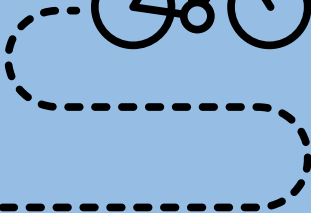
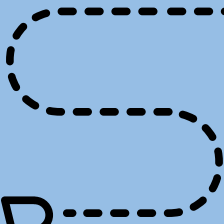
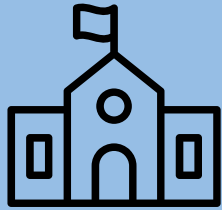




# Discovering my community



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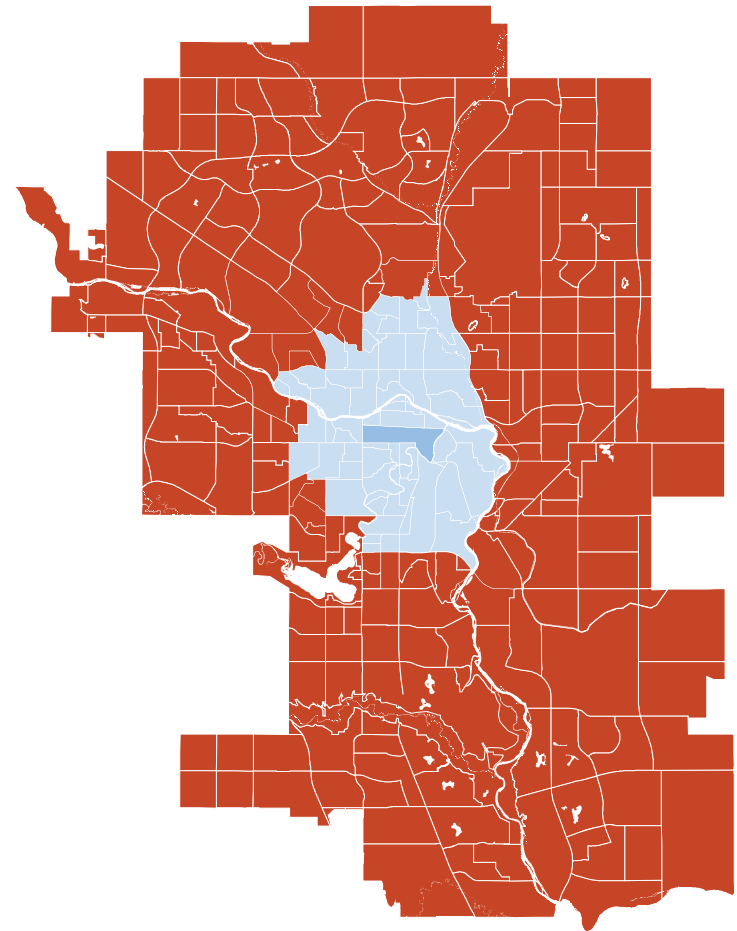
This book belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

This book will help you know more about your community and surrounding areas of your school. It will also provide you with lots of information to help you think of some great design ideas for improving your community!

Do you know what the communities around your school are called? Or how many parks and playgrounds do you have nearby? Or how you and your friends travel daily to your school? Let's find out!



