Field Station

fieldstation.arr

Community project for the neighbourhoods of Tuscany, Royal Oak and Rocky Ridge. Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Summer/Fall 2017

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A community project for the neighbourhoods of Tuscany, Royal Oak and Rocky Ridge. Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Summer/Fall 2017

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Field Station

Field Station is a series of arts-based community events that compose the Tuscany LRT Station Community Cultural Development Public Art Project. In 2015, the artist team of GO collaborative, a design and planning firm focused on creative placemaking, community engagement, and master planning, and Legge Lewis Legge, an interdisciplinary art and architecture studio, were commissioned to develop and produce the project. Focused on Calgary's Tuscany, Rocky Ridge, and Royal Oak neighbourhoods and the Tuscany LRT Station, transit riders and residents were invited to explore and create within the places they call home in August and September 2017. The community excursions held throughout three neighbourhoods and within the Station included a range of artistic mediums and a variety of sites to draw residents and

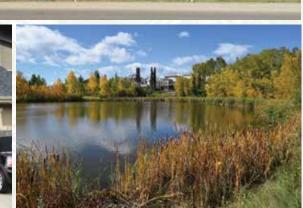
Photos: Andrea Legge except transit photos (2); Lynn Osgood

riders outside of their typical patterns of travel and daily life. Incorporating drawing, collage, printmaking, and sculpture, the activities became a vehicle to engage, understand, and actively imagine into the area and build upon participants' connection to place. Both educational and artistic, the activities, produced in collaboration with Calgary artists and resource persons, created individual and collective opportunities to celebrate the local community and explore the final destination point on the CTrain's Red Line.

To celebrate the communities and their participation, GO collaborative and Legge Lewis Legge has created this Compendium to capture and document the process of exploration and creation through Field Station. Available in both digital and print formats, the Compendium was released on October 29th, 2017 at the celebratory event to conclude the project.

Field Station





In partnership with





See videos and more in the Field Station interactive Epub. Go to calgary.ca/publicart



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Secure https://fieldstation.art

Field Station

Field Station Branding & Outreach

Go Explore f 💿

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News About Excursions Team Map Contact

Welcome to Field Station!

Field Station is a Community Cultural Development public art project for transit riders and residents of the Tuscany, Royal Oak and Rocky Ridge neighbourhoods in Calgary, Alberta.

NEWS: Join us on Sunday, October 29th from 1 - 3pm to celebrate the completion of Field Station! The event will showcase the process and creative outcomes of this community-based public art project, including the release of a multi-media, digital publication created by the artist team. We'll have arts activities for all ages and light food / drink. Check out our Facebook event page for more info - and to share with your family + friends!



Field Station

To reach community residents and transit riders. a Field Station brand and pair of logos was developed to capture the themes of exploration and discovery. For the artists, the jack rabbit embodied Calgary's wildlife and became a fun mascot for the project. The horizontal graphic motif, which reads as both a fence and train track, referenced the CTrain Red Line and residential character of the area. Utilizing this brand, the FieldStation.art website became the project's communication hub for distributing information and gathering participant sign-ups. Stickers, postcards, and banners were created for project promotion and use at community events.

