

2021 UCalgary Global Community Challenge YYC Student Guide

Welcome!

Welcome to the Fall 2021 UCalgary Global Community Challenge YYC and congratulations on having been selected. We hope the following information will be helpful to you.

How does it work?

It may be hard to imagine doing something locally that has an impact across the world. Calgary has a thriving global community and there are plenty of organizations having that type of impact already.

Now more than ever, organizations must demonstrate the ability to pivot and respond to issues and needs as they arise. They may be facing new challenges as a result of the pandemic and other recent international and local events. The Global Community Challenge (GCC) creates opportunities for you to work in cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary teams to identify solutions for issues faced by these organizations in Calgary. In doing so, you will develop skills in teamwork, creativity, problem-solving, and communication while building your intercultural capacity and positioning yourself to become an innovation catalyst for meaningful change in approaching real-world challenges.

What's in it for you?

While this program does not count for academic credit, it will help you develop skills that will be relevant to both current and future educational and professional opportunities. There are many benefits that the GCC will provide you with, which include (but are not limited to):

- Gain hands-on experience addressing real-life issues related to a global issue or problem of interest
- Develop new skills in research, entrepreneurship, problem-solving, and team building, while spending time working with students from different disciplines and countries, learning different approaches to the chosen problem
- Gain experience preparing and presenting compelling arguments in front of academic and community leaders
- Earn recognition among your peers and local university community
- Make connections with others who have a passion for changing the world
- Expand your professional development network through collaborations with local and global peers, mentors, and expert panelists
- Participate in a series of custom workshops designed to help you feel confident planning and executing your project
- Receive Co-Curricular Record recognition for your expected 30 hours of engagement and participation (*UCalgary students only. See details below*)

- Participation in this challenge will boost your graduate/professional school application, as well as your CV/resume

Who else is involved?

Your Team

Based on the challenges selected in your application, you will be assigned to a team of 5-6 students, who will work with a community partner to address their selected challenge. We believe that the best solutions come from teams that can look at an issue from multiple points of view and where everyone is using their unique background and skill set to the benefit of others. Therefore, we have intentionally designed the teams to be multi-disciplinary, multi-national and representative of varied academic and global perspectives.

Some suggested themes for your team meetings should be:

- 1 initial meeting for introductions and brainstorming:
 - What is your understanding of the problem?
 - Are there questions you need to ask your Community Partner about their organization, their stakeholders, the issue they are hoping to solve?
 - What other information or context do you need in order to come up with a proposed solution?
 - What are your team expectations? Will you plan “live” meetings or do most of your communication via email or another platform? What are the expectations in terms of how quickly everyone should respond? Will you assign team roles (i.e. primary contact for your Community Partner, meeting note-taker, etc.)?
 - Don’t forget to decide who will attend which workshops live in order to ensure that your team is represented (remember, it’s best if all team members attend all workshops live, if possible)
- 1 meeting to finalize narrowing down problem scope and ideas for solutions
- 1-2 meetings for follow up and finalizing ideas
- 1-2 meetings to finalize your presentation of the solution

Community Partners

All community partners are Calgary-based organizations who were hand-picked for their focus on a combination of local and global issues. This challenge is all about understanding how issues around the world affect day-to-day life here in Calgary and in any other regions in which the community partners are active. The Global Community Challenge YYC aims to inspire you to create positive change in your own city and beyond - and that starts with supporting your community partner!

Community partners will provide a key contact at the organization who you will work with throughout the challenge and who is prepared to volunteer 15-20 hours over the course of the challenge between late September and late November, which will include:

- 1 initial Zoom meeting for introductions and to learn about the organization and the issue/challenge they are facing
- Follow-up emails and phone calls to answer your questions and provide clarification, as needed, as your team develops a solution
- A meeting with your Community Partner after the Feedback Round to work through feedback given and to help prepare for the final presentations if you are a Finalist
- November 18- “challenge final round” - final presentations for all teams, community partners and judges.

