

Video

ULI Alberta Design Tour 2024

Date: January 16, 2024

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| 00:00:12 --> 00:00:15: | The ULI Alberta Design Tour is is an opportunity for |
| 00:00:15 --> 00:00:18: | our members to learn about and be inspired by world |
| 00:00:18 --> 00:00:21: | class developments in other North American cities. |
| 00:00:21 --> 00:00:24: | It's also a great opportunity to network and and form |
| 00:00:24 --> 00:00:26: | connections in the broader ULI community. |
| 00:00:26 --> 00:00:29: | Previous design tours of visited cities of Chicago, Austin, |
| 00:00:30 --> 00:00:33: | Pittsburgh, |
| 00:00:33 --> 00:00:36: | and Denver, providing attendees the opportunity to explore |
| 00:00:36 --> 00:00:39: | familiar cities |
| 00:00:39 --> 00:00:43: | with a new perspective, or providing a reason to fly |
| 00:00:43 --> 00:00:45: | to a place that perhaps you hadn't thought about visiting. |
| 00:00:46 --> 00:00:48: | Yeah, I've attended the previous two design tours, those |
| 00:00:48 --> 00:00:51: | being |
| 00:00:51 --> 00:00:53: | Pittsburgh in 2019 and Denver in 2023. |
| 00:00:53 --> 00:00:56: | The design tours are a great way to see how |
| 00:00:56 --> 00:01:00: | other jurisdictions tackle the same challenges we all face |
| 00:01:00 --> 00:01:03: | every |
| 00:01:03 --> 00:01:05: | day in our work here in Calgary with real estate |
| 00:01:05 --> 00:01:06: | development and land development, the problems are all the |
| 00:01:06 --> 00:01:09: | same, |
| 00:01:09 --> 00:01:13: | but seeing how an entirely different jurisdiction approaches |
| 00:01:13 --> 00:01:15: | them, it |
| 00:01:15 --> 00:01:16: | provides a really fresh perspective, a lot of unique insights |
| | and opportunities to learn how they tackle it and plus |
| | the overarching benefit. |
| | It's an amazing networking opportunity where you really get |
| | to |
| | know other professionals from the Calgary and Edmonton |
| | ULI chapters |
| | and just bond with them over the a really fun |
| | two or three day tour. |

00:01:16 --> 00:01:20: I've attended Austin, Chicago and Denver.

00:01:21 --> 00:01:24: I think the best thing about the design tours are

00:01:24 --> 00:01:26: not only that you get to see all of these

00:01:26 --> 00:01:28: amazing projects in other cities.

00:01:28 --> 00:01:31: You get a behind the scenes tour, but you get

00:01:31 --> 00:01:36: to see it from other people's perspectives because you're constantly

00:01:36 --> 00:01:39: talking about it with other people in attendance at the

00:01:39 --> 00:01:44: design tour and you're thinking about its application to Calgary

00:01:44 --> 00:01:47: and just getting that perspective is great.

00:01:47 --> 00:01:50: Some highlights that come to mind from the tours I've

00:01:50 --> 00:01:54: attended include being toured around the iconic Wolf Point riverfront

00:01:54 --> 00:01:57: development in Chicago by Laura Heinz from the Heinz Development

00:01:57 --> 00:02:00: Group, exploring the Cultural District and the PNC Tower in

00:02:00 --> 00:02:03: Pittsburgh, and attending the ULI Colorado summer event and being

00:02:03 --> 00:02:07: inspired by the McGregor Square Entertainment District in Denver.

00:02:07 --> 00:02:10: With Pittsburgh, it was really interesting to see such a

00:02:10 --> 00:02:13: long established historical city and their incremental approach.

00:02:13 --> 00:02:16: They had such an amazing bones of a city to

00:02:16 --> 00:02:20: begin with and to seeing incremental changes and approaches and

00:02:20 --> 00:02:23: how that fed into their redevelopments and growth.

00:02:23 --> 00:02:26: But I really like Denver given that it was so

00:02:26 --> 00:02:29: similar to Calgary rapid growth and a lot of essentially

00:02:29 --> 00:02:32: a blank slate brownfield areas that were just transforming in

00:02:32 --> 00:02:35: such a short, succinct amount of time into these incredible,

00:02:36 --> 00:02:38: incredible developments in neighbourhoods.

00:02:38 --> 00:02:40: McGregor Square was probably my favorite that we visited and

00:02:40 --> 00:02:41: toured.

00:02:41 --> 00:02:44: We had the lead consultant from Stantec who was involved

00:02:44 --> 00:02:47: in that project, tourists around, calling of all the highlights,

00:02:47 --> 00:02:51: the challenges, everything that the project entailed from initial conception

00:02:51 --> 00:02:52: to completion.

