

2022 PIPSC Calgary Branch President's Report

The last two years have been full of swift change and uncertainty. Thanks to the dedication of the Calgary Branch Executive, we were able to pivot and change course as needed and plan member events when health measures allowed it. We certainly didn't hold as many events as we normally would, and didn't hold any in 2020, but I think that everyone who attended the events appreciated the chance to get out and talk to their colleagues.

In 2021, as things opened up a little bit more, we were able to hold two events for members.

Labour Day - funded by the Region and the Branch

Organizer: Marvie Ong with assistance from David Chen, Farzana Merani, Lou Prieto, and Gaetanne Spoonheim

On September 6, 2021, we offered admission to Heritage Park. 121 Calgary branch members and their families were able to explore the park and enjoy our first event in over a year.

Zoolights - funded by the Branch

Organizers: David Chen, Farzana Merani, and Sandra Gouliquer with assistance from Gaetanne Spoonheim, Marvie Ong, Stuart Kidd, Valentina Dimitrova, and Samah Henein

The Calgary Branch hosted a Zoolights family event on December 18, 2021. Nearly 400 people braved the cold and snow to enjoy the seasonal light display. We had a designated tent and firepit and Zoolights staff served hot chocolate and cookies. Despite the weather, members really seemed to enjoy the event.

This event sold out rather quickly but as the weather got worse and members had to cancel, we were able to accommodate the 50 people on the waitlist.

So far, in 2022, we have held one family event.

Monster Mini Golf - funded by the Branch

Organizers: Valentina Dimitrova, Farzana Merani, and Courtney Walker

On March 31, 2022 the Branch invited members and their families to enjoy an evening of mini golf and arcade games at Monster Mini Golf. 124 people attended and seemed to really enjoy themselves. In addition to a round of mini golf, attendees were provided with arcade credits which were able to be redeemed at double the face value.

The Branch is actively planning for the rest of 2022 so please let us know if there's anything specific you would like us to plan and keep an eye on your email for event notices.

The current Calgary Branch Executive are:

Executive Name	Position	Group
Courtney Walker	President	NEB
Maria (Marvie) Ong	Treasurer	AFS-AU
Stuart Kidd	Secretary	Retired
David Chen	Member-at-Large	CFIA-S&A
Farzana Merani	Member-at-Large	AFS-MG
Sandra Gouliquer	Member-at-Large	AFS-AU
Valentina Dimitrova	Member-at-Large	AFS-MG
Gaetanne Spoonheim	Member-at-Large	AFS-AU
Maria (Lou) Prieto	Member-at-Large	NEB
Nerin Carr	Member-at-Large	AFS-AU

On behalf of the Calgary Branch Executive, I would like to thank Samah Henein, outgoing Branch President, for her guidance and leadership over the last several years. Congratulations on being elected as the Prairie/NWT Regional Director!

Sincerely, Courtney Walker Calgary Branch President 5 May 2022