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## CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY AT CALGARY CENTRAL LIBRARY CELEBRATES NEW CITIZENS AND CANADA BOOK WEEK

60 new citizens to be sworn in at special ceremony

CALGARY, APRIL 25, 2019—The Institute for Canadian Citizenship (ICC), in partnership with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, and the Calgary Public Library, today will celebrate 60 citizens from 15 countries in a special citizenship ceremony part of a series of such ceremonies across the country marking Canada Book Week.

Before the ceremony, the ICC will host roundtable discussions during which the new Canadian citizens and their guests will share their journeys to citizenship and reflect on what Canadian citizenship means to them. The discussions will be led by local writers and authors, as well as Calgary Public Library staff.

“For many newcomers to our city, a Calgary Public Library card is one of the first pieces of identification they hold in Canada. As a democratic institution committed to creating welcoming public spaces, we are honoured to provide critical and accessible settlement services and support to newcomers as they find belonging within their new communities,” said Mark Asberg, Director, Service Delivery, of the Calgary Public Library.

“Public libraries are often the first place newcomers go to help them navigate life in Canada. Through their programs and services, they provide newcomers, most of whom become new citizens, with a sense of inclusion and belonging. So it’s fitting that our country’s newest citizens will be celebrating their citizenship today in the architecturally stunning new flagship of the Calgary Public Library,” said Amy Matchen, Director of the Building Citizenship program at the Institute for Canadian Citizenship.

Citizenship ceremonies held in collaboration with the ICC are a celebration of Canada’s newest citizens, and offer unique opportunities for new citizens and community members to reflect on the meaning of active, engaged citizenship. Each citizenship ceremony held in collaboration with the ICC includes signature roundtable discussions, a citizenship ceremony, and a reception. Everyone is not only welcome but also encouraged to attend today’s citizenship ceremony, which starts at 2:00 p.m. at the Patricia A. Whelan Performance Hall at Central Library, , 800 3 Street SE, Calgary, Alberta, T2G 2E7. Celebrating new citizens and their stories offers a unique opportunity for all of us to reflect on the rights, duties, and privileges of Canadian citizenship.

– 30 –

### ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

Powered by a passionate and committed national network, the Institute for Canadian Citizenship (ICC) delivers programs and special projects that inspire Canadians to be inclusive, create opportunities to connect, and encourage active citizenship. The ICC is a national charity co-founded by The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson and John Ralston Saul. For more information, visit [icc-icc.ca](http://icc-icc.ca).

### ABOUT THE CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Calgary Public Library, with 700,000+ members and 21 locations, has been inspiring the life stories of Calgarians for more than 100 years. It is currently the second largest library system in Canada and the sixth largest municipal library system in North America, with Calgarians borrowing more than 14.4 million physical and digital items and with 6.9 million in-person visits last year. The awe-inspiring 240,000 sq. ft. new Central Library—the newest gathering place for our city—opened on November 1, 2018 and has received over 800,000 visits since then.

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