The program coordinators at University of Calgary International will provide an initial introductory email, your mentor will initiate your first group meeting, and then it will be your responsibility to maintain communication with your community partner. Community partners are expected to respond to emails within three business days. If your community partner has not been responsive to your outreach by September 29, or in case of any questions or issues, please contact the program coordinators at global.challenge@ucalgary.ca and we will follow up to make sure you are supported.

Mentors

Each team will have an assigned mentor(s) to support them in the development of their proposed solution. You are expected to have 3-5 meetings (1.5 hours each) with your mentors across the span of the challenge between late September to late November over zoom.

Although your mentor will be initiating your first meeting, it is your responsibility to reach out to them to ask for support via email, and to set up future meetings. Mentors are expected to respond to emails within three business days. If your mentor has not been responsive to your outreach by September 29 or in case of any questions or issues, please contact the program coordinators at global.challenge@ucalgary.ca and we will follow up to make sure you are supported.

University of Calgary International

The Global Community Challenge YYC is an initiative of University of Calgary International. Our team of program coordinators are here to support students, community partners, and mentors throughout the challenge. If you have any questions about the program, technical issues, or anything else, please let us know by emailing global.challenge@ucalgary.ca, and we will find the answers and support you need!

Important details

Communication

All students will be added to a Desire2Learn (D2L) site to connect with group members, receive program reminders, and access program content. Your mentors will also be added to the D2L site to access your work and provide feedback when needed.

Workshops

We will be running 6 separate workshops across the span of the challenge. All sessions will be held virtually on zoom. The links and passwords to enter sessions will be posted on D2L. You can find the themes, schedule, and more details about each one below.

We strongly encourage that students attend all workshops with your team in real-time as they will be highly interactive. They will allow you to engage with and learn about your team members and will enhance your experience as well as your performance in the challenge. These workshops are intended for your project and team development, and your own professional development.

Students are expected to attend Workshop #1 synchronously, and the following workshops synchronously or asynchronously. At least 1 member of each student team is required to be present synchronously at each workshop. Most workshops will be offered two times in order to accommodate different time zones of participation.

Please note that the first workshop on September 27 is mandatory for all students to attend in real time.

In addition to the first workshop, we ask you to attend at least one other workshop in real time (more, if possible). We also ask that each workshop have live representation from each team. We will leave it to you to ensure that there is always at least one member of your team attending in real time. Recordings of all workshops will be made available on D2L for those who cannot attend the live session, and it is expected that students watch the recordings and participate in any D2L discussion if they are unable to attend the live presentation.

Time Commitment

We expect that participating in this challenge will require students to commit approximately 30 hours of their time. This would include workshops, meetings with community partners and mentors, working with your team, and the final presentations.