# What's my school community?



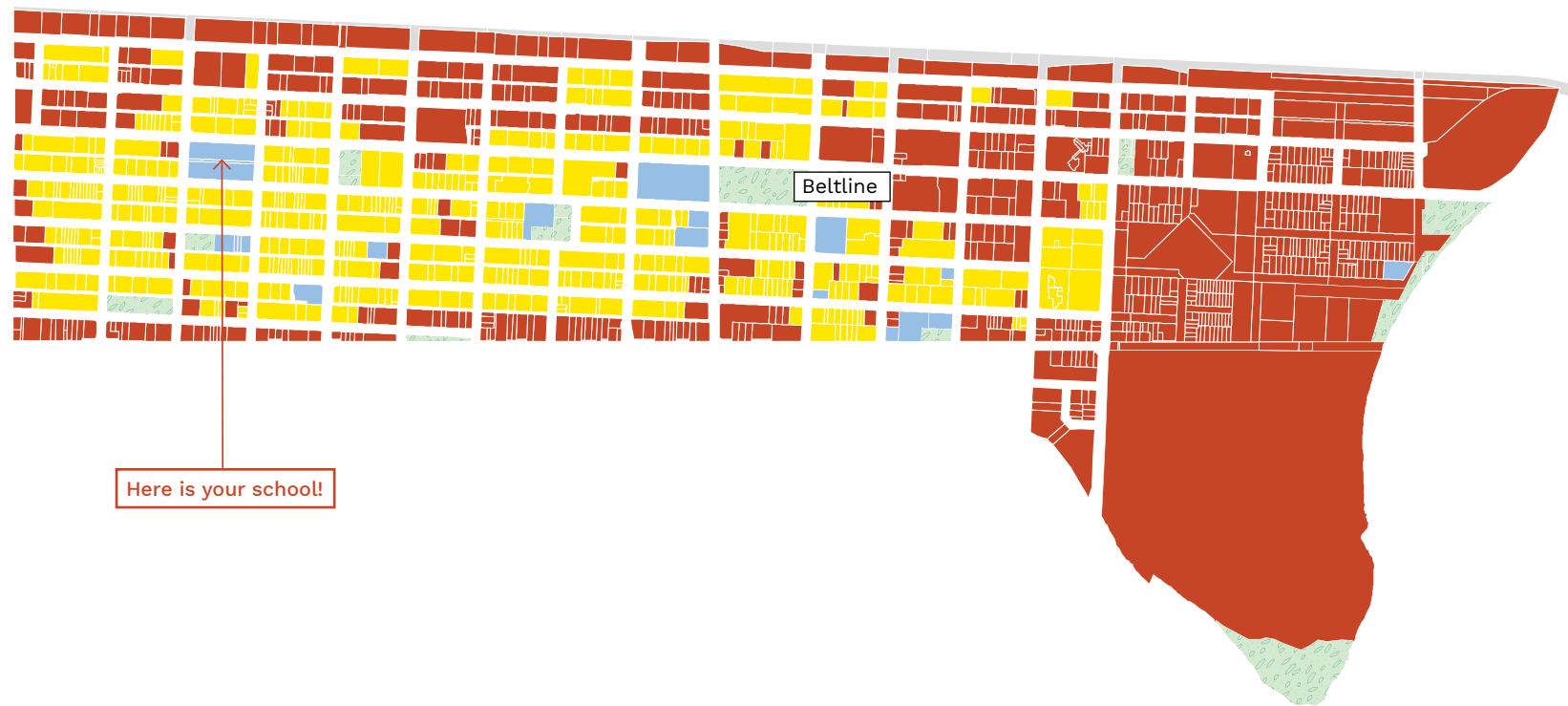
Calgary has more than 200 neighbourhoods called “communities”, and your school is in a community located within the city center area. Each of those communities have distinctive characteristics that make them unique. The community of Beltline (marked in dark blue in the map) is where your school is located.

# What's in the community?



- 1. Connaught School
- 2. Shaw Millenium Park
- 3. Lougheed Gardens
- 4. Thomson Park
- 5. Barb Scott Park
- 6. Harley Hotchkiss Garden
- 7. Memorial Park
- 8. Safeway
- 9. Prince's Island Park
- 10. Louise Bridge

# What's in the community?



Homes



Schools/  
Churches



Stores



Parks



Railway

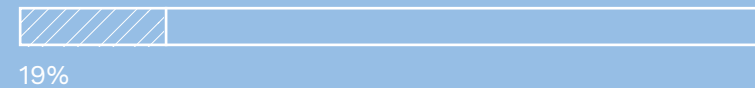
Your school's community, Beltline, is one of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in the city. You can see in the map that around your school, there are a lot of houses and a few parks where you can play and enjoy nature. Beltline is home to more than 4,300 families. Would you like to know more about this community? Keep reading! 😊

# How many people live close to your school?

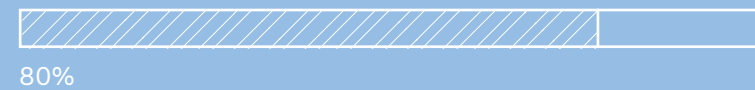
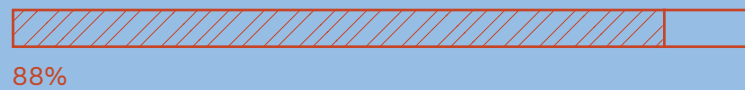
People living in Beltline  
20,860

People living in Calgary  
1,222,390

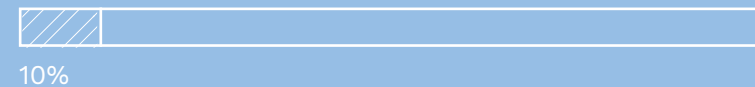
Children (0-14 years)



Teenagers and Adults (15-64 years)



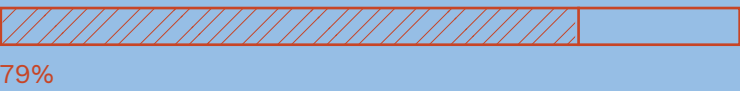
Elderly (65+ years)



