

Negative Sentiment Color

Positive Sentiment Color

Neutral Sentiment Color

Calgary Text 1:

Hundreds of thousands moving to Calgary, making city unaffordable | Globalnews.ca

Gee, I remember not so long ago when ads extolling the virtues of moving to Alberta were plastered all over the TTC, enticing Torontonians to make the move west...

I'm in NB Those signs are still up.

I'm in NS, and the radio advertisements were going pretty hard with "Alberta is calling"...

Also in NB, just want to say I love your username!

Also in NB. The concept worked just well enough to bring Toronto landlords.

To provide some much needed context here.

The national average home price in Canada is \$709,218, while the average in Calgary is \$552,273. The average in Toronto is \$1.182M.

Calgary has the highest GDP per capita of any CMA in the country, while also ranking tops among Canada's large cities in median household income, with a mark of \$100,000, vs Toronto's median of \$97,000.

So, yes, Calgary real estate is increasing in cost, but it is the fourth largest city in the country, the richest CMA per capita, and still has real estate prices 22% below the national average, and less than half prices in Toronto.

They also have no PST which must be nice (Ontarian here).

Know what's nicer? No tax when you buy a car that's being privately sold. And this applies if you're an Alberta resident to any province in the country. They cannot charge you sales tax on used cars. Not even Quebec.

But yes. No pst is great.

Go out for dinner, pay 15% to the gov and 20% tip. 40% more than the bill. At least here it's like 25% (which is still too fucking much)

Yeah that really fucken makes me mad. I live in QC and have owned 3 used cars...paying tax on a car that has been taxed multiple times is absolute bullshit.

Insurance and utilities are brutal though

This.

The utilities are basically hidden taxes in Edmonton and Calgary as Epcor/Enmax are still primarily owned (% of shares) by those cities (respectively) and their profits get paid out as dividends to their shareholders.

Insurance (property and car) is ridiculous here.

Nah, everything else is more expensive to compensate.

It's not, though...

Is it though? Asking genuinely. Everything is very expensive here too and we pay 13% HST.

I lived in three provinces, currently in Alberta.

Is it though?

No, not everything else is more expensive. Some things cost more, some things cost less.

Looking into it, it seems between insurance, prop taxes, utilities, vehicles stuff, groceries, etc. Every province has its expensive parts or cheap parts.

Go to Winnipeg! Average price on a home there is \$386,028..Winnipeg could use some fresh blood and business. I mean, besides the stabbing kind.

Nobody cares about facts my friend. This is outrage central. Facts can get fucked.

Reddit just desperately wants any and all evidence that Alberta is/has/will failed/fail because it can't accept one of the most economically stable, and successful provinces, is also the countries most rightleaning province.

We would love to see Alberta flourish so that there are more options in Canada other than Vancouver and Toronto...That's what Immigration + Spread + internal immigration/movement is supposed to do.

Same thing in the US with Texas and Florida
For now.

The article tries to scare you with raw numbers...

but the percent of growth of the last 4 years is actually fairly below average from historical rates, only ever growing slower in the early 90s. The whole article's premise of trying to tie housing prices to migration is bait.

remember a year ago where every complaint about housing was met with "why don't you just move to Calgary"

And like obviously people were eventually gonna

Edmonton folks: "chuckle... I'm in danger"

Well yeah cuz 10 years ago everyone was saying "why don't you move to the maritimes"...and now there are no houses there. The whole just move somewhere cheaper suggestion has been happening for years and doesn't solve anything just delays it slightly.

Well the Alberta government isn't complaining. Plastered all over Canada. Lol

It's the RATE at which people are coming is like nothing we've seen before...And if those signs have been up for forever and initially got a trickle of influx, then you keep advertising. It's not until the last couple years that people have come here in waves. Not just immigrants, loads from Ontario who have Torontomoney selling their 2MM 2 bedroom condo and buying multiple single family properties here causing a worse housing crisis for Calgary.

The Feds need to put the brakes on allowing so many people in or everything is going to continue to break... housing, emergency services, access to healthcare, food stocks, medicine...just wait. The great Toilet Paper Debacle of 2020 will be the foreshadow.

Thing of what's to come. I'm very thankful we have a house and not subject to rental pricing like so many I know. I genuinely feel for them having to change their living situation every 12 months, worse so with pets (but that's nothing new).

Move water overflowing from Bucket A to Bucket B. Bucket B starts overflowing.

"Wow, why didn't anyone warn me this would happen?"

Calgary is in a lucky position of not being limited in how far out it can grow (sprawl) unless it manages to get so big it butts up against the rockies they got space to build in all directions

Yes, we're lucky enough to eventually have a city that will take 2 hours to drive from one side to the other. I can't wait.

Those ads are probably still up on the TTC, I saw them recently.
Lol plenty of redditors posting "if it's too expensive for YOU then move to Calgary!"
Are those signs not still up? They were less then 6 months ago
BC had those ads too playing on radio and on billboards

Everyone saying you should just move if you can't afford housing in your area never stops to consider this...

If you just shuffle people around, it won't address the actual problem.

The sad thing is that Canadians in some cases are fighting and blaming each other for the housing crisis. SOME people here in NS just blamed "Ontarians". The truth is the whole system is rotten and we're all in the same boat, unless you're among the rich making bank on people paying too much for rent.

It's fine to move to areas with better prospects. People have always done that. But the LCOL cities attracting people still need to plan accordingly.

It should be easier and faster for 50 cities to build housing for the population growth than it in for 3 cities to build enough for everyone on their own.

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exactly Canada needs an urban growth plan for smaller cities to take the pressure off of the metros. like the homestead act but instead of 50 acres of farmland you get a 1500 sq ft. town house in a small city outside of a major metro area

Everyone saying that doesn't anticipate the government will bring in 1.2 million additional people...

"It's a temporary solution only."

"we moved to a loc area and lost all sense of community and I was unemployed for years bc they were so suspicious of 'outsiders' ... and it cost us \$10k. the 'just move' crowd just want to be angry either way."

"I thought the point was that there's lots of housing stock in small towns/places that saw population decrease. I know that there were bungalows going for ~150,000 in Terrace bay, Ontario ~8 years ago (this is an anecdote with old data, sorry). If WFH gets more traction, using old housing stock in 'unfavorable' places is a valid solution."

"It's not a permanent solution, but it does alleviate the problem a bit."

"New residential construction is a lot cheaper and easier in Alberta than it is in other provinces (mostly due to regulatory differences). There's more excess capacity and the construction market is more responsive. So you've still got a huge demand spike, but people are shifting into a less supply constrained market."

"If people move to municipalities that are willing to adjust existing zoning to accommodate growth, it can make a difference. But yes, if they're all just going to keep 60-70% of their land as zoned for single family homes only like most Canadian cities, nothing will change."

"2008 Alberta vibes calling. That time was wild right up until it became all... More exciting in a different way"

"Back when a house in Calgary cost almost as much as the Vancouver burbs."

"Calgary has always been cyclical. I wouldn't buy on an upswing there unless I was planning to stay for a long, long time. If you need out at the wrong time... ouch."

"Yep, it's past the breaking point. I know people who can't afford the massive increases in rent and general cost of living and are running out of options. Yet we continue to import millions across Canada."

"Many more are out of options, and it shows. The city is sick and it's getting worse. The government has failed us on every level, and it would seem it's by design."

"Edmonton, Saskatchewan and Manitoba will be the last standing provinces of affordable housing but that will be a thing of the past too with these immigration levels."

"Pretty sure one of those ain't a province chief..." (

"Manitoba is a made up province"

"Edmonton, Edmonton, ON, Canada lol"

"Most people in Alberta would be happy to spin Edmonton off as its own province."

"So would Edmonton lol" (

"What's the capital of Edmonton? Why, the West Edmonton Mall of course!" (0) :
Humorously suggests a landmark as the capital, not directly related to housing
sentiment.

"I hear their public transit is in the form of waterslides" (

"Agreed. 'Come to Winnipeg, we dare you.'"

"Noooo, stay outta Sask...its been so nice having little population. Things are going to
go to crap here too, but we should be the last one to get destroyed."

"Too late I'm coming and I'm bringing Toronto driving habits with me"

"Here, I'll help... Sask is way colder than the other cold places and the wildlife there will
eat you."

"Good luck with convincing people of that. We've all seen Corner Gas and we know it's
always summer there."

"Wildlife = mosquitoes"

"Nana fake news! Manitoba is way colder windier and more dangerous. Go to Sask y'all.
They got it real nice there!"

"start spreading disinformation about SK, it's horrible and racist"

"But the skiing is simply amazing....."

"Olympian mark mcmorris is from sask. We do have a few small ski hills around" (

"That should be on the sign at the SK borders. Like the billboards advertising their one
NHL player in small towns."

"I thought you said disinformation tho"

"They have density though, tons of space to build."

"The problem will be jobs, we hate investment in Canada."

"We don't hate investment, we just love the wrong kind. We like, 'this worked in US city no. 75, let's do it here.' Then it royally shits the bed. Good example is calgary as the 'new tech start up center of Canada.' That turned out to be a fart in a bathtub."

"People have been trying to make a tech hub in Calgary since the 90s and it hasn't worked out. Apparently offering low pay to work in a city with famously horrid winters when they make more money living in the relative comfort of California or Washington state wasn't an enticing offer. Whodda thunk it?"

"I am not even sure offering better pay would attract enough to make it a tech hub" (

"You mean the industry that was attempted to be subsidised by the NDP and all the subsidies were cancelled the minute the UCP was back in power? Huh, wonder why that fizzled."

"The good part is we totally burned the companies that wanted to move here, so they'll never be back. Sweet."

"We hereby declare Edmonton as the 11th Canadian province!"

"I love how Newfoundland isn't ever included in the conversation lol. Moved here in November and loving it so far."

"This is precisely why i love Australia— Most citizens: 'Immigration levels are too high sustain current quality of life, please stop it.' Government: 'k, done, we agree.' Some citizens: 'wahhh, racist.' Govt/Most citizens: 'ehh, shut up.'"

"Good old Australia 'fuck off, we're full'" (

"Australia's housing market is on par with Canada's... it's almost like it's not just immigration that's the problem."

"Immigration and Canadians hopping provinces like never before. By the end of the year half my friends will have left Ontario."

"The housing in my town in Manitoba is through the roof. A lot of houses getting snatched up by investors in the lower price range."

"It took longer to get here but it's here."

"Hows P.E.I doing? they seem to escape the dramalol"

"Probability because they don't allow non residents to own property. Because this whole foreign landlord class ruining the local economy thing ruined the island....in the 1700s. Answering The Land Question is literally a foundational moment for PEI joining Canada"

"Interesting, did not know that"

"I didn't know this. Sounds like PEI has it right by protecting the best interests of their locals." (+) : Praises Prince Edward Island's approach to property ownership for benefiting locals.

