JAMES ALEXANDER FARQUHARSON MACLEOD – Assistant Commissioner of N.W.M.P. in 1873
– 1836-1894
– his task was to build the first police post in the then Northwest Territories.
– ably assisted by guide Jerry Potts.
– chose the site on the banks of the Oldman River
– by the end of 1874 the outpost was almost completed.
– it was named Fort Macleod in his honour.

(page 100 – The Spirit of Alberta, an Illustrated Heritage)

Before 1875, the Valleys of the Bow & Elbow Rivers were a favourite rendezvous point for American & Canadian whiskey dealers. There were a few permanent residents, so traders could easily cross the border, dispose of their wares to local indians & escape back into the U.S. before word of their activities reached Fort Macleod. To counteract the influence of these peddlers, an Order-In-Council was passed April 10, 1875, authorizing the establishment of a N.W.M.P. outpost on the Bow River.

It was first named Brisebois after Inspector Brisebois of 'F' division who went to the Bow River to select a site & construct an outpost.

Colonel MacLeod suggested the name "CALGARY" be the name; means "clear running water" in Gaelic. The Minister of Justice had the name approved by Order-In-Council, April 5, 1876

(page 102 – The Spirit of Alberta, An Illustrated Heritage).

Colonel Macleod, Commissioner of the N.W.M.P. & David Laird, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Northwest Territories negotiated the Blackfoot Confederacy – signed September 22, 1877 after 6 days of negotiations

(page 105 – The Spirit of Alberta, An Illustrated Heritage).