

Spanish School Of Calgary

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History Behind the SSOC

- The Spanish School of Calgary was started in the year 2000, by volunteers who believed that knowledge of a different language and cultures was helpful in enhancing every aspect of our lives.
- Because of that, our mission has been to provide a welcoming and informative school environment for people of all ages who want to learn Spanish and who want to know more about the Hispanic culture.
- In the last 22 years of the school's start-up, over 6,000 students have come through our doors.



About our School

- Teachers at the Spanish School of Calgary understand that individuals have different needs and motivations to learn Spanish, so then, over the course of the years have developed learning strategies to meet these needs.
 - We have small class sizes and are a community-based school.
 - Our teaching & learning strategies are focused on communication.
 - We do not have an evaluation system so learners feel more confident.
 - Teachers and the coordinator have developed the programs and the textbooks for the three basic adult courses we offer.
 - The Latin American culture is part of the curriculum through many activities developed in classes such as music, food, and dance which students most enjoy.



Activity within the Community & Our Numbers.

- Our school is active in the community, and we try to make it to as many festivals as we can so students can experience the Spanish culture and the language at once.
- We try to keep the fun in learning and have had end-of-year fiestas to celebrate what our students have learned with music, dancing, and of course, food!

Numbers

- The school is currently doing in-person and online classes.
- There are 3 teachers with 20 kids in an online modality which has been working for the last two years in basic, intermediate, and advanced levels. On the other hand, 5 teachers deliver the classes for adult learners in basic I, II, and III levels, intermediate level, and advanced conversation.
- Today we have 98 students at the School.



Challenges Faced during The Pandemic

Like many organizations, during the pandemic, we had serious economic issues, one of them, complying with the lease of our premises on Center Street. Fortunately, we were supported by the Government at that time, but also we could manage the continuity of the classes turned online.

This was a challenge not just for those teachers with less experience in this format but also because it was difficult for many of our students to change the way they used to learn. After this experience, we can say we passed the trial! 😊

The lack of financial resources is a permanent challenge, although we are going strong today thanks to the Casino made in January 2022.

We can say our School has faced many challenges, inevitably with more on the way, but there are two key components that keep our spirit strong...

- The commitment of the teachers, coordinator, and the Board
- The enthusiasm and the loyalty of our students.

**And that brings us to the
end...**