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CALGARY SHOWS RESILIENCE IN GLOBAL STARTUP ECOSYSTEM RANKINGS

CALGARY – Despite a year of global economic challenges, Calgary’s startup ecosystem continues to demonstrate its resilience, affordability and momentum, according to the 2025 Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER) by Startup Genome and the Global Entrepreneurship Network.

Launched today at VivaTech Paris, the report analyzes data from over five million companies across over 350 innovation ecosystems worldwide and is recognized as one of the world’s most comprehensive research projects on startups.

Unlike other global startup ecosystems, Calgary experienced a 13 per cent growth in ecosystem value between the 2023 report and the 2025 report — in contrast to a 14 per cent average decline globally.

The report also places Calgary among the Top 30 ecosystems in North America and in the Top 50 emerging ecosystems globally, while giving high marks for the city’s affordable talent and startup return on investment. The city ranked in the Top 10 in North America for talent affordability and was named a Top 15 ‘bang for buck’ ecosystem globally — meaning founders here get more growth, traction and runway for every dollar spent.

Calgary’s ranks are a signal of the city’s durability in a turbulent global startup environment, emerging as a hotbed for local firms including Neo Financial, Eavor, Carbon Upcycling Technologies and Summit Nanotech closing significant raises in the past year.

Relative to other Canadian cities which experienced drops in their global ecosystem rank — including Vancouver and Toronto-Waterloo — Calgary’s value position for startups remains steady.

Calgary highlights from GSER 2025:

- \$6.7B ecosystem value
- \$2.6B in venture capital (VC) raised (2020–2024)
- Ninety startup exits over the past five years — above the global average
- Two active unicorns (companies valued at more than \$1B USD)
- Fastest tech employment growth in North America, surging 78 per cent from 2018–2023 (CBRE)

Calgary is positioned to improve upon this momentum, which aligns with *Calgary’s Innovation Strategy*, a blueprint to transform the city into Canada’s innovation capital. The strategy focuses on building a network of innovation nodes in areas like cleantech, life sciences, digital media and aerospace.

With the continued strength of Calgary’s startup scene and a near 1,000 per cent surge in VC investment since 2018, the strategy lays out a roadmap to build on this momentum and generate 187,000 new jobs and contribute \$28 billion to Calgary’s economy by 2034.

This year's GSER spotlights Calgary's entrepreneurial strengths thanks to collaboration between Platform Calgary, Calgary Innovation Coalition (CIC), Calgary Economic Development and Startup Genome.

Learn more about the city's thriving [tech sector](#) and how we're promoting growth via [Calgary's Innovation Strategy](#). Read Startup Genome's full report [here](#).

QUOTES

"Calgary is a launchpad for the next generation of global innovators. With the right talent, cost advantage and momentum behind us, we're scaling companies that are shaping the future — from fintech to cleantech and beyond. We're no strangers to innovation, and as we continue to double down on our efforts to grow this momentum, we're creating opportunities for Calgarians to build a meaningful life and career both today and 50 years from now."

— **Brad Parry, President & CEO, Calgary Economic Development**

"There is something special happening here in Calgary. Despite headwinds facing a lot of other tech ecosystems, Calgary's incredible resilience and growth are on full display. Platform Calgary and our network of partner organizations play an important role in this journey, uniting entrepreneurs, investors, and partners at the Platform Innovation Centre to support founders at every stage of their journey. Together, we are building a tech ecosystem that is the best place in the world for anyone to launch and grow a tech startup."

— **Terry Rock, President & CEO, Platform Calgary**

"Ranking in the top tier globally for affordable talent and startup runway, Calgary stands out as fertile ground for founders to scale with impact. We're proud to partner with Platform Calgary, Calgary Innovation Coalition and Calgary Economic Development — their collaboration continues to power this momentum."

— **JF Gauthier, Founder & CEO, Startup Genome**

ABOUT CALGARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Calgary Economic Development is an opportunity-maker, helping to spark and fuel Calgary's growth. Our job is to connect people with resources that can help them grow their careers or businesses, thrive in new locations or markets and feel at home in our community. We steward the economic strategy, [Uplook: An Action Plan for Our Economy](#) with the mandate to position Calgary for long-term economic success by supporting the expansion, retention and acquisition of companies, capital and talent. We offer a wealth of information to help everyone succeed and we tirelessly promote Calgary, in Canada and around the world. For more information, please visit our website at www.calgaryeconomicdevelopment.com and follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

ABOUT PLATFORM CALGARY

Platform Calgary is a non-profit, member-based organization. Our mandate is to bring together the resources of Calgary's tech ecosystem to help startups launch and grow at every step of their journey, from ideation to scale. We know that thriving tech community plays a key role in creating jobs and growing a local economy. By leveraging the entrepreneurial spirit of Calgary, we can position our city as the best place in the world for anyone to launch and grow a tech startup. Platform Calgary brings together founders and their teams, corporate and community partners, investors and tech talent all under one roof. For more information, please visit our website at www.platformcalgary.com and follow us on [LinkedIn](#).

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