

Urban Exposure PROJECT



MICHELLE SETO

Michelle Seto is a local communicator and blogger who's passionate about her hometown of Calgary. Like many millennials born-and-raised in the city, she left her suburban roots to become an urbanite on the pulse of all things #yyc. You can find Michelle perusing racks of vintage clothing, lining up for the latest eatery, or connecting with her Chinese-Canadian heritage at dim sum.

PHOTO NARRATIVE

I am Calgary. We are all Calgary. United Way's Urban Exposure Project illuminates this concept with the power and impact of collective action. The program connects participants to the many passionate individuals and organizations in our community who work towards the same vision — a great city for all.

Whether it be through efforts to overcome poverty or to support the success of children — to build extraordinary communities, we first have to know our communities. This means opening our eyes and minds to what can be hidden just outside of our own experience. To what can be uncomfortable and unnerving, but immeasurably insightful. As Calgarians, we share a space, but also a spirit. A single act of kindness from the heart can make the whole city beat stronger.

1. DISPARITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Majestic new condo developments shine in the skyline as they tower over dilapidated buildings in Victoria Park.

2. CASH CORNER AFTER HOURS

Once a meeting place for unemployed labourers after the Second World War, cash corner continues to be a last resort for employment. As the sun sets, the long line dissipates, only to form again at daybreak.

3. DOWNTOWN DIVERSITY

Calgary's Chinatown has survived the threat of gentrification and the encroaching downtown business district. It remains a cultural hub for all Calgarians to embrace the city's diverse history.

4. BLUE SKIES AHEAD

The Kahanoff building is home to United Way Calgary and Area, and was the base camp for the Urban Exposure Project. The building is owned by a charitable foundation, which donates income earned to charities across Calgary.



1



2



3



4

Photo narrative provided by Urban Exposure Project participant