See videos and more in the Field Statio

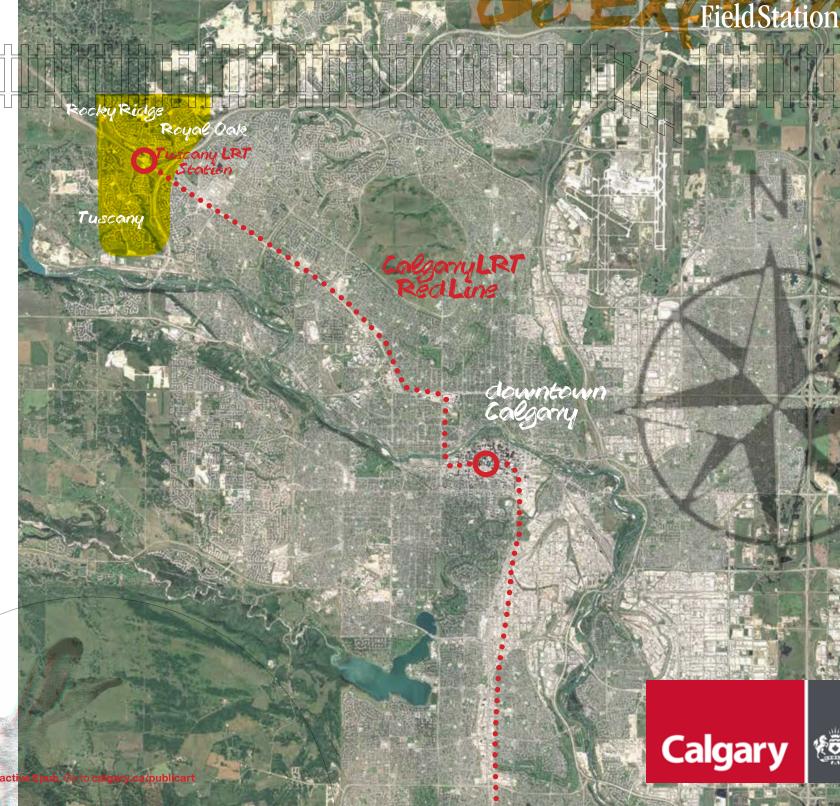
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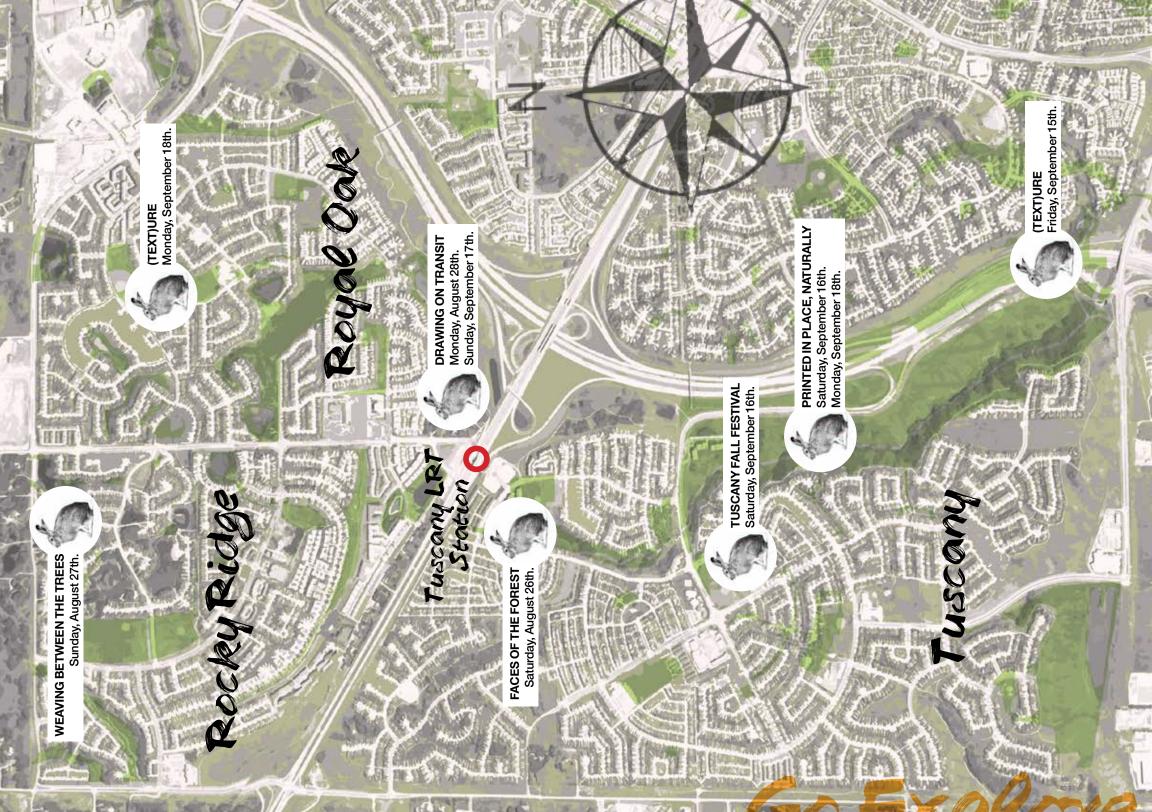
Public Art Program Coordinator, Arts & Culture, City of Calgary