"Squid game: Canadian edition. Survival of the richest"

"I'm just wondering when the breaking point will be reached."

"Is there even a breaking point?"

"Well, the moment people can't feed themselves for 72 hours and that food banks have basically no supplies left, you'll have people on the streets begging for food and dying. That could be the breaking point."

"Don't worry, more immigrants and BC/ON people are on the way"

"The problem is the bone headed population of the GTA. They suffer the most from mass immigration yet they continue to blindly support it. Unfortunately they make up a massive voting block."

"The problem is that real estate is a religion in this country."

"But without immigrants how will my property values rise and increase the rental prices that will allow me to buy my 3rd vacation home."

"'Bro just move lmaoo,' people who aren't currently exposed to the anal violation that is finding affordable housing"

"We'll all just keep moving and letting those dominoes"

Calgary Text 2: Calgary Is An Underrated City

Not going to lie, when I thought of Alberta 2 weeks ago I thought of oil, being outdated, and not fun.

I think this has to do with what's portrayed in the media when Alberta is mentioned (think politics, oil, and saddledome talk).

Every time I visit family in the GTA and their friends meet us, they are bewildered as to why we live in Calgary for exactly these reasons.

Of course, none of them have actually visited Calgary or Alberta so their views are

entirely based on the media.

It's unfortunate that reality does not get reflected and shared more often.

I'm always amused when Torontonians shit on Calgary because of politics.

Just look at the mayors Toronto elects (Rob Ford & Tory) vs the mayors Calgary elects (Nenshi & Gondek).

Weather comments bug me similarly.

People can google and compare decades of weather stats online.

Calgary gets a few weeks of freezing cold which is usually offset by a few weeks of chinook warmth.

I'll gladly take the dry cold and light fluffy snow that I can use a leaf blower on over the damp, wet mess of snow and slush that Southern ON has to deal with.

Calgary is objectively warmer than Toronto in February and January.

That's before even counting the fact that Calgary is far sunnier, drier and has less slush and freezing rain than Toronto.

Not even comparable, winter in Calgary is far more enjoyable.

Even Calgarians don't realize how good winter is here.

Having spent a decade in northern Saskatchewan, I'll never forget how good we have it here in the winter. Never.

If you don't like the weatherjust wait an hour!! Right guys?????.....guys?

The one thing I still don't understand is why people use leaf blowers so often in this province

I've seen a few electric but most are gas powered and absolutely awful polluters.

Why not sweep away, or shovel this light snow? Edit: Comparison between truck vs leaf blower exhaust

Agreed, I use an electric one and a scoop (or 'snow sleigh' as CTire calls it).

I've mostly noticed the gas powered ones being used for more industrial purposes, and by snow clearing companies.

Have you tried blowing snow? It's amazing fun. But yes. Should use electric. Zero maintenance. No fumes.

Born and raised Calgarian here. I lived in Toronto for 3.5 years. I thoroughly enjoyed my time there, but I did not enjoy the weather! It was super bonechilling cold!! The temp really never got below 15, but holy shit that humidity is dreadful!

It's also funny considering Ontario is more conservative than Alberta when it comes to recent elections.

Not sure I'd be bragging much about Gondek anymore, but point taken.

Keep Calgary shitty (in ppl's minds). I don't want everyone flocking making living less affordable at lower quality of life.

I do a lot of business in Toronto and travel there frequently. I also have a lot of staff there who report to me and I find being a Calgarian telling Torontonians what to do endlessly amusing. It never ceases to amaze me how wholly ignorant most of them are about Calgary. They literally think it's some redneck backwater full of pickup trucks and cowboys. I mean, those exist, but not like they imagine. And then you tell them about what it's actually like to live here and they start saying things like, maybe I should pay more attention to those Alberta Calling ads because that actually sounds really good, like, better than here. Because it is!

Totally agree. Have had plenty of chances to move out to Ontario and I work primarily alongside Torontonians, Vancouverites, & Haligonians. Spent some time living across Canada. Same thing makes me chuckle on the daily. Came back and wouldn't move given the choice at the moment. Didn't realize before leaving just how much we keep the income to cost of living ratio down without sacrificing amenities/services (like one would in smaller cities across the prairies). An underrated city for sure.

My choices of places I could move to: Montreal, Toronto, Calgary. My French is not good enough for Montreal and Toronto is too big and ugly. Calgary was the goldilocks city.

I've found likeable things in every city I've lived in in Canada. I moved from GTA over a decade ago and Calgary is definitely not the same city it was then. Two successive minority mayor's, huge art and architecture advancements, and lots of cross Canada and international immigration have helped shape it more cosmopolitan. The stereotypes were a bit unfair but not completely undeserved. Over the past decade Calgary has improved. Alberta still has plenty of yahoos, but Calgary has a much better urban vibe.

YAY! I love reviews of our city. I love it here and I don't get the hate and suspect much of it is from people who haven't spent a lot of time living elsewhere.

I understand the hate we get. We're little cry babies about our dirty oil economy and want the rest of Canada to listen to us. I'm a life long Albertan and would like to change this. Let's work with Canada, not against it.

Calgary is amazing. I always like to remember that Calgary gets mention in Star Trek, because in the future, people still want to vacation and ski in and around Calgary, that's pretty cool.

Ha! What show and which episode? Star Trek Next Generation, it's the episode where Wesley gets his friend killed he mentions that they went skiing in Calgary. 'First Duty'

Season 5 episode 19. I just confirmed, and this is correct. It's at 22:50 in episode 5x19 First Duty. Surprised I didn't notice this before.

Lol we have our own tiny article on the official wiki:

<https://memoryalpha.fandom.com/wiki/Calgary>. The notes suggest that by the 24th century Calgary has expanded to include the Banff skiing areas, since they mentioned that they went skiing 'in Calgary'. Maybe Calgary is a bit of a secondary option for tourists in between visiting Montana, where warp drive was invented?

I remember vacationing in New Orleans and one of our taxi drivers mentioned that he and his friend come up to Calgary every year for Stampede. It's pretty cool to think that people from one of the biggest cultural centers and party cities in the US come up here to party too.

I've traveled a lot and I can say that Calgary is a great city! Clean, tons of sunshine, great walking areas, great restaurants, vast selection of breweries, lots of cultural things to check out, etc. Sure, we have our issues but so do all cities. When they filmed The Last of us here last year the crew was amazed how clean and friendly the city was. Wants to film in a dirty rundown city so it's easy to edit to postapocalyptic scenes. Shows up in Calgary. What the heck? Why's it so clean? Why do they have nice buildings? dammit WE NEED MORE SFX NOW.

People out east (Ontario and Quebec) are so incredibly judgmental of Alberta without having any idea what it's like here.

kinda wish this 'Calgary is a redneck backwater shithole' mentality would prevail so I could finally participate in the housing market in the place I grew up in and call home and no longer be jerked around by landlords.

That's the whole country unfortunately. Canadian immigration isn't helping anyone when it comes to housing.

People from ON are buying up AB properties en masse, so that doesn't help either. Seems to be the new fad since they can't afford homes over there

Yeah, not all prairie cities hit the same way to the heating of the housing market in Canada. The apartment style condo I own, with 2br 2bath 800sq cost me 20 grand more than what my parents bought in 2007 and I lived in until they moved to BC. What they bought was a 3* level split, 2.5bath, 3 bedroom. Had 2 living rooms, 1 'dining room', nice sized ushape kitchen. Mostly unfinished basement, with cold pantry room built by the previous owners. During the time I lived there, a finished bedroom was added to the basement, I helped completely rebuild the deck(first project I was old enough to assist with safely), and the dining room and front living room floors and master bathroom were redone and retiled, and all new carpet was installed in the whole house. ETA: Most of

the windows had been redone from the original windows in the house, most cause the previous owners redid the basement window in front already. Even if housing was lock step with inflation, I could not have afforded to buy this house after the work that was put in (only one section of tiling had to be redone by the garage). They sold it for nearly 3x the price they bought it for though in 2015, 8 years. ETA: I did look back in the neighbourhood to see how far up prices had climbed, as a percentage the most significant gain was 2007/2015. Between 2015/2022 the price had only gone up 2530%, even though per dollar value, it was a similar amount. Federally Housing should have been regulated severely and indexed to CPI the minute the US lending market fell out. Instead the country as a whole has been shooting for the moon if I understand correctly.

You can get an apartment here for under 200k. 10k down and you too can pay a mortgage. Very, very accessible compared to the other nice cities in the country (no, Edmonton doesn't count)

Tell your friends in Ontario it sucks here.

People are friends with Ontario people?

Calgary regularly is in the top 10 of livable cities. Last year we ranked 3rd in the world. <https://moving2canada.com/newsandfeatures/features/planning/destinationguides/calgary/2022liveabilityindexthreecanadianciestopten/#> Honestly, it is wonderful here, I love it for so many reasons and a far more happier person then when I was living in boring and ol' school Nova Scotia that does everything backwards.

You will experience this anywhere you go that gets a bad rep through Reddit and other social media. I recently went to South Carolina and I was worried due to it being a deep red state. It was beautiful and the people were so friendly and welcoming. There was definitely a palpable racial tension in the air but it wasn't a republican nightmare as I would have been led to believe. It also was a visit and not living there full time so I think we tend to try and see the s during those short stays.

Trust me, half the province doesn't agree with the politics either... Glad you enjoyed your time here!

Now that I've had the chance to explore other cities across Canada I've come to appreciate exactly how unique the culture is in Calgary and how much the area has going for it. It's a huge city and both the city and surrounding area has so much going for it with just about any hobby attainable within an hour's drive.

I remember telling a buddy after high school in Ontario that I'm going to Calgary to study engineering... His reply was 'but you don't even know how to ride a horse.'

I'm from Newfoundland and growing up one of my things was 'I'll never move to Alberta'. Well, my friend moved to Calgary and when I visited I was impressed. So much that I decided to move here.

Same here. Living in such a beautiful and active city really makes it difficult to contemplate moving back.

Moved to Calgary last October. Everyone in Montreal thought I was crazy because Calgary has no diversity of population, everyone owns a gun, all the pickup trucks, cowboy hats, and boots...etc. When asked when they've been, the answers are always in the 1990s or never. So far, very diverse, haven't seen one gun, amount of pickup trucks are similar to Montreal, only saw 4 people with cowboy boots (yes I count to make a point back home) and no cowboy hats on peoples heads. The pros, inflation is lower, no French politics or language laws, lower taxes and cheaper housing and great roads.

Your cowboy boot count will increase dramatically in early July 😊

We are ranked in the Economist's list of most liveable cities as the top in Canada. By objective measurements, we were the best place to live in Canada, which has 3 of the top 10 in the world.

I saw this in another comment. That's pretty cool. I still think it's considered underrated amongst Canadians, as my stereotypes I listed are still widely considered to be true for the province (not necessarily city)

Gotta love that livability! Plus, a growing cultural and entertainment scene, and fewer bigots than most would anticipate. More than we'd like, but still.

