to peers, families, community members, and partners.

Virtual Open Houses

To help youth and their families learn more about the program, **Closer to Home will host a virtual open house on December 3, 2025 from 4:30-5:30pm.** This session will provide an overview of the program, expectations, and the nomination/registration process. If you are interested in attending the open house, please email cchittick@closerhome.com to receive the link to the meeting.

Nomination Information

We kindly ask community partners/ service providers and parents to nominate youth who:

- Are motivated to grow as leaders,
- Are interested in community involvement,
- Show curiosity, creativity, or initiative,
- Or would benefit from a supportive space to build confidence and skills.

To submit a nomination or request more information, please contact us at viewpoints@closerhome.com.

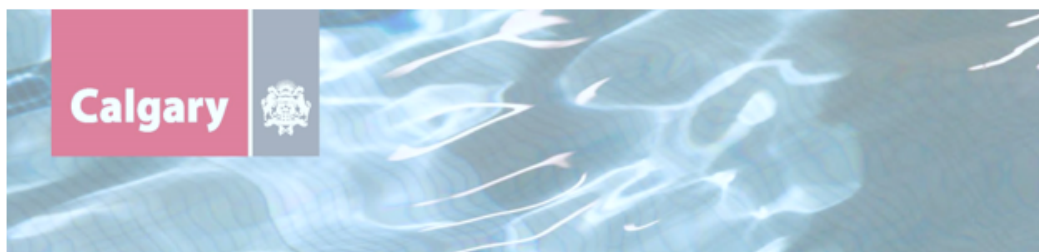
We sincerely appreciate your ongoing partnership and support. Together, we can empower youth to become confident, engaged, and compassionate leaders in their communities.

Warm Regards,

The Viewpoints Team
Closer to Home Community Services



Free Community Events



Basic Swimming Skills for New Canadians

The Lifesaving Society's Swim to Survive® program focuses on **three basic survival skills**:

- Entering the water
- Treading water (surface support)
- Swimming 50 meters

This **no-cost**, introductory program is designed for newcomers to Canada, **ages 3 and up**.

Participants will gain confidence in the water, learn important water safety tips, and practice basic skills such as floating, jumping in, and moving while wearing a lifejacket.

No equipment is needed. T-shirts and shorts will be provided.

Location: Village Square Leisure Centre, 2623 56 Street N.E.

Fridays		
Dates	Course ID*	Time
December 5 – 19, 2025	120303	6:00 – 6:45 PM

Fridays		
Dates	Course ID*	Time
December 5 – 19, 2025	120304	7:00 – 7:45 PM

To Register: provide the **course code*** to registration staff

- In person at any City of Calgary Recreation facility
- By phone at 403-268-3800, option #1





Calgary

WELCOME TO OUR **CROCHET CLUB**

Led by Christina M.

FRIDAYS 7 - 9 PM

Nov 14th & 28th

Dec 12th

**Thornhill Aquatic & Recreation Centre
6715 Centre Street NW**

**Bring your crochet projects and joins us
for a crafty hangout experience!**

Open to anyone from beginner to
advanced crochet levels

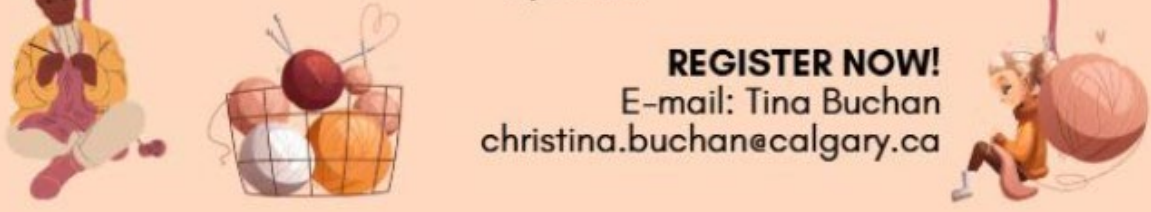
Basic crochet skills are required
(chain, single crochet, half-double,
and double crochet)

FREE EVENT - Ages 6 +

*children under 12 must be
accompanied and supervised
by an adult

REGISTER NOW!

E-mail: Tina Buchan
christina.buchan@calgary.ca



WE WELCOME WINTER!

Excited to start exploring the winter wonders of your Calgary & Alberta backyards? Curious about where to go, how to dress and what connections you might discover? Beginning inside and venturing outside to play with Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) – curious explorers of all ages and fitness levels are welcome!

FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES!

children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult

ENJOY
HOT CHOCOLATE
& SNACKS



Bring your sense of adventure, friends & family, and PLEASE dress warm with winter boots, warm layers, hats and mittens.

Tuesday Dec 2, 2025

4:45 PM - 6:30 PM

**Thornhill Aquatic & Recreation Centre
(multipurpose room)**

Register with Tina at:
christina.buchan@calgary.ca

Calgary



Fibre Arts - led by Joanne Quilling Ornament

*FREE Event
- snacks &
refreshments
provided



DECEMBER 3, 2025
1:00 - 3:00 PM

Thornhill Aquatic & Rec Centre
6715 Centre Street NW

Register with Tina at:
christina.buchan@calgary.ca

Brought to you by the Huntington Hills Resident Skill Share Project



Calgary Board
of Education



Want to support great ideas in Huntington Hills?

Neighbourhood Grants provide funding for activities
focusing on: **Social Inclusion, Economic Participation,
Anti-Racism & Truth and Reconciliation**

**Our Neighbourhood Grants program is looking
for community residents to volunteer on a
Neighbourhood Advisory Committee in your community.
Be a part of making a stronger **Huntington Hills!****

No previous committee experience is required.

You will work with other residents from your neighbourhood to review grants.

****Commitment is a few hours a month. Must be a resident of Huntington Hills.**

Must be able to meet online.

For More Information, Contact:

Huntington Hills
CSW Tina Buchan
christina.buchan@calgary.ca

Follow the QR Code
To Learn More

