

Important Dates

- **September** - Launch of Fall Themed Activity Kits
- **Sept. 14-18** - Virtual Community Awareness Week
- **Sept. 22 & 23** - Fall Large Item Pick Up
- **Oct. 13** - Utilities Budget
- **Nov. 20 & 21** - 2021 Operating Budget Deliberations
- **Nov. 28** - Christmas In The Park
- **Dec. 4** - Seniors Tea and Jingles Delivery

Learn more at Devon.ca/events

Upcoming Council Meetings

Council Meetings take place on the second and fourth Mondays of the month and start at 7 p.m. at the Town of Devon Office at 1 Columbia Ave. West, Devon.

All public is welcome to attend.

Sept.
14 & 28

Oct. 13
& 26

Dec. 14

Nov. 9
& 23

Message from Mayor & Council



Mayor
Ray Ralph

Hello Devon and welcome back to Our Devon News. It has been a few months since we've last published our newsletter and we have a lot of information to share.

It is hard to start a conversation today without talking about COVID-19 and the effect it has had on all of us. We've continued to be busy throughout this pandemic as we work to support our residents, while pursuing future development for our community.

Our newsletter will be having some changes in printing and delivery going forward as we continue to find cost-savings for our residents. We will now be publishing Our Devon News at the same time as our Recreation Program Guides with three issues per year going out in April, August and December.

Much has changed for our residents since this newsletter landed on your doorstep last December.

On Mar. 12, I stood in front of our business community, developers and leadership from across the region to deliver the 2020 State of the Town Address. This year's address focused on exciting opportunities

in land and economic development, clean energy and more.

By April, Devon joined municipalities across the province in cancelling events and encouraging residents to stay home as much as possible to help flatten the curve and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Thanks to our frontline healthcare workers and the efforts of our residents over these past months, normality is starting to return to Devon. By continuing to follow the recommendations of Alberta Health Services, we will get through this public health crisis together.

Our staff have been working hard to provide programs and services to our residents and I invite you all to join me in thanking them for their hard work during these difficult and uncertain times.

Thank you again and please be safe, be healthy and do your part to keep Devon a safe place for us all to enjoy.





Devon's COVID-19 Response

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) took the world by storm this year, presenting many challenges as the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a global outbreak of the virus on Mar. 17, 2020.

The Government of Alberta soon followed, declaring a public health emergency that same day and shortly after, the Town of Devon declared its own State of Local Emergency (SOLE) on Mar. 24 to support federal and provincial efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Fortunately, the Town acted quickly to support those residents in need.

These supports included:

- Property tax deferrals – taxes due date changes from June 30 to Sept. 1 with no penalty
- Utility bill deferrals – allowing residents to defer Town utility bills until Sept. 30
- Assistance with grocery shopping and delivery
- Providing transportation to medical appointments within Devon at no charge
- Ensuring mental health resources were available to residents
- Supporting local businesses as they worked to continue to serve their customers
- Sharing regular updates on the continuously changing situation

Next Steps

At their Aug. 10 Council Meeting, Town Council debated if face coverings should be required when in public spaces in Devon. After a thorough conversation, Council has agreed that a bylaw mandating that face coverings are worn is not needed at this time.

Devon will continue to follow the recommendations from Alberta Health Services which strongly encourages the use of face coverings when out in public.

Council will be revisiting the face covering conversation again at their Sept. 14 Council Meeting to ensure they are still in line with Alberta Health Services and determine if this remains the best course of action for the Devon community.

Virtual and Alternative Programs and Events



With in-person events not an option through the spring and summer and still questionable moving into the fall, Devon's Recreation

Department had its work cut out for it to bring events and activities to residents in a new way. After cancelling events in April and May, the Town was proud to launch a range of great recreation opportunities for residents to enjoy virtually starting in June.

Devon Pride Week June 8-12

Devon Pride week featured free activity kits for residents and online presentations throughout the week with the theme of learning more about the LGBTQ2S+ community.



Devon Pride Week featured on Global National

Indigenous Peoples Week June 19-26

Indigenous Peoples Week kicked off with a Treaty Six and Métis Nation Flag Raising at the Town of Devon Office followed by various workshops and presentations throughout the week to educate residents interested in learning more about Indigenous culture.

Virtual Craft Videos

Starting in June, the Town's Summer Shack went virtual with weekly videos of fun craft ideas for everyone to participate in! Summer Day Camps were also able to begin in person in July, but that didn't stop the Summer Day Camp staff from going above and beyond to also bring day camp craft tutorials online for kids to do in their homes.

Devon Canada Day Parade & Regional Canada Day Event

The Town was proud to bring Canada Day entertainment to residents on July 1 both in person through a Town-wide parade and by partnering with municipalities throughout the region to host a virtual



SUMMER/FALL ACTIVITY KITS

In July, another option was provided to Devon residents with the release of four themed activity kits available from the Town at no cost. The Summer Activity Kits have been extremely successful and the program will be continuing into the fall with new themes and activities.

Learn more about our activity kits at devon.ca/activitykits.

concert series for everyone in the Edmonton Metro Region to enjoy.

Virtual Community Awareness Week Sept. 14-18

The Town is currently working with community groups to determine the best way to bring a Community Awareness event to Devon residents. Stay tuned at devon.ca for more info on this soon.