If you look at the election results a good deal of Calgarians also do not agree with current Alberta politics. Inner city Calgary on the whole voted NDP. Glad you a head a good time in the city. I moved here almost 20 years ago from Toronto (a city I still also love). Calgary just is a better fit for my lifestyle. I feel like the one thing that lets down Calgary is a true downtown vibe with great restaurants and bars. Would also like to see more train transport options but otherwise it's great.

Sharing this here is great, sharing this with people out east is not needed. We prefer the unfair judgments if it means we can keep the people moving here at bay.Lol. The same could be said about people from Ontario and the west moving to the east after you sell your milliondollar homes. I'll keep the opinions to myself for you though.I'd be curious on the comparison on eastern people moving west versus western people moving east.

Don't worry about not liking the politics. Lots here don't like the current provincial government and their politics. I agree, Calgary is underrated. I have lived here all my life

with the exception of a few summers in Banff. I have traveled all over Canada, the United States and in other parts of the world. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

Agree with everything you said. But do you think our roads better than where you came from?

Fuck yes lol. Our roads last 1 year before major cracks and potholes start again. To make it worse it feels like they're always under construction/repair and then it just goes back to being shitty a few months later. I think this is more of an eastern province problem or maybe just PEI, because of our weather. But I'm pulling at straws because I don't know anything about that other than what driving on a nice road feels like, and Calgary didn't have bad ones anywhere.

Top5 most livable city in the world is underrated? Also, net migrations from the rest of Canada is through the roof. So yeah, you must be in a weird info bubble =).

Most of these comments would not suggest I'm in an info bubble. People move because everyone knows there's more money in Alberta. That doesn't speak to how good a city is, though. Well, reddit is a weird info bubble ;).

I've lived in Winnipeg, Banff, Lake Louise, Golden, assorted places on Vancouver Island, and NYC and I'd still pick Calgary any day.

I lived in Calgary for 3 years for school and work and had a pleasant time. People were friendly, and it felt like there's always something to do. Restaurants were pretty good, too. I shared my experience (I am a person of color) on an 'inclusive' page on Instagram because they were crapping on the city and the people and my comment got deleted and I got banned from the page hahaha, even though I didn't say anything mean just shared my personal experience. Yeah, the message on the media/social media is pretty , I guess they delete/ban comments that don't align with their narrative.

You know how often I hear this from people from Ontario, Quebec and BC?

The library is amazing!! So nice with so many events and people using it. You all did well with that!

In Calgary, we don't agree with the politics either.

Edmonton is the same. People think of it as a dirty oil town, but the music scene, arts culture, grunge nightlife, abundance of festivals, and gorgeous river valley are amazing. I think a lot of cities are nicer than we make them out to be.

Yeah Edmonton is ACTUALLY underrated.

As a Calgarian, I completely agree. The river valley is stunning with its trails and parks. Especially so in the fall.

Nah Edmonton still sucks

Calgary is probably my favorite place by far. Loads to see and do, lots of really nice, friendly people, relatively clean and safe, gorgeous views, close to the mountains. If not for the rightleaning politics and insistence we depend on the oil/gas industry, it would be pretty much perfect.

I think if Calgary invested in tourism like Toronto does they could be a smaller and more improved version of Toronto if that makes sense. And wouldn't have to rely so much on the oil & gas. But who knows. To be completely honest, Toronto is my least favorite place in Canada. I like that Calgary is so opposite to it.

I agree, I don't hate Toronto. I think they get their love off of their name and events. The city itself is super meh outside of sports and music. Montreal and now Calgary are my two favorites. The above comment I meant I think Calgary could be a smaller version of what the world thinks Toronto is.

Doesn't the world just think Toronto is like American Canada? I guess they kinda think Calgary is Canada's Texas though, which I hate. But that's that rightleaning oil and gas component that does that. I don't think Calgary depends on oil/gas so much as they refuse to let it go and do something else, 'cos money. I tried to move to Toronto. I lasted a month. To be fair, I'm not a big city kind of girl. I like my lakes and nature. Toronto felt so dirty and congested. Getting around was terrible. They've got this massive Great Lake right there, but it's so polluted you can't swim in it or fish from it, which was honestly what really killed Toronto for me. It felt really racist and dangerous. I was followed and harassed by a few junkies in one of the more busy/popular areas, which was quite terrifying. The day I arrived I was scammed at the airport when I tried to get a ride to my apartment. Calgary is worlds better than Toronto, for me. I think Calgary has just as much to offer tourismwise as Toronto, really. Once you've done the tower and the aquarium plus a sporting event or concert, what does it really offer?

The last bit on tourism is what I mean. I think Calgary has the means to do big things with tourism and events but it seems like maybe they are not advertising as well as they could. If I think of some big artists right now I could bet they might have Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal dates. But it's unlikely Calgary is in there. Maybe sometimes. But mostly you'll see Toronto and Montreal. I don't think people outside of Calgary (like myself 2 weeks ago) understand what it has to offer because it's not advertised as such anywhere. Even on a Calgary flames broadcast when it cuts to a view of the city, it doesn't look good at all lol. Show a picture of a park or something at least!

Moved here from Toronto. There are parts of that city that I miss because I'm a city girl. The diversity in food options, entertainment, music, etc. But I have grown to love Calgary for the people that live here. Consistently the friendliest and most generous people I've met. Plus the sunny weather and the closeness of the mountains. No regrets at all moving here.

I think we could grow to be a tourism hub without becoming Toronto. I'm all for diversifying our economy and I feel like we're missing a bit of an opportunity for all those tourism dollars to stay in Calgary a bit, instead of heading straight to Banff from our airport. It would certainly help make some areas more lively.

Sled Island in 3 weeks!

Yep, Alberta is honestly a pretty great place, and Calgary is a worldclass city... except for our politics. It's fucking embarrassing.

Glad ya liked Calgary. Honestly, I'm ok with those who shit on Alberta but have never been here. We don't need any more closedminded people. :)

If you come from an even worse place like Regina, you wouldn't think it's underrated because it's always been well rated lol

Can people please not spread this around? We have enough people moving here as is.

Well, to be honest, your judgments of the province aren't entirely wrong lol. But the cities in and of themselves are pretty darn great. 😊 Otherwise, Alberta also has some stunning scenery and places throughout (not just the mountains).

My car's suspension disagrees with you on the roads being great.

I don't hate Calgary. I actually really like living here, politics aside. But it's really funny to read a review that's like 'the roads were good and the shopping centers were very clean :)' That's not really what people typically think about or care about when they're evaluating the livability / quality of life in a city, kind of minor factors that are the bare minimum of what you'd expect in a firstworld city. Every city in Canada has reasonable shopping centers and good roads (I know traffic is not good in Vancouver and Toronto). I didn't realize that the media portrayal of Calgary was such that tourists would come here expecting the place to be a shithole and everyone on the street to be an asshole (though you can just go to any bar outside of downtown on any weeknight during a federal election campaign if you want to hear people/yokels screaming obscenities at an image of Trudeau on the TV).

As funny as it sounds, I think you're undervaluing good roads. Live in Atlantic Canada for 5 years and you might understand why. As for the shopping centers all I meant was

they're modern styles and look straight out of a magazine. I'm comparing to centers in Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax, Calgary is the prettiest. Know how to get people to spend money? Create an attractive place to spend it. Our mall here in PEI is succeeding the last few years because the ownership changed and is finally investing in it.

The bad things about Calgary (as a midtwenties single person) is that we have like 4/5 clubs, a couple of decent bars, and no highprofile musical shows come to the city basically, our nightlife sucks, but everything else is good, amazing even.

We are extremely lucky to be from Calgary. Also, we got ranked best city in North America and 3rd best in the world!!

Same! I was visiting from BC to run the marathon and Calgary is awesome. Lots of running routes and paths around the city, good food, lovely people!

Now if only Calgarians could embrace the same attitude to Edmonton. Having lived in Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, of course, they're all different. But each is amazing and has great features. Hating on any of them is silly and most people that live in each live a very similar lifestyle. Unless you're in the downtown and constantly partying and watching NBA games, hitting the beach on weeknights, going to outdoor hockey rinks, or floating the river, your lifestyle isn't that different.

This is a 2 million population city so there are many amenities you can only get in 810 other cities in North America. This isn't a Toronto but we have a lot here compared to 95% of everywhere else in North America. People who live here have access to 95% of the amenities available in cities which is pretty nice.

Gotta love the folks here at Calgary who support fairness and freedom, and not some woke government handout bullshit pushed by Ottawa.

Edmonton, on the other hand...

I don't see Calgary being talked about much in the media except for the smoke and oil. I do however hear from clients on a regular basis who do business in Calgary or start a road trip to Vancouver in Calgary about how blah it is there.

Don't give the province too much credit, they put UCP and Danielle Smith in power again. Thanks for the kind words. We're kinda full though, so we'd really appreciate it if you didn't tell your friends back home!.

Great, more psyops operations from realtors, home owners, landlords, and business owners. Give it a break. I get it, you want to bring the same housing issues to Calgary so

you can profit off it as people have done in Toronto. Shame on you all. I can't even afford housing in PEI man.

Grew up here. Don't lie to me lol. I imagine if I went anywhere else I'd say things like 'Woah. Is that architecture?' and 'When you say "Take the train", surely you don't mean public transportation!!!!???'

You might be surprised. I'd never really been anywhere until I left for a couple of years to travel and live in Europe and the UK. When I came back to Calgary I saw it through fresh eyes and what I saw was lots of big parks and natural spaces, big yards, nice homes with lots of windows. It's not perfect but it's pretty great and that's in comparison to other firstworld countries. Nowhere is perfect.

Yeah maybe I need to go to places with less green spaces to make that the major appreciation. I do agree Calgary probably is one of the cleanest for trash etc and that would be eyeopening to me in most. Thanks for sharing your perspective!

It's sad times, the bar is so low that being able to semi afford life is such a selling point. Calgary is an empty soulless city. But you can afford rent so yay

I don't really think anywhere in Canada is affordable based on income/cost of living outside of the territories. I agree there could be more going on in Calgary but I like to think of that as potential rather than a takeaway. Someone just needs to step up and take control of the city & culture and invest in it.

False. It's quite overrated. As a city, it's quite average and boring, filled with hicks, and being near the mountains is literally its only saving grace. Otherwise, it's just a sprawling hell, wannabe American town.

No, it's not. It's clean, there's good bar options and the parks are nice yes. Violent crime is also at an alltime high. The drug epidemic is really bad. You can't walk anywhere without someone asking for money or someone smoking crack quite literally in front of you. Calgary is a good city. It's an OKAY place to live. However, everyone saying Calgary is the best etc seem to be holding onto the precovid Calgary. I mean you guys can downvote me all you want, but it doesn't make it any less true.

This is pretty much the same across all the major cities.

