

What it means to me.

“To me this memorial is a place to remember the suffering and determination of courageous men and women, the Vietnamese “Boat People”, who risked and sometimes lost their lives refusing to live with tyranny. It’s a place to remember the compassion of Canadians who opened their communities, homes and hearts to strangers from across the seas. It’s a place to celebrate how these refugees overcame enormous obstacles to become proud and valued members of our Canadian family.”

-Michael Molloy,  
Senior Coordinator, Refugee Task Force 1979-80

We are proud to build the Journey to Freedom Park as a symbol for all immigrants who left their countries to seek a new life in Canada. We also will eagerly construct a Vietnamese Boat People Monument to commemorate the lives lost along the way in search of freedom. To this end, we definitely hope this park will become a landmark for everyone to enjoy and learn about the journey of the Vietnamese boat people.

The Park and Monument will feature...

- Nansen Medal: Refugee Award to the People of Canada
- Journey to Freedom Act
- Vietnamese Boat People Monument
- History Wall
- Memorial Wall
- Community Sponsor Wall
- Pioneer Sponsor Wall

All contributions of \$20.00 CAD and above will be issued charitable tax receipts. Donations can be sent by e-transfer to [jtftp2022@gmail.com](mailto:jtftp2022@gmail.com) or [tuongdai2022@gmail.com](mailto:tuongdai2022@gmail.com), by cheques made payable to:

“The Calgary Vietnamese School Association”  
(Memo: Calgary Monument Project)  
and send to the address:

Calgary Vietnamese Canadian Association  
1829 54 St SE #203, Calgary, AB, Canada, T2B 1N5

What it means to me.

“It’s a great honour to have what will be a beautiful gathering space and important monument located in our area. We feel it’s a fitting home, given how much Vietnamese immigrants have contributed to the vibrancy of our street, our neighbourhoods and of course the cultural richness of Calgary.”

-Alison Karim-McSwiney  
Executive Director, International Avenue BRZ



The Calgary Vietnamese Canadian Association is a non-profit organization established in 1980 to help Vietnamese newcomers, continue building up and working with new Vietnamese generations, collaborate with other communities and associations and organize annual events such as Vietnamese Lunar New Year, Black April Day. We have been promoting culture, and mutual assistance between the Vietnamese community and other ethnic groups to contribute to the social development of Canada.

Information

Journey to Freedom Park and Vietnamese Boat People Monument Project

Calgary Vietnamese Canadian Association  
Tel (text only): 587-891-2388  
Email: [hmv-calgary@hotmail.com](mailto:hmv-calgary@hotmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/HoiNguoiVietCalgaryCalgaryVietnameseCanadian>

Web: <https://www.hoinguoivietcalgary-cvca.ca/journeytofreedompark/>

International Avenue (BRZ): 403-248-7288  
Email: [intave@shaw.ca](mailto:intave@shaw.ca)  
Web: [intlave.ca](http://intlave.ca)

# Journey to Freedom Park & Vietnamese Boat People Monument



Calgary Vietnamese Canadian Association  
In partnership with  
Calgary Vietnamese School Association  
Calgary Vietnamese Veterans Immigrants Aid Association  
Calgary Vietnamese Canadian Senior Citizens Association  
International Avenue (Business Revitalization Zone)

YOU CAN HELP US  
HONOUR THE PAST  
BUILD FOR THE FUTURE  
PLEASE DONATE



On April 30, 1975, the Republic of South Vietnam fell into the communist forces of North Vietnam. Thousands of people began to flee Vietnam by crossing borders, mainly by boats, in search of freedom.

### WHY build the Park and Monument?

- \* To commemorate the Vietnamese people who tragically lost their lives in their Journey to freedom;
- \* To thank Canada and the World for extending the life-saving touch of humanity and compassion towards Vietnamese boat people and refugees;
- \* To thank Calgarians who welcomed and helped Vietnamese people settle in Calgary for many years and;
- \* To remind future generations of Canadians, of Vietnamese and non-Vietnamese origins, of the historical spirit of democracy and Freedom.

### SPONSOR RECOGNITION

1/ Memorial Wall\* \$200/each name (at cost)  
*\*only for those who passed away during the Journey to Freedom, (maximum 1000 names.)*

2/ Community Sponsors \$1,000/each slot (6"x2.5")

3/ Pioneer Sponsors

- Platinum with bench \$100,000+ \*\*
- Diamond with bench \$50,000+ \*\*
- Diamond \$40,000+
- Gold \$25,000+
- Silver \$15,000+
- Bronze \$5,000+

\*\* maximum 8 benches for the park

4/ "WHAT IT MEANS TO ME" features testimonials and donations on website.

### ABOUT INTERNATIONAL AVENUE

International Avenue is a vibrant business district with a diverse ethnic composition located on 17th Avenue SE from 26-61 Streets in Calgary. The Avenue is also known as Calgary's Culinary and Cultural Capital.

It is an area of one-stop shopping with access to a selection of restaurants and grocery stores from around the world, as well as, a wide range of other retail goods and services.

The Avenue has recently undergone a 176 million dollar infrastructure makeover complete with the incorporation of a bus rapid transit line - MAX Purple, wide sidewalks, state-of-the-art urban design and landscaping. The Journey to Freedom Park will be located at the western gateway into the Avenue.



**STAGE 1** *Completed Sept 2020*  
 Community Engagement  
 Preliminary concept of Park and Monument



**STAGE 2** *Currently in progress*  
 Development of final layout



**STAGE 3** *Jan - May 2021*  
 Final design  
 Building permit  
 Start of construction



**STAGE 4** *April 2022*  
 Grand Opening  
 Journey to Freedom Park and  
 Vietnamese Boat People Monument