# What languages do they speak at home?

## Beltline

English



French



Spanish



Mandarin



Russian



Persian

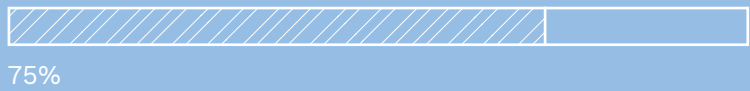


Arabic

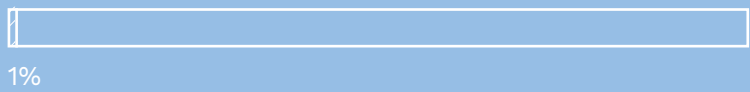


## Calgary

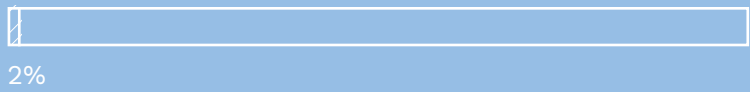
English



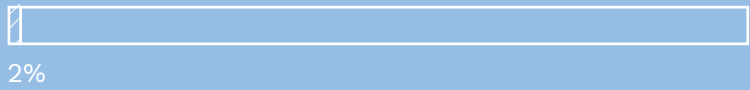
French



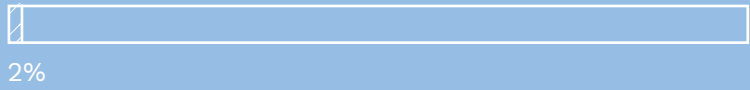
Tagalog



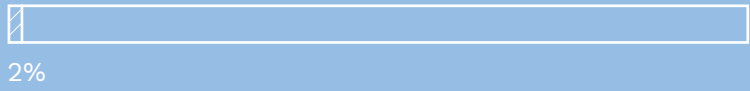
Punjabi



Cantonese



Mandarin

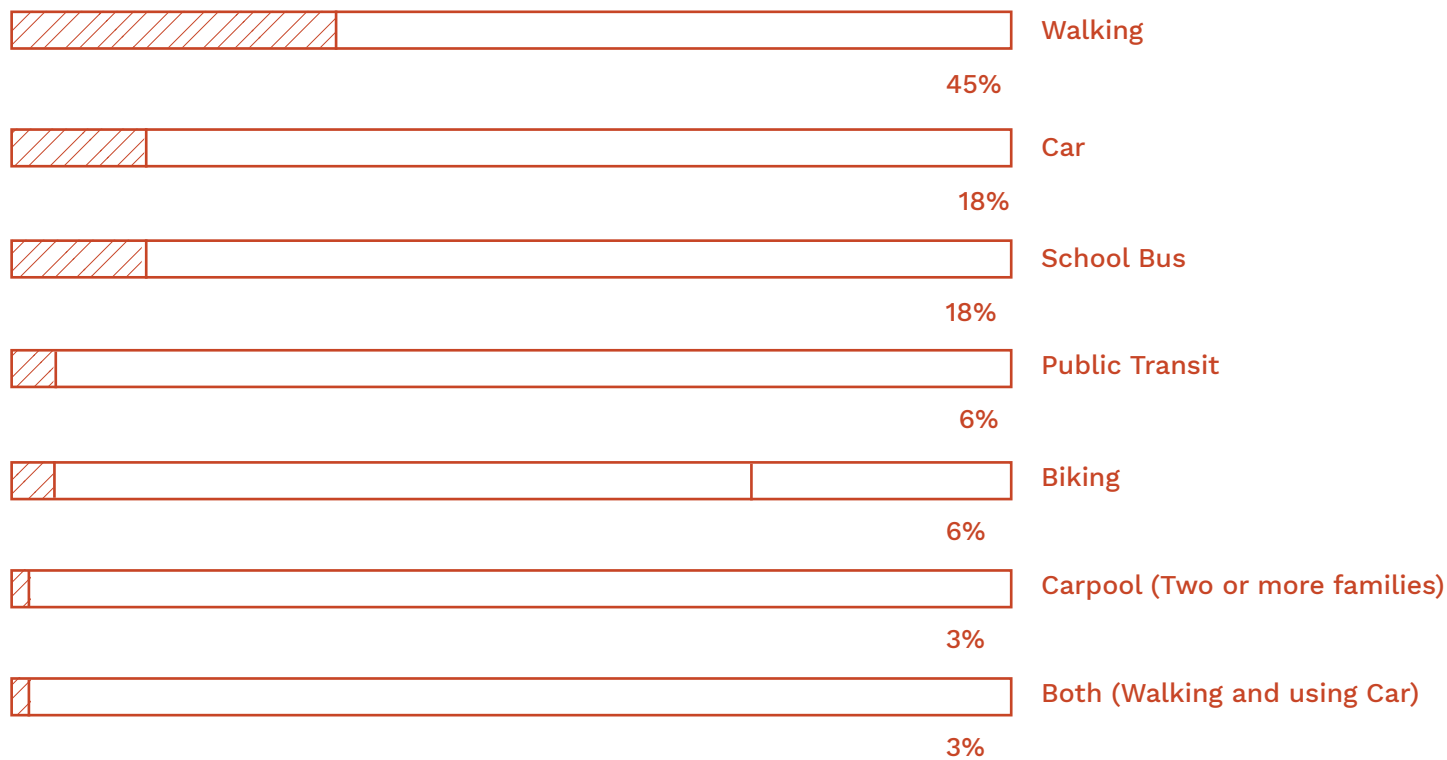


Spanish



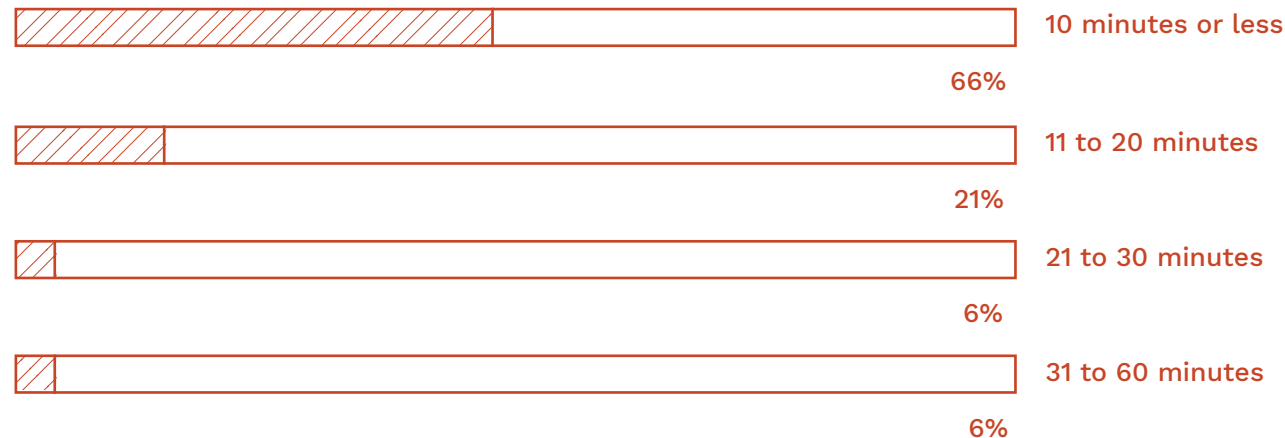


# How do you and your classmates travel daily to/from your school?



Do you know how long it takes your classmates to get to school? Would you like to know? Turn the page! 😊😊😊

# How long does it take you and your classmates to get to school?



# What would motivate you to walk or bike to school?

1. Better designed sidewalks and crosswalks.
2. Wheel-friendly routes (e.g., protected bike lanes)
3. Traffic calming in school zone (e.g., lower vehicle speeds, more careful drivers)
4. Reduced traffic volume and congestion in the school zone.
5. Secure bicycle/scooter/skateboard storage at school.

How often does your family use “active travel” (on foot or by bike) in your community? This includes trips to stores, parks, libraries, etc.



# Are there any areas of concern around your school?

These were some of your observations and safety concerns on...

13 Ave SW is the busiest street for pick up and drop off activities by parents and school buses. Also, there are no traffic signs to slow traffic.

12 Ave SW is very unsafe as people drive very fast. It is a congested and noisy street and it is difficult to cross. At night it is very dark.