This is every city. Hell, I live in Charlottetown 50,000 strong and I have 5 people ask me for 'money for a coffee' on my way into work every single day. Drugs are also bad especially in our small downtown core. I don't think there are 'good cities' when it comes to drugs anywhere in North America. Violent crime is of course an issue that we don't see so much in Atlantic Canada, but if we're talking sheer potential, Calgary has it!

The roads are horrible. It's a carcentric city and you'll spend more of your life driving here. It's not walkable, hardly practically bikeable and you can't survive daily life without a vehicle. We have endless urban sprawl and countless urban shopping districts which equal driving nightmares. Our public transit is abysmal. European cities make Calgary look like hell.

It is a matter of preference. I like NA style of living much much more.

I have never driven a car and I've lived in Calgary I would say successfully for over 30 years. Would things be more convenient with a car? Yeah sure, but my doctor, pharmacies, the library, the post office, two train stations, grocery store/s are all within 15 minutes from me by foot. I wish transit was better, but it's not the end of the world and when I need it it's usually there for me, unless it's a long weekend and they shut off half the train line for maintenance. Could Calgary be better? Yes of course, there are a lot of flaws, but it's pretty good.

Have you seen the way cities like Amsterdam are designed? You'd be in heaven as someone without a car.

Yeah, but I live in Calgary, and I like it here. It's really not so bad.

I've lived here since 1986. I'm moving out of the city as soon as I am able to retire. Too many greedy people here.

Better than overrated though.

Shhhhhh 😊 please don't tell anyone!

When I graduated from University it seemed that everyone desired to move to Calgary as a goal, wouldn't say it is underrated it was considered highly desirable.

It's a large, diverse city and I agree with your conclusion. However, I don't think the conclusion is warranted based purely on having drove around, and dinner at one restaurant.

While you might be right, most of our love for the city came from the cleanliness and beauty in the downtown core. We walked 13km one day throughout the city and some parks. We saw enough to form an opinion. I like to see the s everywhere I go and I saw a lot of good things in the 2 days there, and I've heard nothing but good things on the restaurant front as well. The first step for any good business is creating a clean and attractive welcoming space where people want to be. I thought Calgary had that and showed potential to be a lot more.

Its pretty good if you're white. When you're not you're not as accepted and it can be stressful.

So happy you liked it!! Love Calgary 🍷

I keep telling this to everyone, people from BC especially are so prejudice about Calgary, it bugs me

Calgary is great but the winters can be cold as fuck and depressing.

Honestly, Calgary's only real issue is the weather from NovApr. Other than that, great city. The winter sometimes makes this city feel unlivable though.

We need to keep it underrated or people will keep moving here.

Please don't repeat that it's nice here to anyone and just tell them we're all racist bigoted maniacs suturing our own open wounds in the needlestrewn streets. Keep that population density down.

Don't tell anyone. More people will come here and ruin it. I don't care if people talk down on Calgary. Whatever keeps them away.

I don't mind keeping Calgary a hidden gem. I don't want to be like Toronto ... expensive and crowded.

It's actually rated pretty high.

Calgary is a fantastic city for people who have never lived anywhere better.

Lol quite the resurrection of an ancient thread to get that comment in...hope you feel better now.

Calgary Text 3

Lets face it. With the massive population growth in Canada now, any liveable city will see huge inflows and soaring rents and house prices. There's no escape unless you move to somewhere undesirable to most ppl.

No one likes to talk about it, but the only real options left are Saskatoon, Regina and Winnipeg. Only a matter of time before that changes too.

Edmonton property prices are still lower than Calgary in big amount. I can say for sure 20% lower.

Saskatoon, Regina, and Winnipeg there are no remaining options.

Can confirm, left Calgary late 2022 and was too late getting to a maritime city. It's inflated like crazy everywhere right now.

Been around the world a lot in the past year and I've realized Calgary is where I want to be long term.

One thing I took for granted was seeing the mountains every day in the distance.

I spent the past year in Europe nowhere near mountains.

Talking to people there made me realize there's lots of people who have never even seen a mountain in their lives.

Meanwhile we get to do that every day.

Other parts about the nature here is also cool like getting to see the northern lights a couple times a year.

Also another thing we often take for granted is that we've been the cleanest city in world many times in the past few years.

This isn't really something you notice until you spend time living elsewhere.

But apart from that, while it's getting more expensive to live here, it's still on the cheaper side of cities in the country.

So that's not a factor for me.

I also think the city size and population is perfect for my liking, not too big and not too small.

And being away from the city for a while made me realize the weather is perfect for my liking.

I love sunshine and this is the sunniest city in the country.

Never really realized how depressing it is to see cloudy skies every day for weeks straight since that doesn't happen here.

We get super warm summers which I enjoy and super cold winters which I love.

Having lived here my whole life being in a place where the coldest temperatures are like 5 just feels wrong to me.

I like our winters here.

Just feels like a place that has everything I like so I have no reason to move

I moved here from Lincoln, UK 2yrs ago.

The sunshine even at 20 makes it worthwhile.

Lincolnshire is an emerald pancake.

UK is 15deg and rainy.

As a mountain biker I am now putting the mountain in that.

My family and I have decided to stay here.

I used to work as a global traveller from Lincoln and I have never felt more at home as I have here.

It's like I've been preparing to live here all my life.

Mountain biking, skating, rock climbing, etc are my thing.

I lived in Calgary for a short work term and now the main thing that I want to return for is mountain biking.

Nothing like the actual mountains.

There is definitely better mountain biking in BC, especially in the interior, but Calgary is still very good for being a large city.

We moved from the UK 21 years ago and never looked back.

There are things I really love about it (history, culture etc), but I hate the rain, and we've achieved a quality of life here we could have never had back there.

Our thoughts too.

UK house sale just going thru.

Shit time to sell but never a perfect time.

We will see how things go.

Hope fully purchase here sometime this year.

Kids and big kids are happy here.

This comment.

I moved to Toronto last January, so it's been a year now.

I always try and explain to people I work with how amazing the mountains are.

Growing up in Calgary and having access to mountains people travel from the farthest point of the world is crazy.

Just seeing them on a drive, or in an apartment building living room downtown is just incredible.

Every time I'm in then I'm in awe, even if it's the 1500th time.

I also grew up in Invermere in the summers and Vernon/Sicamous so I have a different level of love.

This is us too.

I moved to Calgary in 2002 and have travelled extensively since then, including a 2.5 year assignment move to Central Asia, just returning back to Calgary in November.

All the travel has just made me love Calgary more, despite the small flaws.

I couldn't imagine calling anywhere else home (well, maybe Canmore, which is our next move).

Live in Austria! :)

Affordable, high wages, beautiful alps

We've had the privilege to travel a bit but we believe we'll stay in Calgary long term as well for the same reasons you've mentioned.

Bonus points that this city has a great food scene, some of the most polite and kindest people, so much sunshine and just stunning nature!

We have been living in the countryside for a while now and we

love the peace and quiet while still being a short drive away from conveniences.

Calgary seems to have a good balance in many ways.

Just a reminder that there are lots of mountains in Europe the Alps, Pyrenees etc.

Just moved from north of Toronto a few months ago.

Love the size of Calgary reminds me of my city back home easy to get around.

Got a home I could never afford in Ontario and you nailed it.

Just the sight of the mountains as you drive around makes a big difference.

It sunny. It's crisp, dry.

Loving it.

And so much variety of food all round too.

Great city.

100%, couldn't agree more.

We are so incredibly fortunate.

And I am not a Flames fan !

Talking to people there made me realize there's lots of people who have never even seen a mountain in their lives.

Mean while we get to do that every day.

Other parts about the nature here is also cool like getting to see the northern lights a couple times a year.

Similarly there's people here that have never seen the sea.

But in Europe you'd be hard pushed to find a place that's 18hrs drive from the sea.

Lived here nearly my whole life.

If I live in Canada, I'll be in Calgary.

Hope to leave Canada though whenever I get the chance.

This is my exact experience.

Born and raised in Calgary and I used to love it here.

I'll be moving south if I have the opportunity though.

I always forget that some people have no context to the history of Calgary.

It's a boom and bust city, you came here at the bottom.

This is when you get a better job.

Government work doesn't prefer bust, they lag.

When the boom hits it's the same story.

It's a boom and bust city, you came here at the bottom Maybe i dont know that many people yet, but i moved here two years ago and ive yet to meet someone that works in oil and gas so maybe (hopefully), we are moving away from the bust cycles?

Not that many people actually work for oil.

That's not uncommon.

But the government just having twenty billion a year disappear and even a percent of people losing their job can have a gigantic effect on everything.

Housing drops, service drops, less money floating around

I've never heard of a bust town before.

:O Why are people downvoting me for stating a simple fact about myself?

It's not like I said bust towns don't exist.

I'm not admonishing anybody for calling Calgary a BoomandBust City.

I'm just surprised to learn something new.

:| Detroit

Edmonton

Flint

Tough to say.

Recently moved here from Montreal fully acknowledging it's a quieter city.

I don't care so much for clubs, but man I miss the live music and the sheer amount of concerts and festivals that happened in Montreal.

Also not a country music fan... so I really miss the house/disco/techno scene.

Housing prices were also slightly better in MTL but man that 5% tax is so nice in AB.

How about transit man.

It is so much better in Montreal.

car dependence here is fucking brutal.

Yeah the car dependance... is an adjustment.

I moved to Kensington for a bit of walkability but I'd still be boned without a vehicle.

Meanwhile cars are a nuisance to own in Montreal, I walked, biked or took transit everywhere.

Depends where in Montreal.

West Island (from there originally) it's pretty much needed.

I lived DT in both Calgary and Montreal (near old forum) and in both cases didn't need a car but in both cases made life significantly easier since I had to travel all over the place (ex. going to WI, Laval, South Shore, Tremblant or here to mountains).

It's probably easier now to be car free with lyft and uber though.

Moved here from Montreal 9 years ago.

Still not calling here home tbh.

Food, music, people, and culture are what I miss the most.

A lot of people say you can find it if you go look for it but it's not the same at all.

The only thing that I enjoy is the lack of cars on the roads.

Check out Stay Vigilant Productions on Instagram for lots of house events!

Not sure how long you've been here but a lot of that happens in the summer if you know where to look

Been here my entire life (34 years) and it's the first time in my life that we've thought about moving to a different city/town.

There's so much growth (which is great for the city) but we're finding it so congested everywhere you go!

Not to mention the cost of living is draining our savings.

The problem is, where do you go?

6 years....

You should have seen it 30 years ago.

It's still a pretty good blend of livable wages and reasonable property.

I did the opposite of what some of the commenters here did and two years ago I moved from Calgary to London, UK.

I'm back for an extended Christmas right now staying at my parent's place out in the Bragg Creek direction and lemme tell ya – I'm reminded every time I come back of what I left behind.

Yes, in London there are incredible scenes and opportunities for whatever floats your boat that you won't ever get here.