Calgary's residents have a say on how they would like to celebrate their unique communities, histories, and surroundings through art. The City of Calgary Public Art Program is eager to listen and respond through an array of socially engaging art projects led by professional artists, while seeking guidance from cultural practitioners, traditional knowledge keepers, and working with other City business units, such as Calgary Transit.

In 2013, the area surrounding the Tuscany LRT station was selected for a Community Cultural Development (CCD) project, because it is located within communities that shared deep investment in the completion of the station. As a requirement of this public art project, GO collaborative and Legge Lewis Legge engaged with residents to better understand the social and environmental aspects of their neighbourhoods, nuances of the land, and to find out how they would like to see their communities reflected through art.

The outcome of the engagement process resulted in a series of participatory art excursions that brought together school groups, youth council members, transit users, and residents with a focus on being in the landscape, learning from the natural environment, and making art. As a way of commemorating this experience of coming together to make art in the adjoining communities of Tuscany, Royal Oak and Rocky Ridge, this digital compendium provides a/tangible representation of the GO collaborative and Legge Lewis Legge artist team's public art project Field Station.





Field Station Excursions



Tuscony LRT Station

Tuscany

Faces of the Forest

When: Saturday, August 26, 10:00 am-12 noon Where: Twelve Mile Coulee, north end

Artist **Patricia Lortie** and Nature Specialist **Jean Wallace** led participants on a sculptural, interactive experience to create the many faces of Tuscany's forests. Accessible to all ages, participants imagined into the natural environment with clay and found natural materials.

Weaving its way through the Tuscany neighborhood, the Twelve Mile Coulee

is a well-preserved nature space and a short walk from the Tuscany LRT Station. Following brief introductions to start the event, participants walked from their meeting spot at the Station to the north end of the Coulee. The group gathered within a dense and shaded aspen grove. Nature Specialist Jean Wallace introduced the flora and fauna present within the area, focusing on the seasonal and brightly coloured berries and leafy plants. Artist Patricia Lortie led the group in an arts activity combining found natural materials and sculpting clay to create an array of characters. Just off a primary walking trail, Lortie encouraged pieces that would catch the eye of passersby and bring a sense of wonder or surprise to their experience. The attendees' pieces embodied a range of personalities from fierce to friendly.

Patricia Lortie spent her childhood at the family's cabin in Quebec, where there was a magnificent maple tree that she felt privileged to climb. During one of those climbs, she discovered that her tree was in fact two trees. They grew so close to each other that they became one: entangled. Today, entanglement is the focus of her work as a visual artist. In her public art practice, she fosters a sense of entanglement with nature through environmental stewardship. Learn more at plsart.com.

Jean Wallace is a nature specialist and professor at the University of Calgary, whose research focuses on wellness and work life balance. She pursues both by sharing her passion for the natural world with others in her nature walks, photography, and volunteer work at the Calgary Zoo.







Artist Patricia Lortie demonstrated how to best begin the sculptural activity and incorporate found natural materials. Within the aspen grove, each attendee selected a spot for their creation – looking for a good-sized tree with rough texture and views from the walking path.







FieldStation Faces of the Forest **08.27.17**

Weaving Between the Trees

FieldStationWeavingBetween the Trees

When: Saturday, August 27, 2:00-4:00 pm Where: Pond in northeast corner of Rocky Ridge

RockyRidge

Tuscany LRT Station Artist **Patricia Lortie** and Nature Specialist **Jean Wallace** led participants on an exploration of the landscape through the practice of weaving. Visiting forest and wetland spaces on the edge of a residential area, the group gathered natural materials to create original compositions, both collective and personal, that were reflective of the area.

