UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Innovation@UCalgary

The UCalgary innovation ecosystem supports our researchers and students with infrastructure, programs, and opportunities to advance evidence-based research into real-world solutions.

Research and Innovation

Research and discovery are the foundation of innovation, and UCalgary innovation is creating positive outcomes and value for our communities. We are accelerating our innovation efforts through transdisciplinary scholarship and entrepreneurial thinking.

Transdisciplinary scholarship at UCalgary encourages and enables researchers to address challenges across five areas: cities and societies, digital worlds, health and life, energy futures, and democracy, justice and sustainability.

Entrepreneurial thinking is a tool that supports our research community to take initiative, exchange knowledge across disciplines, learn from experience, and resourcefully engage with creative and cultural literacy.

Ahead of Tomorrow

With Ahead of Tomorrow, UCalgary's 2023-30 Strategic Plan, we are harnessing the power of research and innovation to tackle society's biggest challenges and maximize our research impact.

Making an Impact

Canada's youngest top 10 research university with $588.5 million in externally funded research revenue in 2023-24.

A top startup creator, UCalgary has started more than 90 companies, more than any other university in Canada in the last five years[1].

UCeed is the largest philanthrophic venture capital fund run by a Canadian university with $23 million in assets under management as of Oct 2024.
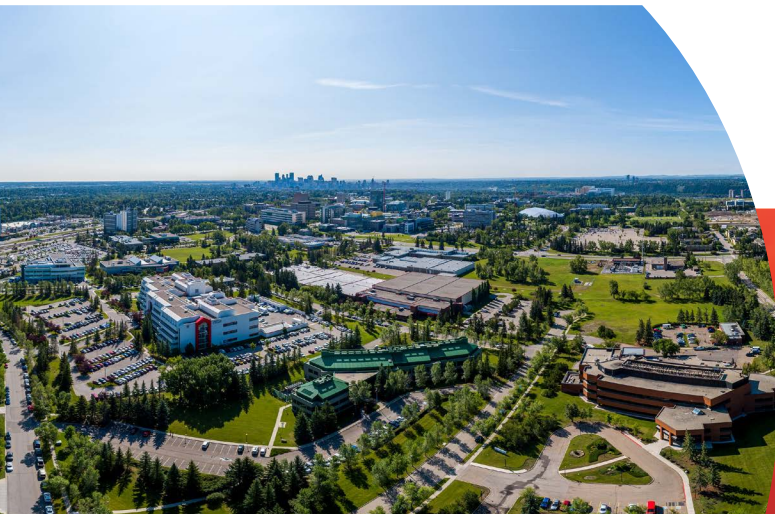
A Top 50 Research University in Canada[2] and member of the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities.

1. 2018 - 2023. Association of University Technology Manager's Canadian Licensing Activity Surveys.

2. Re$earch Infosource Inc. Top 50 Research Universities in Canada list.

Robust Ecosystem of Innovation Supports

Facilities and programming support all stages of the innovation and entrepreneurial journey, including the Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking, Creative Destruction Lab – Rockies, and the W21C Research and Innovation Centre. New programs are added regularly to enable our researchers and community partners.

ucalgary.ca/innovation

University Innovation Quarter

UCalgary is creating physical space dedicated to innovation and creativity with the University Innovation Quarter (UIQ). UIQ will help build, develop, and scale solutions, policies, research, and inventions, while creating a complete ecosystem that brings community, researchers, entrepreneurs, and investors together to foster and support the innovation process in Calgary. uiqcalgary.com

Innovate Calgary

The innovation transfer and business incubator for the university, Innovate Calgary works closely with researchers, faculty, and students from ideation to commercialization. Innovate Calgary operates four hubs to support energy, life sciences, aerospace and social innovation. innovatecalgary.com

Social Innovations with Community Impact

At UCalgary, not all research-based innovations lead to a commercialization pathway. There is a myriad of support available within the UCalgary innovation ecosystem to connect academic expertise with community members to address social change or launch a social enterprise. Support is provided through the Social Innovation Initiative and the Social Innovation Hub. research.ucalgary.ca/social-innovation

UCeed

A series of early-stage investment funds, backed by philanthropic support, accelerating early-stage startup companies to advance problem-solving research, create jobs and fuel the economy. UCeed funds, trains, mentors, and supports startup companies during the critical transitional stage between innovation demonstration and commercialization. ucalgary.ca/uceed

Now Innovating: a research-to-impact series

Now Innovating shares the stories of UCalgary researchers who have moved their discoveries forward and their innovation journeys to implementation and creating impact. This digital series aims to inspire researchers and community partners to take new steps toward transforming discoveries into solutions, products, and services.

Explore the series: ucalgary.ca/now-innovating

Navigate UCalgary and Alberta Innovation Ecosystem Offerings

The university's Innovation Ecosystem Directory allows students, researchers, startup companies, and community members to search available innovation support resources depending on the stage of their innovation journey. Available funding opportunities, programs, accelerators, and service providers from Alberta and beyond are listed at: ucalgaryinnovationdirectory.ca

ucalgary.ca/innovation