00:02:53 --> 00:02:54: It was a it was an amazing experience to see

00:02:54 --> 00:02:57: such a transformative development happen on what was essentially a

00:02:57 --> 00:02:59: gravel parking lot only a few years earlier.

00:03:00 --> 00:03:04: In Chicago, there was a tour of the Jackson, which

00:03:04 --> 00:03:09: was we weren't doing in any rental development in Calgary

00:03:09 --> 00:03:10: at the time.

00:03:10 --> 00:03:15: And so the Jackson was a large rental development in

00:03:15 --> 00:03:20: Chicago with all of the amenities that you can think

00:03:20 --> 00:03:20: of.

00:03:20 --> 00:03:23: So it was really interesting to see that when Calgary

00:03:24 --> 00:03:25: wasn't there yet.

00:03:25 --> 00:03:28: This year we've decided to hold the tour in June

00:03:28 --> 00:03:30: before the schools break for the summer.

00:03:30 --> 00:03:33: Attendees should plan to arrive in the destination city on

00:03:33 --> 00:03:37: Wednesday, June the 5th and then we'll have an exciting

00:03:37 --> 00:03:39: two day itinerary of tours over June 6th and 7th.

00:03:41 --> 00:03:44: When selecting a location for the 2024 design tour, we

00:03:44 --> 00:03:47: wanted to choose somewhere that has a vibrant

development scene

00:03:47 --> 00:03:50: and an active and engaged ULI District Council.

00:03:50 --> 00:03:54: We're always interested in exploring cities that have parallels

to

00:03:54 --> 00:03:57: Calgary and Edmonton, and I'm really excited for what is

00:03:57 --> 00:03:59: shaping up to be our best design tour yet.

00:03:59 --> 00:04:01: I think it's a really interesting choice.

00:04:01 --> 00:04:04: It's not somewhere I would have particularly gone to in

00:04:04 --> 00:04:06: my personal life per SE, but I am excited to

00:04:06 --> 00:04:09: see how they're tackling a lot of the issues we

00:04:09 --> 00:04:09: face and it.

00:04:09 --> 00:04:12: I like the fact that it's a very similar city

00:04:12 --> 00:04:15: to Calgary, not only in scope and scale in a

00:04:15 --> 00:04:18: lot of ways, but also in just regional setting and

00:04:18 --> 00:04:18: climate.

00:04:19 --> 00:04:21: It's it's not like we're going to a warm tropical

00:04:21 --> 00:04:23: or sunbelt city where people can point to what they

00:04:23 --> 00:04:25: do and say, well, we can't do that here because

00:04:25 --> 00:04:28: we're a winter city these this place faces a lot

00:04:28 --> 00:04:31: of the same climate challenges and environmental

challenges that we

00:04:31 --> 00:04:31: face.

00:04:31 --> 00:04:33: So to see how they tackle those solutions.

00:04:34 --> 00:04:37: I think it's great the parallels between Calgary and this

00:04:37 --> 00:04:37: city.

00:04:38 --> 00:04:42: It's they're both Olympic cities, they're both in proximity to

00:04:42 --> 00:04:43: the mountains.

00:04:44 --> 00:04:48: There's definitely some similarities between the two.
00:04:48 --> 00:04:49: I'm really interested in going.
00:04:50 --> 00:04:53: And the 2024 design tour destination is.
00:04:53 --> 00:04:56: And the 2024 design tour destination is.
00:04:57 --> 00:05:25: And the 2024 design tour destination is definitely consider attending
00:05:26 --> 00:05:27: it.
00:05:27 --> 00:05:29: It's not only an amazing opportunity to tour and see
00:05:29 --> 00:05:32: somewhere new that perhaps you wouldn't have considered going to
00:05:32 --> 00:05:35: before, but it also is just a great opportunity to
00:05:35 --> 00:05:37: network and get to know a lot of your fellow
00:05:37 --> 00:05:40: city building professionals here in the Calgary and Edmonton region.
00:05:40 --> 00:05:42: You should really attend.
00:05:42 --> 00:05:45: It's a great set of people that usually gets together
00:05:45 --> 00:05:48: and people from a variety of backgrounds.
00:05:48 --> 00:05:53: And so that conversation that goes on between land developer,
00:05:53 --> 00:05:57: someone who may be working at the city and consultants
00:05:57 --> 00:05:59: is really an interesting conversation.
00:05:59 --> 00:06:03: And the best conversations arise when we're touring a development
00:06:03 --> 00:06:06: and we're asking questions from different perspectives.
00:06:06 --> 00:06:08: If you want to get more value from your ULI
00:06:08 --> 00:06:12: membership, connect with other members, learn about some cool development
00:06:12 --> 00:06:15: projects, be inspired, and have a ton of fun, I'd
00:06:15 --> 00:06:16: encourage you to attend.

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