Over there I appreciate the music scene, stage play scene, culture, history, pubs, galleries, etcetera.

I appreciate that I'm close to Europe and can travel to far off places.

But London is a catch22 because despite all it offers, it's a hard place to live.

Transport is good – but only when it's working.

Going out with friends is fun – but only when you have money.

Everyone lives far apart from each other and the costs add up to see them.

I work 6 days a week just to try and eke out a living with a little bit extra to squirrel away so that I can take budget trips to other cities where I can crash on friend's couches.

Skiing? Mountainbiking? Hiking?

Forget it.

I'm spoiled by the Rockies and their proximity, which makes the prospect of spending hundreds of pounds (don't even bother converting to Canadian; you'll cry yourself to work) to get to a place where you can hike, bike, or ski seem impossible at best.

In short? For me personally, Calgary is the place.

Yes of course there are realities to gripe about, and warranted so, but overall the quality of life is higher here.

Sometimes it takes moving to a megaexpensive megacity half way round the world to really cement that in, but I can promise you it's happened, and I look forward to building my exit strategy from a very rewarding season in my life to get back to a place where I feel I can actually...breathe.

Your post reminded me of this Travel Alberta promo aptly called Remember to Breathe.

I never tire of watching it.

Hard to find somewhere cheaper, other than Saskatchewan, Manitoba, or other parts of Alberta.

(Housing prices in Edmonton are quite a bit cheaper.)

I was surprised to find out that even Montana is growing and getting expensive; the median price of a detached home in Helena, MT is nearly identical to that of Calgary, US\$463.6K or CAD\$619,600.

Tons of people leaving California for Montana driving up housing prices.

It was way more right after Covid and has been less activity now but still see lots of California license plates

You can thank Yellowstone for that.

There's an NPR podcast about that

All the small towns within 30 minutes of Calgary are probably still cheaper.

Or not, haven't looked in a few years...

Airdrie is getting up there!

Front car garage detached house is 700k base model

I moved here 20 years ago and I love this city full stop!

I've been to every province in Canada and 41 states and this city is a North American gem IMO.

Good bot!

Born and raised here.

Will always be my home.

I've been here all my life, but when my parents pass I'll have no other family here.

My wife is from Asia, so we're going to retire there.

The cost of living here will be too high on my retirement income.

Besides that I don't enjoy the winters and the day to day life here, is just ok, but not that interesting for me.

That sounds like an awesome plan and retirement choice.

I hope all the best for you in the future and retirement.

Every other city offering comparable quality of life (few of them which exist in Canada) is much worse for costs.

I'm about to leave for a while but i will settle here someday.

Or Victoria

Been here about 12 years...

We're staying.

The original plan was to leave, but there's no province that fits us better.

The provincial gov sucks everywhere.

If bc n Ontario people keeping coming I'll have no choice but to leave

I'll definitely be leaving for the US in the next couple of years.

As soon as I can get a Work Visa sponsor, I'm out

Why in the hell would y'all want to leave CA for the USA??

Family and I loathe snow.

I'm American and from Southern California.

I'm definitely over cold and snow.

lol

What cold? What snow?



Me and my family have lived here our entire lives.

We are being forced to move via no affordable housing.

Thanks for that.

Born and raised here.

Would like to stay.

But recently my company offered to send me to Singapore for more money.

No brainer

Everyone who can should try living other places.

It teaches you who you are and what you value.

I have lived many places and always end up back in Calgary and appreciate the city more for it.

Most people who make fun of it have either never lived here or never lived anywhere else and are judging on assumptions.

Experience life, live where you can live your best life.

For me that's here (or NZ).

It was worth living when homes costs were at parity with Salaries, now it has just become a offwhite hub for Tech in US with cheap labour from Canada.

Salaries are are still old, god forbid if you have to work in public sector.

400k homes were fine, 600k homes are not worth the pain and financial stress for next 25 years specially in a place and a country with crappy Economy.

I might as well move to US.

Bro hate to break it to you but every single place you'd want to be instead has gotten proportionally worse.

Left for Asia 5 years ago, took me about 2 months to realize I never want to move back.

Still feel that way now.

Having aging parents means this might change, but I will do everything in my power to never move back to Alberta full time.

same that place is depressing, especially during the winters when everyone goes and hibernates for 7 months

I lived in Calgary 2018-2021.

Then I moved to London for my PhD program.

From the very first day living in Ontario I have been seriously considering coming back to Calgary and settling down there with my wife.

Been here for essentially my entire life (moved when I was 5) and have had a great life here but I will be moving out west to the island this summer.

Nothing against the city, I love many things about it but I just think it's time for a change as I'm nearing 30 and am itching for something new and different before me and my SO settle down and start a family.

Maybe I'll move back, maybe I won't.

But either way, Calgary will always have a special place in my heart.

Calgary is safe, affordable and offers much in terms of entertainment, recreation and amenities.

No reason to leave once you've settled here.

It's one of the top cities in the world to live in, in one of the best countries in the world to live in.

Yes, once settled.

Need either a partner or a stable, well paying job to settle.

That goes for any major city in North America, really.

Nothing specific about Calgary there.

Those are some bold statements

All of them are true.

I have 4 kids, I ain't moving.

This city is still very safe compared to others I've lived in.

It's dull, but I can accept dull tbh.

I was born here this is nothing new.

There was a housing boom 15 to 20 years ago, I installed utilities on new home builds.

We serviced close to 40 new builds a day for months.

The busy cycle will happen again, but this time it will be the whole country and not just Alberta.

If you have an opportunity to leave I would take it.

Canada is being shelved internationally and we do not have the means for economic growth without foreign investment.

This could be for a number of reasons such as, make us desperate to capitulate the territorial waters of the north west passage for the bigger markets to not have to pay to use it.

Or they are waiting to see what happens in Africa.

Canada could be the future stable reserve of precious metals and materials if and when Africa unionizes and then nationalize their industries, who know what the money has planned for us.

The prairies of North America are in the process of desertification.

We don't know where the water will come from in 10 years.

If I were to settle in North America it would be around the great lakes, the wet west coast or the eastern US, just for water security.

Same refrain, Calgary is great if you intend on taking in nature as much as you can, but it's dreadfully boring in most other respects if you want festivals, a vibrant music scene, good food, culture and the liveliness you can expect in a bigger city.

It's pretty telling when the busiest parts of the city are always the malls.

Been here a long time, but I need to leave.

Can't deal with the political climate anymore.

Willing to take a pay cut to move somewhere else.

Considering I bought a house here I'm pretty much settled.

I love visiting other places but when I get to Calgary it feels like home

Lived here for the past 13 years.

Thinking its time to move on.

Too cold and most of the city just seems like a giant soulless parking lot imo.

I could justify that before with low cost of living but now it doesn't seem worth it.

For young people who can't afford the housing prices in Calgary, it's cheaper to move to a small town in Alberta.

My husband and I both grew up in Calgary and got married a year and a half ago.

A year before that my landlord in Calgary sold my rental 6 months

into my year lease and they gave me a month and a half to find a new place to live.

I couldn't afford to buy more than a condo or townhouse in Calgary and ended up looking in a bunch of small towns within an hour or so radius of Calgary.

I ended up finding a 3 bedroom, 2 storey house on a quarter acre lot in Claresholm, an hour south of Calgary for under \$200,000 and bought it.

Then I got married a year later and my husband moved out here with me.

When we got it the mortgage rates were super low so my payments are only like \$500 a month.

There's no way I could live in Calgary for anywhere near that whether renting or owning a house.

Where else is there to go?

I'm unlikely to leave unless this government successfully fucks everything up (APP, healthcare, etc.) or we turn into a dustbowl earlier than expected.

Too late for the first one.

We'll see.

They haven't put APP through yet, and while the healthcare changes look very concerning right now, the UCP does have a history of enraging Albertans and walking it back to a less unacceptable level.

As someone born in Ontario, there isn't anywhere else in Canada I would move to.

Leaving Canada altogether?

That's a different story and very much still on the table.

But Calgary will always be my home on this side of the border.

I was born and raised here.

I left for job opportunities in BC for a couple of years and then abroad for a year.

Out of all of the amazing things I experienced, I missed the feel I got when I was here.

The long summer days and endless sunshine we're something that could be replaced.

The overall issues we have are small compared to almost anyplace I can think of.

It is both rewarding and challenging no matter where you live, so I figure whatever checks most of the boxes wins.

I am happy to call Calgary home and I travel anytime I need to experience something that I can't find here, but mostly that is usually palm trees and a warm ocean.

I was born here, my parents and grandparents, most family, my friends are all here.

I think about leaving sometimes simply due to cost of living and honestly the Alberta political landscape.

But I don't really want to, it's home.

I'm also not sure where else would check all the boxes anyway.

I was born here and have roots and ties.

With the ever new lows of our provincial government, I find myself wondering where else I could go.

It's not like BC is cheaper, or Ontario less stupid.

My boyfriends elderly father is the only thing keeping us here.

If not for him we would have left long ago.

Been here 10 years and I dislike it more with every passing year

Some of the issues you listed are not only happening in Calgary.

So where would it make it better for you?

Think about it before make the move.

Sunniest city in Canada

Cleanest city in Canada and one of the cleanest in the world

Hell yea I'll settle down here

Maybe when my parents are gone we'll go down south or somewhere.

I already work for an American company so I can get a visa at any time.

I've lived here my whole 34 year life and I still love Calgary, but the winters are getting harder and harder on me.

You're going to find issues no matter where you go.

We've travelled all over the world and it's cool to see other places and imagine living there, but eventually they will get stale and you'll start finding issues with those places too.

I like calgary generally, but there is limited growth for my career here.

I'll pick calgary for raising a family and retirement, but it isn't the best place for my career.

It's funny, to some degree it used to be the opposite.

Come here for work, retire or raise a family elsewhere.

Calgary is boring, but generally safe.

Good income, good place to raise a family.

Some hiking and snowboarding, although there are no fun lakes around here like BC.

The provincial government is shit, and strongly worries me (healthcare, schools).

When I moved here 15 years ago, I figured Calgary would be safe from climate change, there are no oceans to rise and flood.

Didn't think of the wildfires and smoke though.

Sooo in answer, I'm mostly that I'll stay here, but it isn't as good as I initially thought.

Such a good question.

I am struggling with this right now.

My partner and I make great money with AHS and can find jobs anywhere.

As we don't own RE, we feel like we are being pushed out.

We believe and hope that housing market will go down late this year or next year with interest rates staying higher, expected job losses etc.

We love Calgary but don't love the price right now.

We are both from differing countries and cities and came to Calgary for affordability and will move

to Edmonton or elsewhere for a future for our family.

We don't want our kids to have to be economic refugees/migrants like us.

I have been in Calgary for 6 years now and I am saddened to see it change so much with a huge increase in homelessness and drug use which we see in our work and in our neighborhoods.

I don't know where the promiseland is but it doesn't seem like it is Calgary.

