



Calgary Foothills Soccer Club  
[www.gofoothills.ca](http://www.gofoothills.ca)



FC Metro Soccer Club  
[www.fcmetro.com](http://www.fcmetro.com)

## Press Release: FC Metro and Foothills Soccer Announce Operating Partnership

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**Calgary, AB** – FC Metro and Calgary Foothills Soccer Club (“Foothills”) announce a soccer partnership to provide quality service delivery to the grassroots community. FC Metro has emerged as a strong grassroots club focused delivering quality skill development and strong coach education to communities in the Northwest. The partnership with Foothills provides further resources for coach education, indoor turf facilities, and pathway to provincial, national and professional opportunities for older players.

Youssef Tarraf, Founder and Past President of FC Metro believes that “FC Metro was founded on the core principle of providing greater quality grassroots soccer and I believe we have achieved that goal. We are very pleased to now be partnered with Foothills that provides further opportunity and resources, so the more competitive player can achieve their potential. FC Metro will remain focused on a fun based, developmental grassroots soccer program in the community and serving the community needs.”

Leon Hapgood, Technical Director of Foothills states that “we are very excited to be working with a strong grassroots community like FC Metro, and the great people that have built this strong organization. As kids mature and chase their dreams it is important they have access to top quality training, facilities and resources that Foothills can provide.”

Foothills has some unique resources in the City of Calgary, such as:

- Strong track record at Tier 1 soccer and at provincial and national level competitions. Over the past decade Foothills has won the most provincial championship and the most National medals of any Club in Alberta.
- A skills training center with over 40,000 square feet of FIFA A grade Fieldturf, similar to some of the top outdoor pitches in Calgary. This provides a safer and more enjoyable playing experience than carpeted facilities or school gyms.
- The only full-size Fieldhouse with an international size, soccer specific field that is 84,000 square feet and also has FIFA Grade A Fieldturf.
- Foothills has the most certified coaches of any Club in Alberta and also has in-house mentorship and training programs every season for coaches.
- Foothills also has the only Pro-Am men’s and Women’s teams in the City offering an extended pathway for elite players. This includes the National Champion (of Canada and the United states) in the Premier Development League for men’s and the Conference Champion for the United Women’s Soccer League for Women’s.

FC Metro is also pleased to announce the appointment of Al Fernandes as the technical director of the Club. Al has an extensive coaching and playing background including being the captain of the MRU team that won Nationals in 1994, Head Coach of the Lethbridge College team, and running his own Grassroots Academy Program in Lethbridge. Al will be working closely with the Foothills technical staff to ensure a consistent delivery methodology to the members whilst making sure the focus is always about the players having fun.

FC Metro will continue to run programs U4 to U10 in the community. As players get older the grassroots levels of Tier 3 and below will also play in their communities where, Tier 1 and Tier 2 players will have a choice to play with Foothills at the more elite soccer level. Pricing will remain the same at the grassroots level and the Foothills fees are similar to other Clubs in the area.

#### **ABOUT FC METRO**

FC Metro was created to provide a higher standard of soccer development within the grassroots communities in the N.W. of Calgary. FC Metro is committed to creating an environment that is safe, supportive and enjoyable that is also conducive to learning the core soccer skills. FC Metro is an Alberta Soccer Association certified 3 star Academy which illustrates its strong coaching, technical and administrative elements required to achieve this status.

#### **ABOUT FOOTHILLS SOCCER CLUB**

Foothills Soccer, established in 1972, provides youth soccer programs for kids from 3 to the Pro-Am level of Men's and Women's Soccer. Foothills has programs for all ages and abilities and has members from all over Calgary and surrounding areas. Foothills has a history of excellence and has been successful in winning 6 National Championships and 12 National Medals since 2006, as well as sending multiple players directly to professional organizations including Chelsea, West Ham, and Vancouver Whitecaps. Foothills provides a culture that promotes excellence in soccer but also the development of outstanding people, while enjoying a positive sporting experience.

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