Community
Report Summary
2017-22

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY | Start something.

Our achievements

Over the past five years, the University of Calgary gained considerable momentum, delivering impact on campus, in our community and around the world.

78%
First-year students who rate experience as "good" or "excellent" — three points above top-five comparators

74%
Senior students who rate experience as "good" or "excellent" — equal to top-five comparators

2017-22
25.2%
Increase in undergraduate degrees awarded annually

2017-22
55%
Increase in graduate degrees awarded annually

2017-22
13.5%
Growth in number of alumni engaged

2017-22
31.5%
Increase in publications a year

2017-22
154%
More startups created

2017-22
52%
More patents submitted

2017-22
$84.3 million+
Change in sponsored research funding

Eyes High soared

$1.41 billion raised in the *Energize* campaign was the third-highest in Canadian university history

In 2017, UCalgary embraced *Eyes High*, a five-year strategic plan. One of its goals was to become one of Canada's top-five research universities, which we achieved (the youngest institution to ever join the prestigious club) in 2021. The incredible success of its *Energize* campaign speaks to our growing integration with Calgary, the community we're proud to call home.

Kinesiology on top

Once again, UCalgary was North America's No. 1-rated school for sport-science

Last year, for the second time, UCalgary's Faculty of Kinesiology was named the top school in North America for research in sport-science. It's research that makes a difference, such as the Alberta Exercise Program — being expanded province-wide — to help cancer survivors, and transdisciplinary scholarship with medicine and engineering that's fighting childhood diabetes and heart disease.

Entrepreneurial thinking thrives

Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking infuses UCalgary's spirit

UCalgary is the entrepreneurial university — more so each day, thanks to the Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking, founded in 2017 with the generosity of the Hunter family. This experiential learning program helps students and postdoctoral fellows transform ideas into ventures, connecting them with Calgary's growing community of innovative thinkers.

A rising research hub

Expanding our research leadership

The Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) program provides federal support to attract and retain accomplished and promising scholars. Since 2017, the number of CRCs at UCalgary has grown by 16% — with a further 16% increase in allocation announced in the most recent national distribution. This, the largest percentage gain in the U15, helps grow research leadership in areas across the university.

#1 in Canada for startups

UCalgary's unique innovation ecosystem creates more startup companies than any university

UCalgary creates more startup companies than any university, including a 75% increase in the last year. Our unique innovation ecosystem is a main driver, learning from Calgary's growing entrepreneurial community and imparting our knowledge to them. Since 1990, it's delivered more than 2,200 inventions and almost 100 startup companies.

Growing and diversifying the economy

UCalgary's quantum scholarship helps create thousands of computing jobs

UCalgary's groundbreaking research in the fast-expanding quantum sphere helped convince global tech giant Mphasis to make Calgary its Canadian hub for quantum computing. The economic diversification impacts are potentially transformative: up to a thousand jobs at first, and 26,500 jobs Alberta-wide by 2040, with $16.5 billion in annual revenue.

ii' taa'poh'to'p

UCalgary's strategy towards truth and reconciliation

In 2017, UCalgary adopted *ii' taa'poh'to'p* to guide our journey towards truth and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. It will help different cultures walk together, in a good way, as a collective vision and call to action. Indigenous-focused research is increasing, and there are seven research chairs. The number of Indigenous graduates and students is also steadily growing.

COVID-19 in our sights

When a strange new virus appeared, UCalgary helped track COVID-19

When the world encountered a frightening new virus in late 2019, scholars at UCalgary's Cumming School of Medicine got straight to work. In partnership with Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the City of Calgary, they developed a data dashboard to track where and how COVID-19 was spreading. We continue to monitor its spread through wastewater testing with AHS and the City.
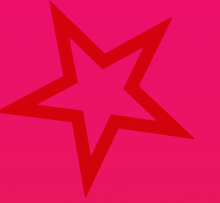
Sharing digital knowledge

The Taylor Family Digital Library is North America's most technology-rich educational facility

UCalgary's digital library is also fostering deep community partnerships. In 2020, the Glenbow Museum transferred a vast collection of documents, photographs, books, audio and videos about the history of Western Canada. We also received the entire EMI Music collection, which we've partnered with the National Music Centre to make available to the public.

Making Calgary better

Partnership between the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape and the City of Calgary

Downtown Calgary is changing, with reanimated alleyways, revitalized empty spaces and a rejuvenated nine blocks around City Hall. And UCalgary's School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape is part of the excitement, in partnership with the City and other partners — often working from the City Building Design Lab that's operated from the old public library since 2019.

