

EVA FRIESEN
President and CEO
The Calgary Foundation

Widely respected in the Calgary community, Ms. Friesen has an extensive background of providing effective leadership in the nonprofit sector. Since 2005, Eva has been the President and CEO of The Calgary Foundation, a community foundation established in 1955 to build an endowment for the long term benefit of the Calgary community. The Calgary Foundation is one of the largest and fastest-growing community foundations in Canada with assets over \$300 million. The Foundation is a 360 degree grantor distributing over \$30 million annually to all sectors the charitable community.

Prior to joining The Calgary Foundation, Eva was the CEO of Calgary Health Trust for four years. In her four years as CEO, Eva welcomed the challenge of building the Calgary Health Trust - the charity nearly doubled its annual fundraising from \$12 million per year to \$20 million annually for health care excellence.

Prior to the Health Trust, Eva enjoyed a 22 year career with the YWCA spanning three cities, starting in Winnipeg, then Yellowknife where she was CEO for five years, and then Calgary where she was the CEO for 12 years.

Eva has served on a variety of Boards as a volunteer including five years as a member of the Calgary Police Commission. She has delivered the key note address and has facilitated workshops for numerous organizations and groups across Canada on a variety of Management and Board Development and leadership issues for the past 15 years. For five years (1996-2001) Eva was part-time faculty at the Banff Centre for Management and facilitated a week long program in Nonprofit Leadership.

Eva's education includes an MBA from the University of Calgary, the Executive Program from Queen's University, a degree in Physical Education from the University of Manitoba, and studies in the Masters program in Adult Education at St. Francis Xavier University.

Originally from Manitoba, Eva has made Calgary her home for the past 20 years. She is a Rotarian, member of the Calgary Downtown Club. The mountains are what initially drew her here and she still enjoys all they have to offer with summer backpacking and winter skiing. She is a runner and an avid horsewoman and competes in show jumping together with her two daughters, ages 11 and 13.