COVID-19 Information

For information on COVID-19, go to:

Town of Devon
devon.ca/covid19

Government of Alberta
alberta.ca/covid-19

Government of Canada
Canada.ca/coronavirus

Town Launches New Municipal Website

The Town of Devon is proud to announce the launch of the brand-new devon.ca. This new website was developed with a mobile-first focus with the goal of improving user experience when searching for Town-related information online.

Key improvements to the site include:

- a **redesigned mega-menu** at the top of the devon.ca homepage



- an **expanded homepage banner window** with **interchangeable quick-link buttons** below

- homepage **news and calendar widgets**
- **reducing the clicks** between the homepage and information users are looking for
- a complete overhaul of the **drop-down navigation tree**
- a **new footer** with the Town's contact information and access to popular pages

Check out the new website today at devon.ca.



Devon Celebrates Canada Day with Socially-Distanced Parade Fun

The commemoration of our nation's birthday had some unique hurdles to overcome this summer and the Town's Community Services and Parks departments were up to the task.

Devon Canada Day Parade

Starting bright and early on July 1 at 9:30, Devon's Canada Day Parade brought the entertainment directly to residents, hitting as many streets as possible around Town.

Parade guests who braved the downpour included the Devon RCMP and Community Peace Officers, Citizens on Patrol, the Devon Parks Department, MLA Mark Smith, MP Mike Lake, as well as our Town of Devon Mayor and Council. Bringing up the rear were musical guests Kym Simon and Martina Dawn as well as the Devon Fire Department.

A huge shout out to Maverick Safety and Devon Chrysler for offering their vehicles to pull the parade floats and to Kym Simon and Martina Dawn for sharing their amazing voices with paraders in the rain all morning long.

Regional Canada Day Event

The Town was also proud to participate in a Regional Canada Day Virtual Celebration in partnership with the City of Beaumont, Fort Saskatchewan, Leduc, Spruce Grove, St. Albert, the Town of Stony Plain & Strathcona County.

This Virtual Celebration included Facebook activities and a live concert series featuring **George Canyon, Nuela Charles, River Poets, Dan Davidson** and Devon's own **Kym Simon**.



Ball Diamond Relocation Promises New Development Opportunities in Devon

The Town of Devon is relocating the Field of Dreams (Devon's south ball diamonds) this fall to make room for future commercial/industrial growth on the land at the corner of HWY 19 and 60. The proposed plan will see the ball diamonds moved west of HWY 60 to a parcel of Town-owned land.

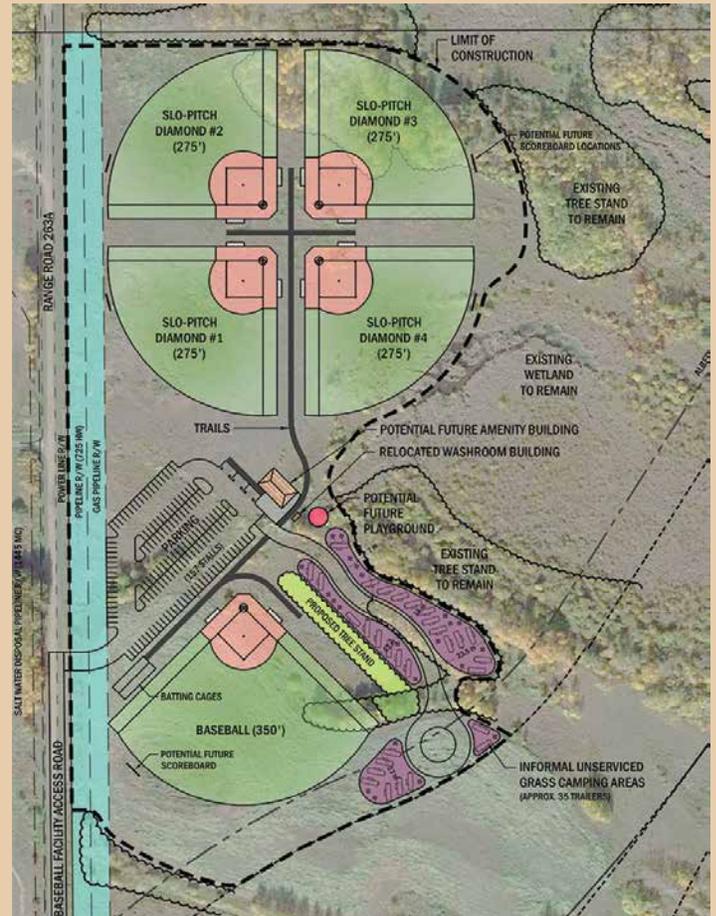
The move was first proposed in February of this year when Devon residents and other stakeholders were asked for their feedback on moving the diamonds and what they would like to see in a new ball diamond development.

Following a public survey and open house, a final draft plan was shared with user groups and the community in late June. Overall, the final draft plan was well received and has now been finalized with construction slated to begin on the new diamonds as soon as possible.

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The land formerly occupied by the Field of Dreams has been zoned for commercial/light industrial growth as part of Devon's ongoing strategy to attract new businesses and residents to the community. The approach has already yielded results with 1960 Lumber and Hardware Company preparing to open on this land early next year for all Devon's construction needs.

If this early success is any indicator, Devon is well-positioned to see this prime land develop quickly in the years to come. Stay up to date on the relocation project at devon.ca/new-diamonds.



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