I am also worried about the UCP and their changes so time will tell and we will be sensible and move or root ourselves where it makes sense for our situation.

I definitely can't stay here, it's too cold for me.

I love the people I've gotten to know in this city, but I wouldn't have come here if my birth parents hadn't convinced that "it's not that cold" and has "better job opportunities."

I can't really think of where else I'd want to live after 24 years here.

Pretty much everyone I know friend or family is here.

It would be hard to start over somewhere else

I grew up in AirdrieCalgary and I'm currently living in Vancouver, each time I go back to visit family in Calgary it gets weirder and weirder so I'm happy here in Vancouver for now.

Don't get me wrong, I still love Calgary but people has gotten strange.

The only appealing thing about this city was the affordable housing and now it's gone.

Why stay?

It's just a collection of parking lots and highways anyway.

Not much here I cannot find elsewhere and afford to live.

I moved here just over a year ago from Vancouver (BC) and I can say I've already noticed major changes in the city and the cost of living.

BUT; I can say without a doubt I choose to live here.

There are definitely some pros and cons but for me it comes down specifically to the year round sunshine.

I don't care if it's 30 as long as I see the sun.

Raincouver was so depressing and I didn't even realize it because it's all I knew.

I do really miss the 'green' and the smell of fresh rain and grass...

and I really miss the ability to just pull aside at any of the 20+ places to swim when it was warm.....

but that's for 24 months of the year THATS IT.

Calgary is just... always sunny.

I also spent a month in Phoenix (Arizona, USA) at my best friends place this year.

And I will tell yah.... I wouldn't live there if I was paid to.

The HEAT the DRY....

No freaking way 😂😂

sure, always sunny but the kind of sunny that's unbearable.

Calgary Text File 4

Calgary is known as a beef town, but yet there is no good BBQ places.

This! All I want is a decent smoke house, and Big T's ain't cutting it.

Big T is the worst option for smoked meat. Try Haydens block, Paddy's, Palomino.

Palomino is hit and miss. I've had absolutely delicious melt in your mouth brisket there and I've also had dry leathery brisket.

I have been to the Palomino twice, and the first time I went I had been up for 21 hours after traveling to Calgary from London.

Agreed, would also add Jane Bond BBQ and Sky Ranch BBQ.

I thought we had good BBQ until I went to south Carolina. Even the best spots here don't compare.

We have good BBQ, its just they have struck a deal with the devil level bbq.

Sushi restaurants are charging way too much and offering a substandard product. I am talking back to basics nigiri and sashimi.

I don't know, I really think Calgary has some decent sushi. Hana, Kanpai, Ke Charcoal, Shokunin are some I've tried. I've heard Big Catch is really good but haven't been yet. The best sushi I've had was either Miku or Minami in Vancouver but I wouldn't consider the aforementioned Calgary spots substandard.

Absolutely. The sushi here is disgusting compared to BC. There is the argument that you can't get fresh sushi away from the ocean but I doubt that it has much credibility. All of the sushi is flash frozen before being sold.

The fish are flash frozen as soon as they get on the boat, even if they're going to be sold locally as soon as they get back to port(with some exceptions). The flash freezing kills some bacteria and parasites, so it's ideal. Once frozen it can ship for a long way and the train comes straight through Alberta.

Just parasites. Necessary in fact for many species to make it sushigrade, to destroy parasites and their various life stages. 18 for several weeks, or 35 for a few days I forget the specifics. Anyway, home sushi chefs take note, u can't just buy a fresh salmon from coop and eat it raw.

I find it pretty good.. lol definitely would not say disgusting.

Una's pizza is not all it's hyped up to be.

Neither is Seniores.... I'm going to get slandered 🙄💀💀.

I was seriously underwhelmed by seniores.

Nikos and Lorenzo's are also significantly better than Una IMO.

The actual commute time from Airdrie to downtown isn't "just 15 minutes".

It's remarkable that such a bustling city manages to have an absolutely depressing downtown anytime after 6pm.

Not sure who would consider Calgary "bustling". More like quietly doing its thing. Sneaking out of work at 3:30 to take the kids to soccer. Skiing on magic Fridays when nobody works. Idling for 45 mins with 300 other people to save \$3 on gas at Costco.

Traffic really isn't that bad.

People think Calgary's traffic is bad?

Everyone I know who has only lived in Calgary complains about the terrible traffic.

It isn't though. Moved to Calgary from Toronto and laugh my ass off when people complain about how traffic was bad and took 40 minutes to get home 🤡.

People say traffic sucks here have never driven in places like LA.

I came from a much smaller city back in the late 90s. I once commented to a cabbie on a ride that traffic seemed bad in Calgary. He said " I used to drive a cab in Manhattan for 6 years before moving here. Anyone that says traffic is bad here can kiss my ass".

Lol I lived 13 years in São Paulo, Brazil. Trust me, Calgary's traffic is paradise.

We like to pretend we're tough in the winter, but if we go more than 10 days without a Chinook, we all get really grouchy.

The drivers here, compared to other Canadian cities (particularly Vancouver) aren't that bad. There's obviously still idiots out on the road, particularly in the 24 hours after each new snowfall, but the percentage is significantly lower than in other parts of Canada.

Currently live in Edmonton, visit Vancouver often and I'd agree Edmonton drivers do 10 below and tend to make poorer driving decisions while Vancouver drivers all do 20 above and tailgate like no tomorrow. Calgary feels like the balance between these 2 and is just right, maybe because I grew up here and it's what I'm used to.

Haha! I'm in Calgary but drive in Edmonton almost monthly. This could not be more true. I usually think I'm speeding because everyone drives so slow there... so bizarre.

The Anthony Henday is 100, but most drivers are afraid of going over 90.

I thought I was the only one. I feel like Max Verstappen as soon as I hit Edmonton city limits.

WORLD CHAMPION MAX VERSTAPPEN!! 🦁

It's the insane amount of photo radar in YEG that causes this I think. It might be just me, but I see more of it in Edmonton the few times a year I visit than I do in Calgary the other 350 days per year.

In Montreal you have to be aggressive to switch lanes or else you'll never make it. I'm definitely more relaxed driving here.

Montreal they drive faster when it snows, them motherfuckers are crazy.

I've driven in every major city in Canada and driving in Calgary is definitely one of the ones I feel safest driving in.

Calgary drivers are better, but often more aggressive. Vancouver drivers can be dumber than a doorknob, but at least most won't purposefully try to cut you off with their bigass truck. This changes east of Burnaby though.

We are an extremely diverse city full of like minded individuals who work together every day in our common goal of hating the blue circle.

Fucking blue circle 😡

One blue circle to rule us all!

Alberta likes to think of itself as a get sh*t done kind of place but a decade or two of easy resource money has made it slow to change, entitled, and lazy. I'll give an example. What kind of place talks endlessly about the economic downturn, but still has the highest average salaries in the country and most white collar jobs work 35 hours a week. Does that sound like hard times?

Stampede is doo doo.

That's a popular opinion if you're a local.

Mostly panders to tourists and kids.

For a lot yes. But man I do merchandise for companies downtown and they loveeeeeee their stampede shit thousands and thousands of dollars.

Drivers that don't pull up to the stop line are mentally challenged.

Especially those who creep forward on a red light.

And then sit there for 5 seconds when it turns green.

It's more an unpopular opinion in this sub but: I don't think Nenshi was that bad of a mayor.

I thought general opinion was he is a great mayor...

That's why I clarify "in this sub". :)

Yea even in this sub that's what I felt...

We pay too little taxes and it has a impact on the quality of life this city is able to offer.

100% yes.

Yup. We pay some of the lowest property tax rates in the country and people still bitch and moan.

The vast majority of drivers aren't really that bad in this city.

Its totally true. Anybody whonhas travelled abroad would appreciate this. I spent 3 years studying driving behaviours and Calgary/Alberta doesnt even end up on a secondary radar.

Our winters are kind of great.

What the hell, you're fucked. Upvoted.

I moved here for the winters! Beats 58 months of gray skies hands down.

Amen! I grew up on Vancouver Island before living in the Fraser Valley.

The last two years are the winters I was promised when I moved here from Sask.

People act like it's a lot worse than it actually is imo.

I am really starting to embrace and appreciate our winters! So crisp and clean.

I love the cold. When it embraces me. All the pain goes away.

Moved here from Yellowknife. I am enjoying the winters here.

The 'cowtown', stampede image keeps us from being taken seriously on the world stage.

Without that we would just be Winnipeg. It's not like we would catapult very high on world stage in the absence of an annual fair.

Interesting fact the second Stampede happened in Winnipeg.

I mean, no? So many other cities have silly things like that and no one takes it as a serious representation.

Ha. It's awesome and part of the heritage.

Big trucks with big wheels and driving like an asshole, isn't cool.

I LIKE Peters Drive In.

Yeah, their milk shakes are legitimately pretty good in my opinion.

Onion rings too.

Ditto. Especially when they have their Christmas shakes! I take a lactose pill just to have them haha.

Agreed. They have the best shitty burgers in the city.

I love it too. Think I need to visit there tomorrow.

Fuckin rights.

it's the best city in Canada to live.

I have been to every significant Canadian city except Halifax. Calgary is the best. I currently live in Edmonton, which is pretty good by Canadian standards, but no Calgary.

We need to calm down on the sprawl.

I don't think this is an unpopular opinion. We just think it's unpopular because developers keeping paying off our elected officials.

Breweries are not tourist attractions.

I definitely visit breweries in other cities...

This city is so boring compared to other Canadian cities.

Second this. Trying to entertain and show the city to visitors is a pain. I can think of Banff... Stampede... Idk.

I think it comes more from actually living in a place and not just visiting. When I travel to a different city I research all the things to see, communities to explore, etc.

Depends on what you're into. Calgary is paradise for outdoors enthusiasts.

I'd say it might be boring compared to Montreal or Toronto, but in my experience it's a lot more fun than Vancouver. People in Calgary know how to let loose a bit more.

Houses are affordable for an average worker (certainly compared to other comparable cities like Montreal or Vancouver).

Calgary is the most "American like" city in Canada. It's fast paced, short term profit is valued far above any long term returns on community wellness. So many people are "not from" calgary and whether they do or do not, they currently aren't planning to retire or stay here. So large portion of Public's decisions don't factor in to where we'll be (or need to be) in 20 to 40 years. No one wants to pay more now to realize benefits later on cause they don't plan on being here. "Great things" like museums, public transport, community investment pay off decades from now. Very few in the community have any vision for that and fewer would support it.

It's fast paced, This is by far the slowest paced sizeable city I've ever lived. It feels like a small town that accidentally sprouted some skyscrapers.

Your comment reminds me of the threads where people ask for goof breakfast spots or good burger spots and A&W gets recommended unironically.

We aren't world class.

That's the popular opinion...

Nope, and you don't even have to look outside Canada so see how hilariously true that is. I like living here, though.

