

FRANCIS ANTOBRE (COBBY) VICE PRESIDENT

Empowering Youth,
Strengthening Communities,
Building a Better Future.

www.cobbycobb.ca/vision





OUR COMMUNITY

Dear Members of the Ghanaian-Canadian Association of Calgary (GCAC),

It is with great humility and a deep sense of responsibility that I present my manifesto as I seek your mandate to serve as the Vice President of GCAC. Our association has been a cornerstone of support and connection for Ghanaians in Calgary for decades. I believe that together, we can strengthen these foundations and build a future that uplifts every member of our community.







Youth Empowerment

The youth represent the future of our community, and it is imperative that we invest in their growth and development. If elected, I will:

- **Start Mentorship Programs:**

Connect young people with experienced professionals who can guide them in their careers and personal growth. These programs will be tailored to match each person's interests and goals, ensuring they get the right support.

- **Benefit:** Young people will gain confidence, learn from others' experiences, and build connections that can lead to future opportunities. This will help them transition smoothly from school to work.

- **Hold Educational Workshops:**

Organize regular sessions to teach important skills like career planning, money management, starting a business, and using technology. I will also work to set up computer labs where young people can learn skills like building websites, using AI, and coding.

- **Benefit:** Young people will gain the skills they need to succeed in today's world. These workshops will also encourage them to keep learning and adapting to new challenges.

- **Create Leadership Opportunities:**

Empower youth through active roles in GCAC, including youth councils, committees, and project management initiatives. Provide platforms for young people to voice their ideas, lead community projects, and contribute to decision-making processes.

- **Benefit:** Develops leadership qualities, encourages civic engagement, and nurtures future leaders within the community.

- **Enhance Recreational Spaces:**

Create a vibrant and inclusive recreational space at the Ghana House Community Hall. Invest in games, entertainment equipment, and resources for indoor sports, board games, and gaming consoles to encourage friendly competitions and social interaction.

- **Benefit:** Provides a safe and engaging environment for youth to unwind, build connections, and develop teamwork and camaraderie. Promotes mental well-being and reduces social isolation.





Supporting New Arrivals and Students

Relocating to a new country comes with challenges, and I am committed to making this transition easier for new arrivals. My plan includes:

- **Welcoming Newcomers:**

Create a formal orientation program to help new arrivals learn about housing, jobs, and life in Calgary. This program will provide the information and resources they need to settle in smoothly.

- **Benefit:** Newcomers will feel more confident and less stressed as they adjust to their new home, with access to the right tools and connections.

- **Community Network:**

Build a strong support system to ensure no Ghanaian feels alone or disconnected in Calgary. This will include regular meetups, cultural events, and peer support groups.

- **Benefit:** Creates a sense of belonging, strengthens social connections, and improves mental well-being for everyone in the community.





Strengthening Community Engagement

A united and engaged community is the foundation of a thriving GCAC. To achieve this, I will:

- **Expand Events and Activities:**

Organize a variety of events, including cultural celebrations, professional networking, and recreational activities, to bring people together and keep everyone involved.

- **Benefit:** Creates opportunities for members to connect, share experiences, and feel part of a vibrant community.

- **Collaborate with Ethnic Associations:**

Work closely with other cultural groups to share resources, collaborate on events, and build stronger relationships within Calgary.

- **Benefit:** Strengthens our community's ties with others and promotes unity and mutual support.

- **Transparent Communication:**

Keep members informed through regular updates, meetings, and online platforms to ensure everyone feels included and heard.

- **Benefit:** Builds trust and ensures that all members are aware of opportunities and developments within GCAC.





Promoting Health and Wellness for All Ages

A united and engaged community is the foundation of a thriving GCAC. To achieve this, I will:

- **Educational Workshops for Seniors:**

Organize programs focused on health, fitness, and nutrition to help seniors stay active and healthy.

- **Benefit:** Empowers seniors to maintain their well-being and enjoy a better quality of life.

- **Fitness and Nutrition Programs:**

Host activities like walking clubs, fitness classes, and healthy cooking workshops for members of all ages.

- **Benefit:** Encourages healthy habits and brings people together in a fun and supportive environment.





Enhancing Entertainment and Social Activities

A united and engaged community is the foundation of a thriving GCAC. To achieve this, I will:

- **Organize Cultural, Food, and Market Events:**
Host events like cultural festivals, food fairs, and market days to showcase Ghanaian traditions, promote our cuisine, and support local entrepreneurs.
 - **Benefit:** Celebrates and shares our rich culture, boosts small businesses, and encourages the entrepreneurial spirit within the community.
- **Collaborate with Religious Groups to Organize Inter-Religious Soccer Competitions:**
Work with local religious organizations to plan and host inter-religious sport tournaments, bringing together teams from different faith communities for friendly competition.
 - **Benefit:** Promotes teamwork, physical activity, and unity among participants while building stronger relationships with diverse communities in Calgary.

- **Improve Our Major Events:**

Make our Independence Celebration, Christmas Party, and Summerfest bigger and better by adding exciting activities, live performances, and opportunities for everyone to participate.

- **Benefit:** These events will become highlights of the year, bringing people together to celebrate our culture and traditions in a memorable way.

Why Me?

I could have chosen to focus solely on my career and enjoy the comforts of downtown life.

But my heart has always been with our community. GCAC is not just an association to me—it's family. In the **past year**, I have poured my time, energy, and love into this community because I believe in us. I believe in our potential to grow, to thrive, and to support one another.

I am not new to GCAC or the work it takes to make our association thrive.

In this short time, I have:

- Organized events that bring our community together, creating moments of joy, connection, and celebration.
- Supported youth programs and student initiatives because I know our young people are the future.
- Worked with food banks and other resources to ensure no one in our community is left behind.

This campaign is not about me—it's about **you**. It's about continuing the work we've started together. It's about building a stronger, more united community where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued.

I am consistent. I am reliable. And above all, I am passionate about serving our community. This is not just a promise—it's a commitment from my heart to yours.



VOTE

**FRANCIS
ANTOBRE
COBBY**