Supporting Alberta's economy

UCalgary's School of Veterinary Medicine supports a major economic driver
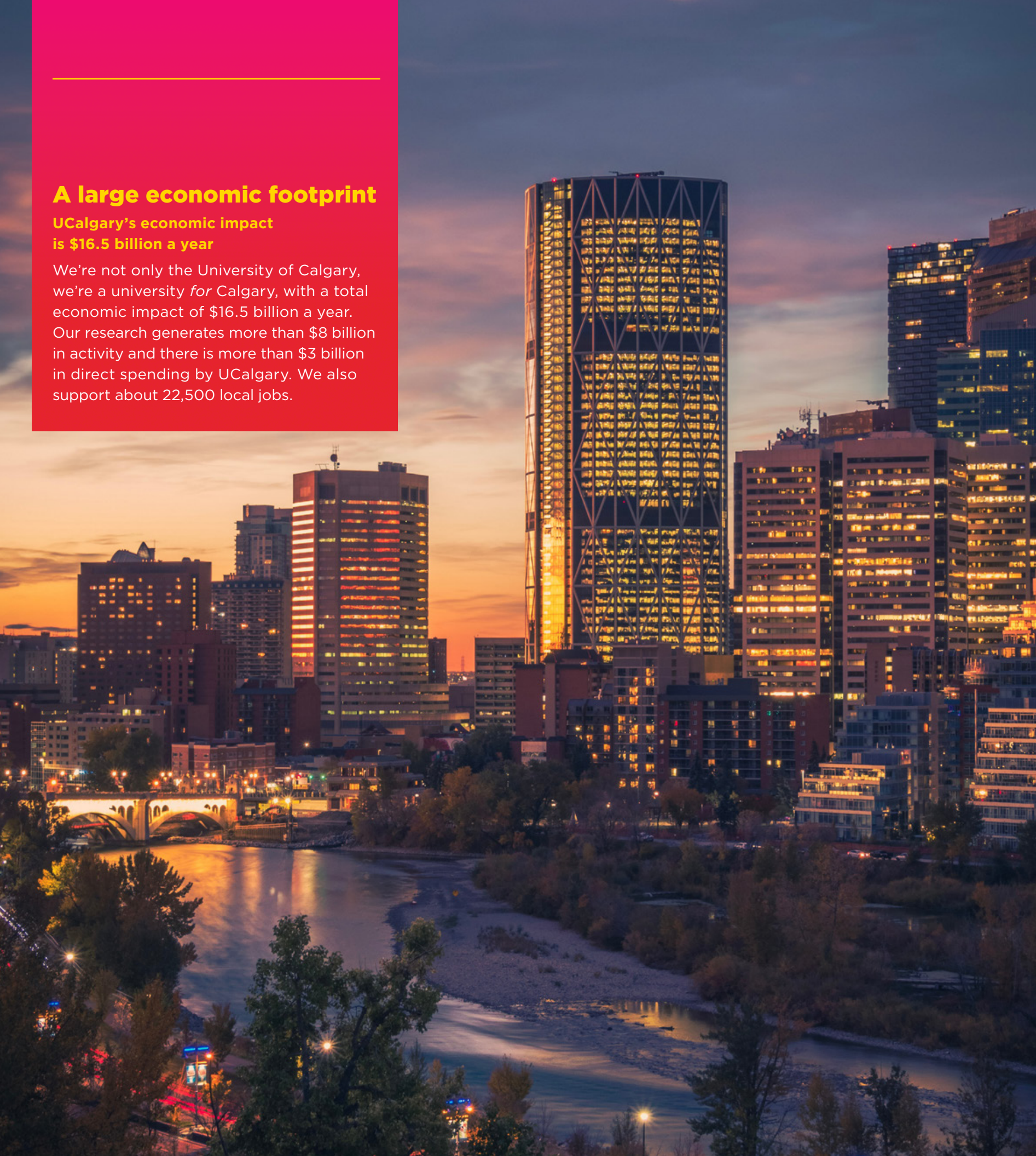
Alberta is facing a crisis-level shortage of veterinarians, on whom the significant cattle industry relies. Earlier this year, the provincial government invested $59 million to help UCalgary produce more veterinarians — including those trained at a 19,000-acre ranch the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine operates northwest of Calgary, allowing for real-farm, hands-on experience.

A large economic footprint

UCalgary's economic impact is $16.5 billion a year

We're not only the University of Calgary, we're a university *for* Calgary, with a total economic impact of $16.5 billion a year. Our research generates more than $8 billion in activity and there is more than $3 billion in direct spending by UCalgary. We also support about 22,500 local jobs.

For more information, visit:
ucalgary.ca/report

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