We keep building apartments and houses desperate having only 1.5 million... some areas are literally dead lol.

The vacancy rate is only perhaps 6% and the City is growing at 2.8% per year.

That's 18k units that need to be built every year. An apartment complex every week, plus thousands of townhouses.

What areas are literally dead? Name a single community with lots of Detroit style abandoned houses?

I don't like how Calgary is built around central malls as being cultural centres for neighbourhood dwellers to drive to. There are remarkably few neighbourhoods with good, pedestrianfriendly shops and cafes. E.g., nothing like Commercial Drive or West 4th in Vancouver serving as a destination for nearby residents. Most neighbourhoods don't have anything of the sorts. And no...strip malls don't count.

The easy money oil sands has given people here a complex where they think their success, with absolutely no education past high school and if that, is a product of their hard work and boot strapping shit.

No Skylar and Mason, it's a product of no one wants to do 2 week horseshit stint at Barge and the last 4 years of you selling your 2nd 3rd and 4th sled, is not because of any govt policy but there no need for so many honey trucks anymore.

These people work their asses off, spend time away from family and work in extreme weather conditions. Also, the majority of the people you see with toys that you assume work in the patch are likely educated, as most are.

You nailed it. Currently on a 3 week stint up north away from my wife, have a truck, sled, camper, and masters degree. All paid off. Haters gunna hate.

It was never easy money. Engineering is easy money.

Unpopular opinion? Calgary is an underrated city in Canada.

Lane designations for roundabouts should be tailored to each specific location to maximise throughput.

I love the blue ring. I find it intriguing and I feel happy when I occasionally get to drive by it.

The fact that people still haven't gotten over the Giant Blue Circle is incredibly embarrassing. Like it, don't like it, but endlessly complaining about it makes you sound like a dumbass.

Blue Circle bad. Opinion rejected.

It's not the world class city that people here make it out to be.

And I think that's just fine. It's quiet, peaceful, good place to raise a family. We could be a lot worse off!

Earls and Joey's arnt the best restaurants, they are just consistent.

No one thinks they're the best.

Demand for Oil and Gas is going to fall, and the workers stuck in the petroleum industry are going to suffer. Like actually fall, long term and permanent like it never has in the past.

Oil prices will bounce up and down as production adjusts to the falling demand, which will make executives and shareholders a lot of money every once in a while. But the field workers and support industry prosperity is tied to production demand not price. Less production means less jobs.

Many are saying the recent price increase is great for the industry, but a price increase due to cut production is not a boom. If your job title is not VP of, or Board Member then the recent high prices will not bring you any prosperity. Few new jobs, no actual recovery.

So if you are in Calgary, better focus on tech, manufacturing, transportation, green power or some other new industry and get out of Petroleum and Field Services.

I have lived in a few different cities and I have always lived in the cities "Core." Downtown Toronto, Downtown Edmonton and Downtown Calgary. I always needed to live within 3km so I could walk to work not having a car. Was my life for 30 years.

My wife and I just moved down to Sundance and I freaking love it. The thought of going downtown for literally anything is a pain in my ass now.

As a Calgarian, that Edmonton is cooler than Calgary. Calgary is the 'nicer' city, but Edmonton has way more culture and cooler people.

Edmonton definitely has a more artsy, hipster vibe. But it's also a worse place to live. Source: I live in Edmonton.

We need bike lanes in every neighborhood.

I'll tell you where to go! Calgary is a world class city.

Yes NYC, London, Paris, Singapore, more big things, but can you afford to live there? Do you want to be overrun with tourists? Live far away from nature?

I get it, there's lots that can be improved upon, but after travelling a lot, we have it pretty fucking great.

CFL is lame.

Calgary: where wealth, selfishness, and cultural Philistines feel at home.

I share this sentiment about this city.

We actually can be a world class city but too many people hold us back.

the pizza here sucks, and ginger beef is nothing to be proud of.

THIS IS SO TRUE! If you go to BC and buy pizza at the same pizza place as in Calgary, it tastes 100000 time better and they are way more generous with toppings, for the same price!

Hipsters are out to ruin beer. I have a feeling in few years nobody will drink that hoppy swill anymore and in fact people will rewrite their own history... as In "I never liked it that much myself...." Rant over.

I feel the same way. Also the fruity beers and sours.

That's because you're going to the wrong breweries.

Try Inner City Brewing. They have a great mix of inhouse brews of many different styles from all over the world. Porters, belgians, ales, sours, IPAs, you name it.

Not every craft brewery makes that shitty Pacific Northwest "hops hops hops and more hops cuz hops = better!" style of beer.

"I don't care for Stampede. I don't think it's anything spectacular, and moreover, I think Calgary would be much better off hosting cultural, art, technology, or intellectually inclined festivals of that magnitude. Stampede is more of a cowboy/hillbilly/redneck thing."

"I love it here."

"Stampede used to be an amazing, inescapable, citywide party. Now it's just a variant of the CNE, PNE, IPE, KDays, or a US state fair."

"There is no real Downtown here...just empty offices lol."

"We should stop trying to turn the city into a cycling paradise."

"That's a popular opinion. I take the opposite side. We should do more to encourage cycling/running/walking/scooters. Reduce traffic, get people outside, reduce pollution and make the City more vibrant."

"Yes, what we need is more cars, more giant parking lots, and more carcentric urban designs... It's been working so well."

"That people here are not nearly as friendly as people in most cities in Canada. Specifically, people in Toronto are far friendlier than people in Calgary."

"I live in Toronto for years, and the people there are super cold. No one will even make eye contact with you. Calgarians are less friendly than other Albertans but still friendlier than Torontonians."

"Climate change is going to make this the best city in Canada."

"Population density and quality of life are inversely related."

"For me, the less time I have to spend in a car, the higher quality of life I have."

"The city doesn't pay their bills or honor their contracts."

"I don't think it's moving forward at all, and it's still awful for anyone who can't afford to live day to day."

"That the CBE needs a complete overhaul."

"We are not a special bootstraps breed of people who prop up the rest of the lazy country. We live on a literal sea of black gold. We ain't special."

"PSA's on this sub are completely pointless."

"Edmonton is a more livable city than Calgary."

"I've lived in both. Edmonton: has more affordable housing has better/more green space has better zoning/infrastructure. Eg, not enough grocery stores. Every time I went grocery shopping it felt like a battle."

"Transit is safe."

Vancouver Move Text 2

Vancouver renters are paying more for living spaces but getting less as 'shrinkflation' grows

The 516 sqft apartment I signed a lease for 10 days ago was listed last month for \$1800 monthly. The day of the viewing they increased it to \$2100. I asked why and they said because people are interested and they can 🙄

The last condo I looked at when I was interested in purchasing was a 1 bed 1 den unit that had a balcony larger than the actual living space...

Located around 41st and Victoria, it sold for \$549k and at the time there was a family of 4 (parents + a preteen and a teen) all sleeping in the one bedroom, in a DIY bunk bed courtesy of the handy dad.

Nothing new I suppose like everyone else is saying.

You read that right. The city is enforcing a maximum size on rental units..According to our municipal government, families who rent do not need more than 830 square feet of space!.

depressing that the city and other levels of government are adding to our problems rather than helping to solve them

They aren't doing more to add to our problems. The City is providing incentives to provide affordable units...

They do this with various criteria not just unit size. Here is some more info you can learn about: <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/mirhpppublicfaqs.pdf>

Actually you read that wrong...

It's not a maximum size on units. it's a cutoff for waiving a fee for the "rental 100" program from 2012.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/3103720/vancouverrentalincentiveprogramhurtingtenantsbenefitingdevelopersexpertsay/>

You can read a review about it here if you want.

I don't really see why they'd have the cutoff, though.

The fee they're waiving is a "development cost levy" and is a persqft fee aimed at covering the costs to expand power + sewer + road use etc. caused by increasing the number of people who live in one spot.

I don't see why it makes sense to waive it on a 500sqft onebedroom but not on a 700sqft bedroom.

Maybe the city just went for a "more units" rather than "better units" approach.

Either way, it's nothing new.

Larger units are less economical. They are trying to deliver as many units as they can with their program...

The author is always looking for problems.

Their primary concern is delivering more units. Livability has always been a tertiary concern which is shortsighted.

Large units also attract higher delivery costs and rents. They start making into to upper market categories, contrary to their goal.

The majority of government supports I've seen favor smaller units from chmc financing to city policy. It's more optimized than shrinkflation.

Another difference is there are more amenities in newer buildings, which is a mitigating factor. The newer buildings are built to a higher standard for sustainability and accessibility.

They are not necessarily not better, but in a shortage count matters more than an extra 100 sqft, which might in fact be gratuitous for some people.

The author is always looking for problems.

Their primary concern is delivering more units. Livability has always been a tertiary concern which is shortsighted.

They start making in into upper market categories, contrary to their goal.

Doesn't the program require them to charge citywide average rents based on unit type, rather than sqft?

It seems to me like a developer would always go for maximum # of units anyways, but this policy might prohibit them from using up the last little bit of their floor space ratio to enlarge the units a little bit extra at nearly no cost.

But if the citywide average rent is based on sqft then what you said makes sense. I couldn't figure it out quickly.

Ya I'm thinking more broadly than prescriptively.

They don't like supporting buildings that appear to be higher end. I've seen lots of headlines complaining about that. Even if they meet all of the policy, and the units in the building are luxury, people criticize the city for subsidizing developers.

The developer doesn't want a mismatch between what they are building and the economic returns.

There's a bunch of pressures from both ends to keep the units efficient (small).

Also you can't add 100 sqft to each unit at "nearly no cost".

The efficiency from scale is not detectable. It will cost about the same as every other square foot. I think that would only be a feature if some other constraint came into play like height or shadows.

I read it right. In fact, I specifically included the sentence about the requirement applying to projects that apply for the DCL waiver, so this would be clear to people.

It's not surprising that this is part of rental 100. That program was atrociously designed.

The city is enforcing a maximum size on rental units.

factually incorrect statement made by you

Detached homes

Vancouver Text file 4

We came to Canada exactly 3 years ago as permanent residents, after qualifying for a very tough express entry program.

I got everything right, an 8.0 overall IELTS score, a Software Engineering master's & bachelor's degree from the U.K., and good software engineering job experience under my belt.

I'm so good at what I do that I cracked 4 interviews out of 5 interviews and secured a high 6 figure salary which is now very close to 200k.

Everything has been good, except the housing situation.

When I first came, I had to move into a 1 bed basement because I did not have a credit history, and that costed me \$1650 a month.

But the landlord was very controlling, she broke every rule in the contract and denied basic things like interference on taking out trash, heat and cooling, washer and dryer usage etc., and as a result, we moved out after 10 months and left our 2 month deposit with her.

We then moved into a 1 bed condo for \$1900 a month in the GTA, and the landlord sent us a notice for rent increase to \$2300 in just 8 months.

We agreed.