The Rocky Ridge neighbourhood is known for its kettle-and-bell landscape, caused by glacial retreat, which formed natural depressions that often hold water. To experience this wetland condition, the group gathered near a well-traveled pond in the northeast corner of the community, which is now surrounded by residential development and road construction. Nature Specialist Jean Wallace led participants on an introductory walk, sharing information about the seasonal flora woven throughout the area. While exploring, participants gathered natural materials for the arts activity, considering colour, texture, and length. Artist Patricia Lortie guided participants in a weaving exercise, bringing their found materials into a simple patterned structure. Some took part in a group weaving, held by large branches and twine temporarily mounted between two large trees. Others elected to create smaller weavings of their own, about 15 inches by 15 inches, with the help of wooden boards and string. The completed pieces showcased the diversity of plant life and natural beauty that was captured in an afternoon.

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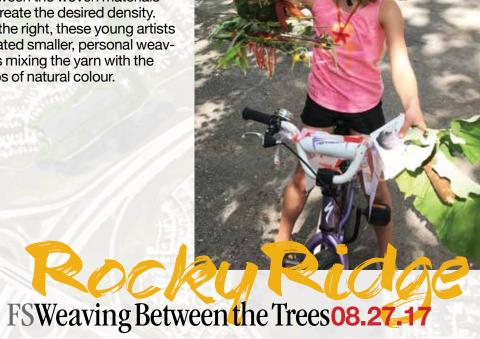


20 See videos and more in the Field Station interactive Epub. Go to calgary.ca/publicart

Along the walking path, participants created a large weaving that was structured by two horizontal branches and twine. The group worked collectively from the bottom up – closing gaps between the woven materials to create the desired density. On the right, these young artists created smaller, personal weavings mixing the yarn with the pops of natural colour.

and bottom right: Sarah Gamble

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The larger, collective weaving incorporated a diversity of natural materials gathered by participants, including grasses, berries, moss, and leafy branches. On the bottom right, a father-daughter team congratulates themselves upon the completion of their smaller weavings.

22 See videos and more in the Field Station interactive Epub. Go to calgary ca/publicart

FSWeaving Detween the Trees 08.27-

n Drawing on Transit

Tuscany LRT Station

Field Station Drawing on Transit

When: Monday August 28, 10:00 am-12 noon Where: Tuscany LRT Station

When: Sunday September 17, 2:00-4:00 pm Where: Tuscany LRT Station

Artist **Isabel Porto**, Historian **Harry Sanders**, and Field Station participants explored Calgary's history and development through a drawing exercise on the CTrain. Traveling from the Tuscany LRT Station to the 8th Street Station, the group traced the transit route through a series of sketches, capturing their surroundings and transportation experience.

The Tuscany LRT Station, completed in 2014, was the meeting point for this transit-centered event exploring Calgary's history and development along the Red Line. Historian Harry Sanders provided an overview of transportation history, beginning with the downtown area and its extension to NW Calgary. To introduce the arts activity, Artist Isabel Porto shared examples of her public art work, which often engages the public by drawing in unexpected places. Embarking from the Station, the group began a series of 60 to 90 second sketches between Tuscany and the 8th Street Station, producing one sketch at each stop. While in motion, Sanders shared development history and what was happening in the city at the time. Arriving downtown, the group changed trains for their return trip and began a new, more extended drawing, a single sketch to capture their overall exercise on the CTrain that day. The exercise enabled participants to both explore and discover, taking time to consider the route and surrounding environment in a more measured way.