Along 10 St SW, drivers stop in non-stopping areas and they travel fast. Also, a lot of people prefer crossing diagonally instead of using crosswalks.

11 St SW has a lot of traffic.

# Are there any areas of concern along your route between home and school?

These were some of your observations and safety concerns on...

The following intersections are very difficult to cross:

13 Ave and 10 St SW

8 Ave and 8 St SW

10 Ave SW and 8 St SW

11 Ave SW and 8 St SW

12 Ave SW and 8 St SW

Go to page 35 to see all these intersections in a map! 

# Did you know that walking or biking to school can help you concentrate better in class?

A recent Danish study found that students who cycled or walked to school, rather than traveling by car or public transportation, performed measurably better on tasks demanding concentration.



Walking or biking to  
your school is good for  
the environment!



The personal vehicle is the largest source of air pollution in the city. More students biking also means less cars on the road. This reduces traffic and therefore reduces pollution around schools.

# Active Travel and Nature

When we dedicate less space for cars we can give more space to nature. Green ways, which are what we commonly call bike-paths and pedestrian routes, take up less space per user and allow us to introduce more natural connections in the city.





## Homework:

How do you improve your school community?

1. Identify your favorite and least favorite places in the following map.
2. Select one priority location to design in the next session!
3. You can start sketching your ideas as well!

— Connaught School  
— Safeway  
○ Unsafe intersections









**Sustainable  
Calgary**