



Friends
THE FACTS

OUR MISSION

Friends inspires connection, builds community, and drives social change.

OUR VISION

A caring community, a caring world...one friendship at a time.

WHO WE ARE

Friends is a movement – an innovative, boundary-less, initiative that connects people, inspires caring and compassion, and builds community in everyday life. By engaging a diverse range of individuals and groups in relationships, Friends creates a reciprocal ‘win’ leading to social change. Based on an entrepreneurial model, Friends develops partnerships with social investors that are unique to the nonprofit sector and provides highly visible and measurable returns on investment.

HOW WE CAME TO BE

There is a stealthy void moving into our community. A sense of loss can be felt as we cruise our tension-filled roadways, seen in news reports of crime sweeping our neighbourhoods, and heard as we share, with those we do trust, the growing sense of fear that we are losing the community of Calgary we’ve known and loved.

While Calgary still holds a global reputation for its volunteerism and strong community, most of us recognize that we live in quite a different place than even five years ago. We sense that we are losing some of the precious things that make Calgary a great place to live.

The answer? Increase our connections with one another, or in economic terms increase our social capital and reap the tangible benefits of bringing one another home to an interwoven community. We need to find a way to become Friends, perhaps with someone we never thought could be a Friend before, and help one another in our daily lives ~ to live better lives.

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friends...
moments

Friends came to be because we want to work together, whether with organizations, groups, or individuals, to bring back those things that seem to be slipping away.

Friends links people together in a relationship. It could be a person with a person, a person with a group, or group with a group. The activities you engage in could be as varied as having tea with a senior, helping children play baseball, meeting your neighbour, or simply waving someone in to your busy traffic lane. By incorporating a Friend into your daily tasks and routines, the impact you can make is immeasurable.

Friends is defined by who you are, the Friends you'd like to make, what you'd like to do, and the time you have to do it in.

It is so simple to be a Friend...yet so powerful! Call us today to speak with us about how you would like to be involved with Friends, and together we really can build a caring community ...a caring world!

Friends is an initiative brought to you by the Ability Society. Since 1979 the Ability Society has been helping children, adults and seniors become active citizens, by providing opportunities for them to pursue employment, education, independent living and volunteerism.

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