Recognition of Challenge Work

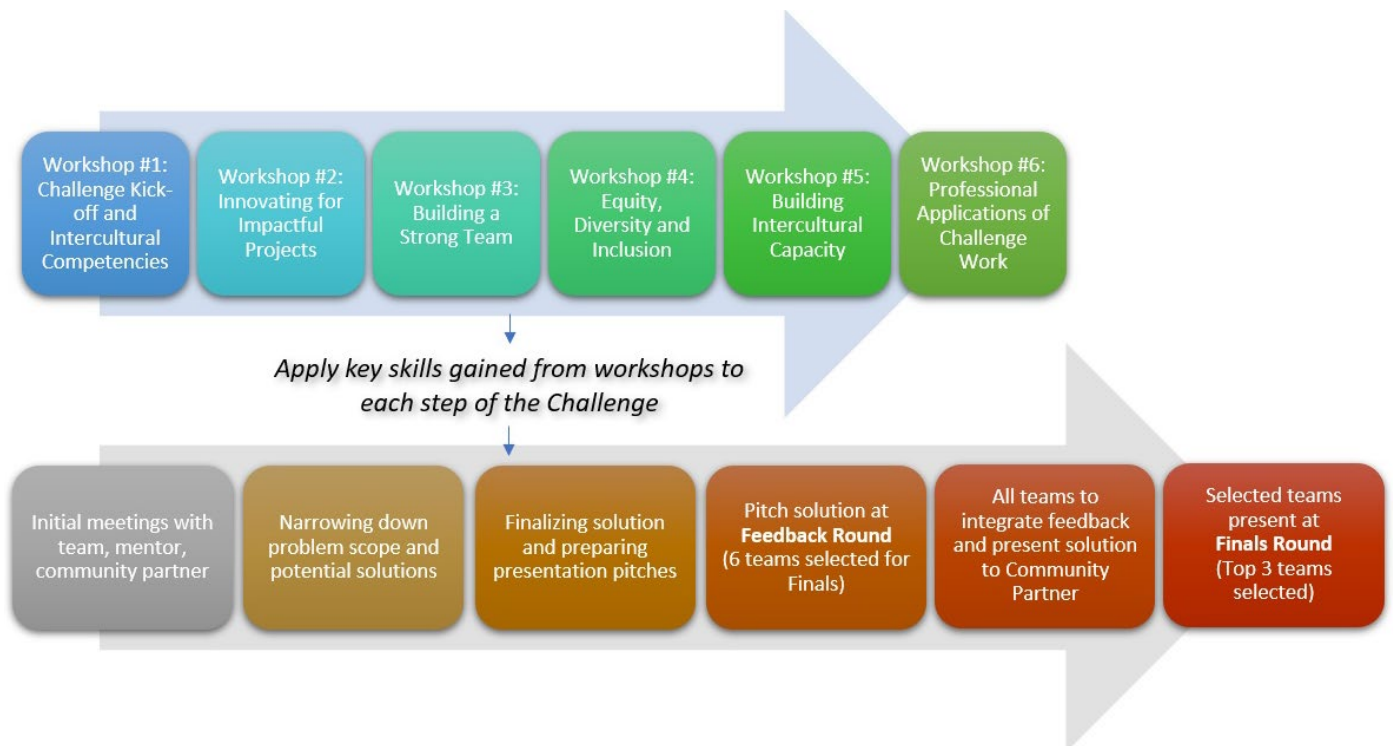
All students who complete the Global Community Challenge YYC will be eligible for a **Certificate of Participation**. University of Calgary students are also able to add their participation to their **Co-Curricular Record**. To be eligible for the Certificate of Participation and/or Co-Curricular Record, students must complete the following:

- Attend workshops synchronously **or** watch the recording of all workshops and write responses to discussion questions on D2L
- Contribute to the video presentation of their solution during the Feedback Round of the challenge

Certificates will be issued after the program has ended. UCalgary students who qualify for Co-Curricular Record will be sent instructions on how to add the challenge to their record after program completion.

Challenge Timeline

The six workshops are designed to equip you and your team with key skills, that may be applied at each stage of the Challenge, and beyond, as shown in the diagram below.



Key Challenge deliverables by student teams:

Oct 25-27	Feedback Round	All teams to pitch their solution at the Feedback Round and receive feedback. Teams advancing to the finals will be announced on October 29 th .
Oct 28- Nov 25	Debriefing Meeting with your community partner	All teams to integrate feedback from Feedback Round and present their solution to their Community Partner. In your first meeting with your Community Partner, please agree on a tentative date for your Debriefing Meeting at the end of the Challenge. Set a date between Oct 28-Nov 25.
Nov 18	Finals Round	Six teams will be selected from the Feedback Round, to proceed to the Finals Round.

Workshops Timeline

Date	Task/Deadline
Sept 24, 2021	The challenge officially starts! Teams, mentors, and community partners announced and connected.
Sept 27, 2021	Workshop of the week: Challenge Kick-off and Intercultural Competencies (Mandatory real-time attendance for all students) 11am-1pm MST
Sept 28-Oct 1, 2021	Workshop of the week: Innovating for Impactful Projects Two options to attend (see schedule on D2L)
Oct 4-8, 2021	Workshop of the week: Building a Strong Team Two options to attend (see schedule on D2L)
Oct 11-15, 2021	Workshop of the week: Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Two options to attend (see schedule on D2L)
Oct 18-22, 2021	Workshop of the week: Building Intercultural Capacity Two options to attend (see schedule on D2L)
Oct 25-27, 2021	Feedback Round presentations <i>Students must submit their video presentations 2 days in advance</i>

March 15-17, 2021	Workshop of the week: Professional Applications of Challenge Work Two options to attend (see schedule on D2L)
Nov 18, 2021	<i>Final round of challenge</i> <i>Students must submit their video presentations 2 days in advance</i>

*Dates and times are subject to change. Please see schedule on D2L for the most up to date details.

