

Cambrian Heights

Creating Our Future Together

1.0 Concept

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to provide a blueprint to drive the growth and development of Cambrian Heights.
- 1.2 While Cambrian Heights recognizes it is part of a larger community, the City Of Calgary, that continues to grow and evolve, it is up to the residents to Cambrian Heights to proactively shape their place within this larger community.
- 1.3 This blueprint is intended to:
 - 1.3.1 Reflect the values and expectations of the residents of Cambrian Heights.
 - 1.3.2 Provide direction to the City Of Calgary as to the form and structure of Cambrian Heights as desired by the residents.
 - 1.3.3 Provide direction to service and resource providers, including the City Of Calgary, as to how the residents of Cambrian Heights want their community to develop.
 - 1.3.4 Generate and direct the investment of energy, ideas and resources into the Cambrian Heights community.
 - 1.3.5 Mobilize the residents of Cambrian Heights through a shared sense of purpose.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Cambrian Heights is an established community located in northwest Calgary. It is nestled between 14th Street NW on the west, Queens Park Cemetery/Confederation Park on the east, John Laurie Boulevard NW/40th Avenue NW on the north and Cambrian Drive NW/10th Street NW on the south.
- 2.2 The area that eventually became Cambrian Heights was originally annexed by the City of Calgary in 1910. It wasn't until 1957 that housing developments began to appear in the community, a time when the population of Calgary was approximately 193,000. Originally located on the northern edges of Calgary, the community now finds itself as part of Calgary's inner-city as the population of Calgary has expanded to approximately 1.27 million.
- 2.3 While the population of Cambrian Heights peaked around 3,300 people in 1969, the dynamics of families have changed a lot since then. Currently, the population of Cambrian Heights is approximately 2,050 people (as per 2018 Civic Census Results). There are approximately 935 dwellings in the community, of which approximately 67% are single family dwellings.
- 2.4 As Calgary has grown, so too has Cambrian Heights. The Cambrian Heights Elementary School was built in 1957. The original community hall was built in 1962, with further expansions undertaken in 1975 and 1991. Both the school and hall remain focal points of the community to this day.

- 2.5 With its geographic location in Calgary, Cambrian Heights now sits on some of Calgary’s busier traffic corridors, including 14th Street NW (36,000 vehicles per day), Cambrian Drive NW (12,000 vehicles per day) and Northmount Drive NW (10,000 vehicles per day).
- 2.6 While one can probably assume the original residents of Cambrian Heights could not have imagined their small community would one day become part of the core of Alberta’s largest and Canada’s third largest city, one thing has stood constant throughout the years ... that Cambrian Heights is defined by a group of people that are passionate about their community and all that it has to offer.
- 2.7 As Calgary has grown, key features that have come to define Cambrian Heights have taken on added importance in defining the character of the community and its place in Calgary. These features include:
- 2.7.1 Cambrian Heights is blessed with an abundance of open spaces both within and bordering on the community, including Nose Hill Park, Confederation Park, Confederation Park Golf Course and Queens Park Cemetery.
 - 2.7.2 While there were very few trees to be found when Cambrian Heights was first established, the community has grown to an integral part of Calgary’s urban forest with some of the highest tree density in the City.
 - 2.7.3 As Calgary has grown and its downtown core expanded, Cambrian Heights has, by default, moved closer to downtown relative to the north boundaries of the City. Residents of Cambrian Heights now find themselves with a relatively short commute to a wide variety of key components of the City including the downtown core, important shopping centres, the University Of Calgary and SAIT.
 - 2.7.4 From an education perspective, Cambrian Heights has grown to be a community with access to a wide variety of choices. While Cambrian Heights itself is only home to one school, the variety of schools located in neighbouring communities combined with Cambrian Heights’ proximity to the University of Calgary and SAIT mean residents have ready access to a complete range of educational options from kindergarten through post secondary.
- 2.8 As evidenced from the above statements, a lot has changed in the 60+ years Cambrian Heights has been around. During this time, the community has grown and evolved as its place in the City of Calgary has changed. As the City continues to grow, the community must continue to look toward the future and work to define its place within the City. From pressures associated with the increasing density of Calgary’s inner-city communities to the opportunities presented by the pending Green Line construction, Cambrian Heights needs to be ready to capitalize on the opportunities and tackle the challenges. Driven by the passions of its residents, Cambrian Heights can define itself not just as a Calgary community, but **the Calgary community**.

3.0 Vision

- 3.1 Cambrian Heights is a vibrant complete community¹ that is recognized as the most desirable place to live and play in Calgary².

¹ A “complete community” is a great place that meets your daily needs within a short trip of where you live or work.

² “Work” is not included as it is recognized that the majority of the residents of Cambrian Heights work outside the community and this is expected to be the case for the foreseeable future).

4.0 Outcomes & Measures

4.1 *A Modern Community With Character*

- 4.1.1 Cambrian Heights has a distinct and valued physical character as defined by its built form, unique public spaces and public art.
- 4.1.2 Cambrian Heights is serviced by modern infrastructure (roads, water, sanitary, stormwater, electric, cable, etc.) that can fully meet the needs of a dynamic and vibrant community.
- 4.1.3 Cambrian Heights practices proactive community planning with all development consistent with a community approved plan, that is reviewed and updated by the community every 5 years, defining the land use and built form of the community.