Isabel Porto is a new Canadian artist originally from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Her MFA thesis (University of Calgary, 2014), *Perceptual Drawing: A Perspective of Experience,* gave Isabel the possibility to intensify her study of perceptions in relation to everyday environments. For ten years, she has been developing art projects that involve site-specific locations. Her projects have taken the form of drawing, photography, and participatory events' role in perceiving their surroundings in new places, calling the attention to the need to be "present" and responsive to experiences in our everyday life. Her work has been exhibited in Calgary, Edmonton, and Brazil. Learn more at isabelporto.com.

Harry Sanders is a Calgary-based historical interpreter and freelance writer. During Harry's youth, his father owned and operated an old hotel that gave Harry a lifelong appreciation for heritage buildings and inspired his career decision. Harry has been a newspaper columnist, a historical interpreter, and a reference archivist. From 2006-2009, he appeared weekly on CBC Radio as "Harry the Historian," and he served as the Calgary Heritage Authority 2012 Historian Laureate. Harry has written several books on local history, including a commissioned volume on the centennial of Calgary Transit. He lives in Calgary with his wife, Kirsten Olson, and their two children.







FieldStation Drawing on Transit 08.28.17

Excursion participants sketched their surroundings while traveling from the Tuscany LRT Station to downtown Calgary and back. Along the route, historian Harry Sanders (bottom right) shared stories of Calgary's development and transportation history.













When: Friday, September 15, 4:00-6:00 pm Where: Twelve Mile Coulee, south end

Royal Dak

Rocky Ridge

Tuscany LRT Station

Tuscany

When: Monday, September 18, 3:00-5:00 pm Where: Mitra Natural Ravine Park, Royal Oak

Artist **Claudia Weigelsberger** with Environmental Educators from Calgary Parks led youth from the Tuscany and Royal Oak neighbourhoods on a creative exploration of (text)ures. The groups used landscape arts techniques to capture the mood and send messages from these natural spaces.

Reaching from the southern end of the Twelve Mile Coulee in Tuscany to the Mitra Natural Ravine in Royal Oak, the (Text)ure excursions engaged the Tuscany Youth Council and the William D. Pratt School Arts Club in nearby natural spaces. As they walked towards the art-making site, Environment Educators from Calgary Parks shared their knowledge about local animals and plant species, highlighting seasonal changes and current conditions. Upon arrival, Artist Claudia Weigelsberger led participants in a found object exercise that asked 'what is the forest saying?' The youth communicated these messages through text and graphics, gathering natural materials, like sticks, berries, and leaves, to form letters and symbols. Reflecting on their experience, Weigelsberger challenged each youth to send a message to their city-selves by creating an original postcard front and creative writing. To compose the front, textures and objects were captured through rubbings with oil pastels to create interesting patterns and colour pairings. The postcards were then stamped and sent to the youth two weeks after the event.

Claudia Weigelsberger is a local Calgary visual artist with a background in advertising and graphic design, whose practice includes site specific and conceptual work using various media. Inspiration comes from popular culture, industrial design, communication, and the natural world. Claudia is also an active community volunteer interested in cultural development, and a Tuscany "ex-pat." Learn more about her work at thingmajig.ca and follow her adventures on Instagram at "ybwdogrun'.

Environmental Educators from Calgary Parks: The City of Calgary Parks provides a variety of educational programming within Calgary's park system. Through Environmental Education programs and initiatives, Calgarians are able to celebrate and explore Calgary 8,000 hectares of parkland and 850 km of pathways. In 2016, Calgary Parks educators interacted with over 49,000 individuals and spoke to over 21,000 students, and over 10,000 Calgarians participated in a variety of park volunteer opportunities.



The Tuscany Youth Council, part of the larger Tuscany Community Association, took part in a Friday afternoon excursion at the south end of the Twelve Mile Coulee. The participants were enthusiastic to send messages from the forest using found natural materials. They created symbols and words using leaves, sticks, and berries.











Field Station (Text) ure 09.15.17







Field Station (Text) ure 09.18.17



After a walk from their school campus, members of the William D. Pratt School Arts Club ventured into an area of denser tree canopy to the spot chosen by the artist. Several students tried to create letters out of sticks, using grasses to lash the sticks together. They also created original postcards, capturing textures on thick paper by rubbing with oil pastels.