Challenge evaluation guidelines:

You will present your team’s solution to your community partner and receive an evaluation from a panel of adjudicators based on a rubric similar to the one below used to evaluate the projects for the Winter 2021 challenges. Please note that we are in the process of updating this rubric for Fall 2021. The new rubric will be shared on D2L.

Example:

Global Community Challenge YYC Winter 2021 Scoring Rubric

Team:	
Community Partner:	
Challenge:	

Please score how well the team addressed the criteria outlined below using the following scale:

Description	Score Value
This criterion was very well addressed.	4
This criterion was well addressed but there are small areas that could be improved.	3
This criterion was addressed but could use improvement/elaboration.	2
This criterion was somewhat addressed but has significant gaps.	1
This criterion was not addressed.	0

Explanation of the challenge	Score
The challenge has been clearly explained.	
The team has a deep understanding of intersectional issues that contribute to the challenge.	
Proposed solution	Score
The solution addresses the defined challenge.	
The solution is innovative, demonstrates critical thinking and, where appropriate, applies disciplinary knowledge.	
The solution is feasible and takes into consideration accessibility to resources and necessary supports, addresses the capacity of the community partner to implement the solution.	
The solution is sustainable and can be implemented long term with the plan outlined by the team.	
The team has identified the impact that this solution, if implemented, could have on the community partner and its stakeholders.	

The solution was developed by applying existing research and applying appropriate disciplinary knowledge.	
Global mindset	Score
Where appropriate, the team has aligned their solution with global or regional strategic goals and priorities (such as UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)).	
Understanding of community partner	Score
The team demonstrates that they have appropriately engaged the community partner in the development in the solution.	
The work of the team demonstrates knowledge, skills and abilities for Engaging Respectfully, Learning Cultures, Valuing Diversity.	
Video Presentation	Score
The video presentation was well organized and fell within the allotted time limits.	
Visuals in the video served to enhance the presentation.	
The team was able to address questions that were within the reasonable scope of their project.	
Presenters in the video spoke clearly and were easily understood.	
FINAL SCORE	

Challenge goals - something to keep in mind...

For us, the challenge is secondary! It is not just about the results and who wins this challenge, it is really about the process and the learnings you gain along the way. You will work in interdisciplinary teams with students from different countries and cultures, learn to see things through different lenses, gain a better understanding of yourself, discover more about your strengths and weaknesses and explore how to work effectively with others.

During this pilot phase of the Global Community Challenge YYC, we are hoping to explore ways to make the proposed solutions and contributions of student teams sustainable for the community partners. If you are interested in continuing to work with your community partner, please let them know and keep us in the loop - we would love to keep track of ongoing collaborations.

Looking after each other

As we strive to create a safe and respectful workspace for mentors, students, and community partners, we are all responsible to:

- Ensure that your team's environment is safe, healthy, and free from harassment, discrimination, and conflict.
- Contribute to a collegial environment, seeking to add to, rather than take away from, the wellness of others.

Useful Technology Links

Given the virtual nature of this challenge you may find it helpful to use some of the resources listed below to communicate and share documents with your group members.

Group Work: [Google Drive](#), [Microsoft Teams](#), [Slack](#), [Padlet](#), [Trello](#)

Video Conferencing: [Zoom](#), [Microsoft Teams](#), [Skype](#), [Google Meet](#), [WhatsApp](#), [WeChat](#), [Viber](#)

Video Editing: [Yuja](#), iMovie

Contact information:

Please contact Global Community Challenge YYC program coordinators from University of Calgary International at global.challenge@ucalgary.ca with any questions, comments or concerns.

Thank you!!!

We hope this will be a meaningful experience for all involved.