He then asked for 2650 at the end of the lease, and we moved out to another 1 bed Condo for \$2500 a month.

I shit you not, yesterday our landlord has sent a notice that he is going to increase rent to \$3100 a month.

Mind you this is for a 1 bed condo which is less than 599 sqft and isn't special at all in any way.

I've also looked into what I can buy, and my pre-approval came in at 790k, and I know that I won't be able to find anything for that price except for a 2 bed condo, and I hate condos and we are a family of 4, so that's not an option.

Sadly I can't move to another place or province because of my job.

Also, the main reason I think I'm unwilling to buy here is that I don't want to pay 800k for houses which costed 400k just 3 years ago, we are not fools you think we are, and we certainly don't want to be debt slaves for the rest of our lives cooped up in a shoebox.

After exhausting all options, yesterday my spouse and I decided, it's best to leave Canada and return back to our home country.

We decided to do this despite now being eligible to apply for citizenship; because we don't feel Canada is a place for people who want to learn and grow, but is more like a retirement community for people who have retired and checked out mentally and don't want to work hard and contribute to the economy, and this is the reason we think this country is going to fail.

I'm very sorry for the young people here, especially millennials and gen Z, but sadly I can't waste any more of my youth and hard-earned money to pay people extracting rents and also paying about 50% tax and for private healthcare in the future.

So consider this a bye-bye from an immigrant who could have called this country their new home, but cannot due to rampant corruption and greed at all levels of government.

Same here, my future goals of buying a home have gone down the drain.

It's pretty fucking sad when you can't even buy a starter home anymore.

Even a starter condo is half a million bucks.

Yea 200k salary i.e top 1-2 percentile in the country and can't qualify for a mortgage of a family-sized home in the area of their work...think they are justified to feel that things are clearly a little broken here

It's not even about the mortgage.

At that income level, OP should be able to afford a half-decent home for the family.

It's a travesty that OP can't.

The door slammed behind me so hard when I got a home 5 years ago.

Now people who are 3-5 years younger than me in the same place I was are totally screwed.

Canada needs major fixing and our current government has 0 interest in doing it. We need to protest and line the streets but nobody does anything. Feeling the same.

We bought a house in 2020 just before the prices really went crazy, and now tiny one-bedroom apartments are renting for 2~3x my mortgage.

Nobody making less than 3x median income in my city is buying anything close to what we have, and the prices are rising faster than they can possibly save.

My house has risen in value by about 90% of our take-home income since we bought it.

liquidity crisis is coming house will be down 40% by 2024

That will depend on if the fed will let the market drop.

Fed has something called a money printer

No they have something called a computer and ones and zeros there is not much physical paper anymore.

Yield curves are saying that interest rates are going down... but if the markets are wrong and JP goes Paul Volcker then we are in for some 1980s fun

Won't matter when banks can't lend and the USA enters a bad Recession.

"nope." - Justin, Tiff, international investors, every bank, and every provincial and municipal government

never gonna happen. Too many people want in.

or up 40% nobody knows

The We Say Enough campaign has started so there is some interest in protest.

We need to actively spread the word.

Website is <https://ofl.ca/enough-is-enough/>

Just what I was looking for. Thanks!

I think there's enough pent-up anger, but it's a Herculean effort to channel it into a successful protest.

And I concur, there should be a million people in the street protesting a housing market that essentially was sold off to the highest global bidder.

Please send this to the Toronto Star.

Politicians need to see the effect that housing and other policies are having and how they are driving people away, whether they are immigrants or born here.

You are exactly the type of immigrant we want to attract, especially as it sounds like you have a young family, and it costs us money to help you get settled — an investment that is lost if you just bounce out because despite being a high earner you are barred from permanent settlement due to high housing and living costs.

Getting the Toronto Star to do a profile on you is how politicians and their staff will hear about and hopefully pay attention to this issue.

I can even see the headline: 'I make \$200k, am a new immigrant with a family, and am leaving Canada because the cost of living is too high.'

Agreed.

We need more of these stories in the news.

I am in the same position financially but born here.

It's insane how things have changed in the last 4 years and how absolutely royally effed anyone who didn't enter the housing market before 2019 is.

Feeling so lost and defeated by the economy on the regular.

Absolutely fucked to feel that way with this kind of income.

...and the politicians will say "bye-bye" because they know that one is leaving but tens of others are willing to come and willing to become high rent payer slaves.

You think they don't know...? The politicians know all about people like OP. They refer to people like him as their tenants.

This guy nailed it, and is on fucking point.

If a tech employee doesn't have a chance at a house.

The new gen without inheritance money is FUCKED!!!!!!!!!!

You want me to really blow your mind?

We are dinks, a good salary, and relatively better positioned than OP is, and we are still afraid to get a detached.

As that is going to bind us for the rest of our lives to pay the mortgage and somewhere down the line we are going to be the same leeches who rent out their basement for a mortgage coz there's no other way.

same predicament as you are

I wonder if historically this has happened with another country before and what was the time period before it imploded and more importantly what happened during the implosion.

I barely make 1/3 of your salary so I know homelessness is on the brink for me.

That's scary.

A software engineer master can't even afford housing.

Something doesn't seem right.

A lot of land leeches on this sub lately that are downplaying the damage that they do to society and calling the have-nots "entitled" for not wanting to pay half of their income towards rent.

Every villain is the hero of their own story I suppose.

Hopefully, things change one day.

Best of luck to you OP.

I moved back to the states myself after being in Canada for a few months.

The housing situation in Canada is a pretty big turnaround for most people.

This post needs to be in the news especially in India.

I see so many Indian young students coming here in hope of a good life (I am an immigrant myself) but they have no idea what they are getting themselves into.

Canada is not a place to be.

I might move back as well with my family.

This is very subjective.

India is economically less impacted but the work-life balance is utter shit.

Ever tried working in the IT industry?

I worked 48 hours a week at a Sr. position with a very respectable salary and wasn't even eligible for a 45 lac loan, and no decent 2bhk apartment was below 50-60 lac...

And that is not it.

At the age between 25-30, you have to have a budget for mortgage + monthly home expenses for a family of 3 + emergency medical fund + savings for kids' education + savings for retirement.

Last I calculated pre-covid, the number for me was 1.47 lac/month just to retire at 60.

Better paying jobs are in big cities but who wants to live in a big city?

With pollution, costly quality education, and almost the same real estate as here.

Grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.

I also agree that a lot of kids are misguided in India, but struggling through the entire life compromising as a middle-class family is the worst thing there compared to here where real estate is beyond achievable but otherwise most aspects of life are better.

It's tough for young people all across this country!

Every engineer that leaves probably costs us about 4 other direct support jobs.

We have plenty of engineering graduates unable to find jobs because companies are unwilling to train them up.

This is at least partially due to the fact that they can easily acquire someone from abroad who already has 5-10 years of experience.

That and the culture here are not conducive to engineers.

Barely any mentoring at my workplace let alone training of sorts - might be because the senior engineer at my work is not cooperative.

But besides that most departments are quite small, despite the company being fairly large and earning a lot in revenue.

You should stick around and get your citizenship.

There's no downside.

Plus with your background, you should easily get a high-paying job in the USA.

If you're getting \$200k in Canada, you'll get 2x to 4x more in the USA.

If this isn't a troll, don't be stupid and leave AFTER you get the citizenship.

You never know what tomorrow brings and an extra passport is always handy.

The 516 sqft apartment I signed a lease for 10 days ago was listed last month for \$1800 monthly.

The day of the viewing they increased it to \$2100.

I asked why and they said because people are interested and they can 🧑

The last condo I looked at when I was interested in purchasing was a 1 bed 1 den unit that had a balcony larger than the actual living space.

Located around 41st and Victoria, it sold for \$549k and at the time there was a family of 4 (parents + a preteen and a teen) all sleeping in the one bedroom, in a DIY bunk bed courtesy of the handy dad.

Nothing new I suppose like everyone else is saying. 😞

it sold for \$549k and at the time there was a family of 4 (parents + a preteen and a teen) all sleeping in the one bedroom, in a DIY bunk bed courtesy of the handy dad.

What the fuck!

That's wild. How big was the 1 bdrm?

Hmm I don't remember square footage but it was a decent one bedroom for one person.

Just remember their beds reaching the ceiling since the dad (very skillfully) built a bunk bed to accommodate 3 beds

All these modern shoebox apartments with absolutely no room in the bedroom are such a joke.

You can't even fit a dresser in there let alone a small desk to have a workspace away from distractions

Don't get me stated on one bedroom with a glass wall between the bedroom and the living room!?

Ah the "jr" one bed. Lol

The fishbowl-inside-a-shoebox combo...

Also closets characterized as dens and dens characterized as bedrooms!

In an 'urban 2 bedroom', the living room is the 2nd bedroom (via murphy bed).

Ya, but we can drink in a couple of parks now

When I was looking to buy a condo I saw some 2 bed 2 baths which were 750 square feet!

My realtor told me about some presale studios at 290 square feet.

I feel huge now with a 1000 sq ft one bed two bath.

A one bed 2 bath? That just sounds dumb tbh.

Are you kidding? It's awesome!

It's my GF and I. (

We share a bedroom.

The bedroom is bigger, and the living room area is huge for when I want people over.

Plus I never have to wait to use a bathroom.

It's a loft so a big living room and bedroom downstairs, kitchen, and bathroom, and then upstairs there's a den area and another bathroom.

Two bed two bath is just two smaller bedrooms, one of which we'd never use for anything.

I live in a 2 bed 2 bath that's 700sqft and it's pretty comfortable

Affordability only goes down!

Sqft only goes down!

He's alive

Can Kerry Gold Write an Article Without Citing Andy Yan Challenge: FAILED

This Kerry Gold article was brought to u by the condon-yan gang. pls help we literally have no other outwardly respectable fringe academics to cite to justify our nimbyism
ahhh

Lest we forget Vancouver was FAR from good housing to begin with.

Structures here are just garbage.

Even the new ones.

Flat roof with stucco in a rainforest.

Slow clap for the big soft brains on that one

I've seen scrap pallet wood sheds built better that stay dryer.

You only need a grade 3 education on gravity, but that must have missed the memo here.

(not to mention when you sell homes to those with no vested interest besides the money laundry / storage facility we provide - you get owners with barren fields of fucks too)

Oh sweet Jesus.

This comment was so well-written.

It had me laughing so hard at how snarky and succinct yet detailed.

A perfect picture and description of the reality here.

Amen! Just saw a post here this morning about a developer jailed for Worksafe violations, and all I could think of while reading the article was that the real crime was the house he was building with OSB sheathing in a super wet climate.

Bye bye, Vancouver.

You were great, but we will take our child and tax income back east, where we already found a 3 bedroom, two-floor townhouse to rent for 700 dollars a month less than a shoebox '2 bedroom' in New fucking West.

Makes total sense. That's how market prices work... you get more bang for your buck when you're willing to move somewhere that people on average find less desirable.