4.2 *A Community Of Action*

- 4.2.1 Cambrian Heights residents have ready access to the services, resources and facilities needed to support the growth and development of a healthy and vibrant community.
- 4.2.2 There is a forum that brings the Cambrian Heights community together in a shared effort to build their community.
- 4.2.3 Cambrian Heights boasts an outstanding community association that brings the community together in a shared effort to build the community, is a hub for community activity, and is a strong voice for the community within the City of Calgary.

4.3 *A Safe Community*

- 4.3.1 Cambrian Heights is recognized as one of Calgary's safest community, home to the City's safest streets.
- 4.3.2 Cambrian Heights residents have ready access to the best emergency medical, fire and police services.

4.4 *A Vibrant Community Life*

- 4.4.1 Cambrian Heights residents have a strong sense of community and know their neighbours.
- 4.4.2 Cambrian Heights boasts 100% citizen participation in the community through a wide range of community activities and programs.
- 4.4.3 Cambrian Heights is home to a diverse range of arts, cultural, educational, entertainment, social, sports and recreational opportunities.

4.5 *A Strong Local Economy*

- 4.5.1 Cambrian Heights, in combination with adjacent communities, is home to a diverse range of businesses that support the daily needs of the community.

4.6 *An Environmentally Responsible Community*

- 4.6.1 Cambrian Heights residents are environmental champions and leaders, continually looking for ways to reduce their environmental impact.

4.7 *Mobility Choices That Quickly Connect The Community To The City*

- 4.7.1 Cambrian Heights is connected to the City, and the world, through easy access to a highly-connected network of paths, streets and transit routes.
- 4.7.2 Cambrian Heights is Calgary's sustainable transportation champion and leader.

4.8 *Housing Choices For All Stages Of Life*

4.8.1 Cambrian Heights is a diverse community that is home to people at all stages of life who have access to a full range of life cycle housing options within, and adjacent to, the community.

4.9 *Ready Access To A World Class Education*

4.9.1 Cambrian Heights residents recognize the value of education and the importance of having access to the educational opportunities necessary for the careers of today and tomorrow.

4.9.2 Cambrian Heights residents have access to leading-edge K-12 educational opportunities, including before and after school care, within walking distance of their home.

4.9.3 Cambrian Heights residents have access to a wide range of post-secondary educational opportunities within a 30-minute commute of the community.

4.10 *Great Open Spaces*

4.10.1 Cambrian Heights residents recognize and value the essential role open spaces, including parks, schools, public plazas, natural areas, pathways and trail systems, play as natural gathering spaces, in promoting quality of life for residents and in building a vibrant community.

4.10.2 Cambrian Heights is home to Calgary's best network of interconnected open spaces supporting a wide range of individual and group activities across all age groups.

4.11 *A Green Urban Landscape*

4.11.1 Cambrian Heights is recognized as one of Calgary's greenest communities as evidenced by great park spaces, a fantastic tree canopy and green streetscapes.

4.12 *A Physically Active Community*

4.12.1 Cambrian Heights residents value being active and recognize the importance of physical activity to their health and quality of life.

4.12.2 Cambrian Heights residents have access to a broad range of individual and group recreational opportunities, serving all ages and abilities, within the community.

4.13 *Maximum Impact Through Coordinated Action*

4.13.1 The Cambrian Heights community actively seeks out and encourages the best community building practices by learning from the collective experiences of others while sharing the knowledge they have acquired.

4.13.2 The Cambrian Heights Community understands the importance of coordinated action and actively collaborates with neighbouring communities, and in particular the communities of Rosemont and Triwood due to a shared hub around the Northmount Drive NW and 14th Street NW intersection, in areas of mutual interest such as education, housing, land use planning, mobility and open spaces.

5.0 Purpose

5.1 Inspire, activate and empower the residents of Cambrian Heights to create a great community they are proud to call home.

6.0 Tagline

6.1 Your Home In The Heart Of Calgary.

7.0 Community Values

7.1 Can-do Attitude

7.1.1 Cambrian Heights residents drive the change they want to see in their community, learning from the past while taking proactive action to build for the future.

7.2 Collaboration

7.2.1 Cambrian Heights residents embrace a diversity of ideas while working together in a mutually beneficial way to achieve the common good.

7.3 Friendliness

7.3.1 Cambrian Heights is a welcoming community where everyone says “hi” to you.

7.4 Good Neighbours

7.4.1 Cambrian Heights residents know their community, know their neighbours, look out for their neighbours, and pitch in to help a neighbour when needed.

7.5 Inclusivity

7.5.1 Cambrian Heights is an inclusive multicultural community where everyone is encouraged to contribute to and participate in the community.

7.6 Respect

7.6.1 Cambrian Heights residents always treat each other and their environment with respect.

7.7 Responsibility

7.7.1 Each Cambrian Heights resident takes responsibility for their own actions and leads by example by doing their part to help build a great community.

7.8 Sense Of Place

7.8.1 Cambrian Heights residents value the idea that “home” is more than just a physical space, rather it is reflection of the sum of the experiences and knowledge associated with the community.