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The idea of 2School was conceived in 2003 when plans were drawn up for a new administrative office in downtown Calgary. We knew we had the opportunity to bring together teachers, students and community experts for a week-long experience utilizing the downtown urban environment as our classroom. The program opened its doors in 2011 at the Calgary Board of Education Center in the historic Beltline district, and encourages Calgarians to learn, talk about and celebrate our vibrant inner city neighborhoods, public education, and the many exciting things they have to offer!

Each week is personalized for the attending class with community members sharing their expertise while working alongside students. Students explore stories and have direct experiences with urban spaces and places, developing a greater connection to the urban environment and the excitement, possibilities and innovation that exists in Calgary. Students also explore the role that public education plays in the lives of Calgarians and the democratic process surrounding it. 2School fosters awareness and agency as students understand their importance in shaping their city.

