



MUSEUMS LEARN FACT SHEET

Museums are learners too. Museums encourage lifelong learning for their visitors and themselves. Through an openness to growing, adapting, and revising, museums acknowledge multiple ways of knowing and build a reciprocal relationship with their community. Our stories are always evolving, and our understanding and interpretation of those stories must evolve as well.

96%

agree that the museum is a place to learn and be inspired

87%

agree that museums advance knowledge as research institutions

83%

agree that local museums are a place to know the history of a particular area

81%

agree that like educational institutions, museums provide a platform for learning

"Museums tell the story of people and places. They are wonderful resources for learning and research and to allow people of similar interests to learn from each other."

[Museums] should continue to reach out to diverse groups and learn from their perspectives."

-Survey Respondent

68%

agree that local museums can be a place to engage with the community

49%

agree that community members should be involved in designing material and exhibits

58%

agree that museums should have dialogues with local communities to develop programs that resonate with community interests

1 IN 4

think museums should practice what they preach

"The walls of the museum should be porous - allow ideas to flow in and out. When a community views the museum as 'their' place then you have made progress."
- Survey Respondent

"I want a museum to open itself up to scrutiny and examine the role it plays in society."
- Survey Respondent

All data was collected as part of a 2021 national survey, *Museums for Me*, undertaken as part of *Reconsidering Museums*. For detailed information on questions and responses, see the *Museums For Me: Engaging Canadians on the Future of Museums - What We Heard* report.

The Alberta Museums Association gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Cultural Investment Fund and the Province of Alberta through the Community Initiatives Program for the *Reconsidering Museums* project.