Osgood

page; Lynn

Bartkie



Field Station Printed in Place, Naturally

Naturally

Tuscany LRT Station O

Tuscany

When: Saturday, September 16, 2:30-4:30 pm Where: Buffalo Jump, Twelve Mile Coulee

When: Monday, September 18, 3:00-5:00 pm Where: Buffalo Jump, Twelve Mile Coulee

Artist **Eveline Kolijn** and Environmental Educators from Calgary Parks led participants in a printmaking activity along the Twelve Mile Coulee. Using natural pigments and found materials, participants created an original composition drawn from the local flora and fauna.

In the heart of the Tuscany neighbourhood, the Twelve Mile Coulee is a beloved natural space with a long history of inhabitation. Welcoming local residents over the weekend and Grade 4 students from Tuscany School on the Monday excursion, Environmental Educators from Calgary Parks introduced the local plants and animals. They asked the groups to consider what life would have been like thousands of years ago in the area – and long before the residential development visible from the Coulee. Artist Eveline Kolijn led participants in a printmaking activity, using the found natural materials and paints she made using natural pigments. The participants explored a range of printing and patterning techniques using the earth tones. The collective outcome captured both the beauty of the landscape and the creativity of the local community.

Eveline Kolijn is a Dutch-Canadian artist living in Calgary, whose interest in the biological sciences and concern for the environment is expressed through printmaking and sculptural installations from found materials. Natural history has always permeated her life. She grew up in the Caribbean, where she observed marine life while diving extensively. She studied images of visible and invisible life and connected them with the forms and patterns found on the beach and in the sea. Her art evolves from her fascination with patterns and processes found in nature. Eveline has exhibited and published on her art in national and international exhibitions and publications. She currently teaches printmaking at the School of Continuing Education at the Alberta College of Art + Design. Learn more at evelinekolijn.com.

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Walking along the Coulee, Environmental Educators shared about the local wildlife and what life would have been like thousands of years ago. Following the artist's demonstration, participants printed with paints made from natural pigments and found materials from their walk. The paint colours reflected the geology and colour options that would have been available to artists in the area.



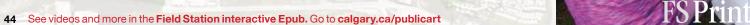




FS Printed in Place, Naturally 09.16.17



Artist Eveline Kolijn (top left) introduced the arts exercise to the Tuscany School students in Grade 4. Following a short walk from their campus to the Coulee, students gathered in small groups to create their prints on oversized clipboards. They learned how to press the natural materials in order to achieve the density of colour and pattern they wanted.





FS Printed in Place, Naturally 09.18.1

Come share your story

Share your story Tuscany | Ro



: page; Andrea Legge: top; Lynn Osgood: bottom; Sarah Gamble

Photos: left pright page: to

The Tuscany Harvest Festival (the largest community event of the year and held in the 3rd week of September) provided the opportunity to meet local residents in an informal, yet energized environment. Drawing more than 3,000 attendees, the artist team engaged with residents in 2015 to learn about the community and guide their research for the public art project. Residents were asked to 'share your story' through informal conversation and/or a drawing exercise, accessible to both children and adults. Attendees drew maps of their community from memory, noting special spaces or places of importance. Playgrounds, parks, and trail / wilderness spaces were overwhelming present in the maps, and many shared their unique names for beloved spots: such as the "wishing tree arch", "the x-mas tree", "the secret spot", "cool fort", "buffalo statue", "silver park", "prickle bush island", and "moose sightings".



In 2017, the artist team returned during their September excursion

ongoing project and invite residents to participate. Similar to the collective exercise from the Weaving Between the Trees excursion, the artists encouraged residents to incorporate natural materials and other found objects from the community event into a large weaving. The exercise provided the opportunity to engage in a fun, creative way and share Field Station 'swag' with visitors.





Field Station Tuscany Harvest Festival 2017

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Artist Team

GO collaborative (GOco) focuses on the connection of people and place, including temporary public art, creative placemaking, and community engagement. Sarah Gamble is a practicing architect and educator at the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture focused on design projects within the public realm. Lynn Osgood is an urban planner and researcher whose work explores the intersection of public space, community engagement, and the arts.

Legge Lewis Legge is an award-winning art and architecture studio founded in 2001 by architect Murray Legge FAIA and filmmaker Deborah E. Lewis, both in Austin, Texas, and artist / graphic designer Andrea Legge in New York City. Andrea and Murray are siblings and grew up in rural Ontario, Canada, As an Artist Team. GOco and LLL collaboratively developed the project concept. To implement the project, GOco served as project manager and led the community event series with local Calgary artists and resource people. Legge Lewis Legge was responsible for branding, website, and print and digital compendium design.

Photography / Videography

Artists Brad Hays & Ellis Bartkiewicz' Design Cause focuses on the creation of sharing stories through video and design. Brad Hays is a graphic designer and videographer exploring project collaboration and the artistic process. Ellis Bartkiewicz is a lifelong learner and is passionate about: photography, art, community, cultural diversity and the natural environment. Together, they motivate and influence each others' creativity, skills, and artistic style.

The City of Calgary Public Art Program The City of Calgary Public Art Program

(www.calgary.ca/publicart) provides

evolution of a distinct and vibrant artistic character for The City's public places. The Public Art Policy (CPS2003-95) provides a framework for developing public art that: builds a visually rich environment; plays a role in attracting creative businesses and workers; provides art opportunities that are freely accessible to all; reflects our diverse cultural character; celebrates our living heritage; and encourages the growth of a culturally informed public. Through the commission of projects such as Field Station, The City addresses the goals of Calgary's Public Art Master Plan to build a sense of community through art; increase Calgarians' participation in art; and provide greater opportunities for artists.

Special thanks to Ola Wlusek, Rachael Seupersad, Dawn Ford, and their colleagues in Transportation for their support throughout the research, development, and implementation phases of this project.

Transit

Serving over 100 million customers per year, Calgary Transit provides transit options for Calgary resident and visitors. As part of the City's 1% allocation of capital improvement funds to public art, the Transportation Public Art Guiding Principles encourage the creation of public art projects that enhance Calgary's transportation infrastructure and the experience of Calgarians and visitors as they move around the city. Through its capital building program and associated public art projects, the Transportation Department has the opportunity to make a significant artistic contribution within the communities they serve. Special thanks to Stephen James and Brian Tang for their support of this public art project.



Calgary Parks: Environmental Education

The City of Calgary Parks provides a variety of educational programming within Calgary's park system. Through Environmental Education programs and initiatives, Calgarians are able to celebrate and explore Calgary 8,000 hectares of parkland and 850 km of pathways. In 2016, Calgary Parks educators interacted with over 49,000 individuals and spoke to over 21,000 students, and over 10,000 Calgarians participated in a variety of park volunteer opportunities.

Special thanks to Candace Chollak, Jim Davis, Denys O'Keefe, Marc Labbe, Chelsea Wood, Teague Urquhart, Alexis Poirier, Laureen Bryant, and Kirsten Pilger for their assistance with and participation in the September excursion series.

We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the Blackfoot and the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Siksika, the Piikuni, the Kainai, the Tsuu T'ina and the Stoney Nakoda First Nations. The City of Calgary is also home to Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. Thank you to the many residents, community leaders, transit riders, educators, artists, City staff, resource persons, and others who assisted, participated, and collaborated with us on this project.

All Map data throughout: Google, ©2017 DigitalGlobe.

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See videos and more in the Field Station interactive Epub. Go to calgary.ca/publicart

In the spirit of community engagement and exploration for all, we are reporducing this tweet from Calgary Transit on October 4, 2017.

Calgary Transit @ @calgarytransit · Oct 4 Morning #CTRiders! Look who came to visit us at our Tuscany Station this morning! #HappyWorldAnimalDay In partnership with







