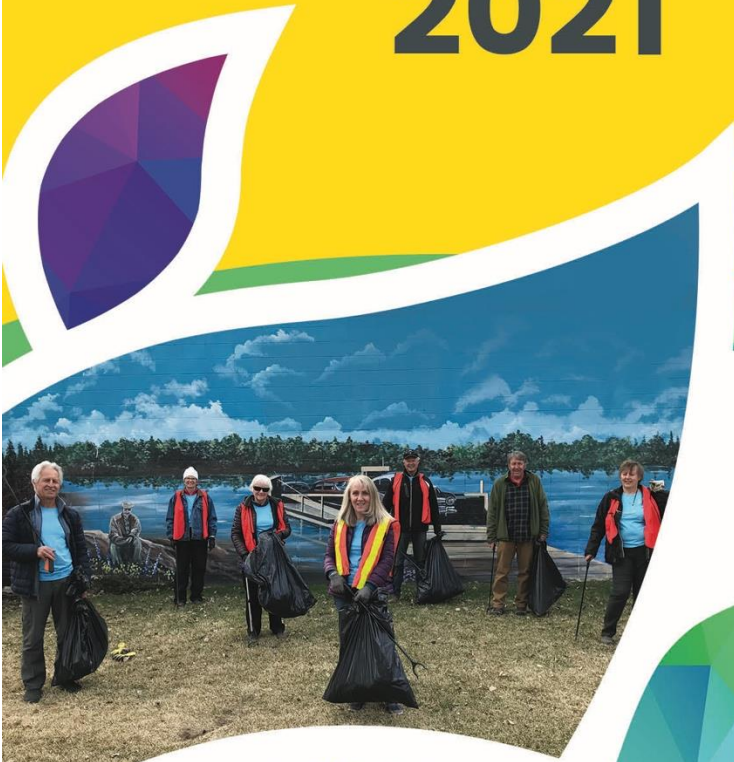


2021

# Devon Communities in Bloom



## Population Category

6,001 - 15,000

### CIB Participation History

Year	Bloom rating	Special Mention	Outstanding Achievement (Criteria) or Other Award
Novice *2017	n/a	Tree Inventory	n/a
Friend (non-evaluated) 2018	n/a	n/a	n/a
Competitive 2019	4 Blooms	Yard Tours	n/a
Bloom Where You're Planted 2020	n/a	n/a	Fortis Bloom Where You're Planted Award Winner

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# Introduction

## Our Community

During February 1947, Imperial Oil struck oil (Leduc #1). This was quickly followed by three more producing wells. Exploration continued. Accommodating all these workers became a problem as space was not available in the surrounding communities. Compounding this problem was that area roads were practically impassible during inclement weather. The solution was to build a new town. Imperial Oil was determined that the town would be well-planned and brought the Alberta Town Planning Commission on-board. Not only would the new town house the oil workers and their families, but it also would provide goods and services for the residents. This allowed for a more diverse populace.

Devon was at first a hamlet, then a village and was proclaimed a town in 1950. It was unique in Alberta in that it was an urban county which meant that the elected officials ran both the municipality and the school district. In the 1990s, the School District was absorbed by Black Gold. The town was named after the



*Devon volunteers plant & maintain flowers at town entrance*

Devonian Formation under which the oil was found. Because of the way it was developed, Devon was known as Canada's Model Town.

Today, Devon has diversified from being a single industry town. In addition to the oil industry there is a focus on tourism, manufacturing, and energy research. Easily accessible via Highway 60 and Highway 19, many residents commute to the International Airport, to the Nisku Industrial Park or to Edmonton. The residents enjoy the lifestyle that a small community has to offer.

Nestled on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, Devon has much to offer to both residents and visitors. Along the river are parks, a campground, picnic sites, natural and paved trails, and a golf course. Most summer days, one can find people wading in the river, boating, fishing, gold panning, picnicking, biking, walking, golfing or camping. Facilities are well-used. The town also has many parks and a multiuse trail system in the residential section of the community. Summer recreational facilities include ball diamonds, soccer fields, bike parks, playgrounds, a spray park, and a swimming pool. During the winter, the arena is used for skating and hockey; the river valley trails are used for cross country skiing, snowshoeing and fat biking.

Within the region, the Leduc #1 Energy Discovery Place, the University of Alberta Botanic Garden, the Clifford E. Lee Nature Sanctuary, Bunchberry Meadows, Rabbit Hill Ski Resort, Shalom Water Ski Park and the Castrol Raceway are easily accessible.

Devon is a vibrant community and gathers to take part in many community activities throughout the year: Winter Walk Day, Family Day celebrations, Devon Days, Canada Day celebrations, Movie in the Park, a Family Halloween Dance and Christmas in the Park.

From its parks and outdoor activities to its small-town atmosphere to its recreational opportunities, Devon provides many opportunities for its residents to enjoy its amenities.

### Population

6,578 (2016 Census)

### Websites & Facebook

Town of Devon: [www.devon.ca](http://www.devon.ca)

Devon Communities in Bloom:

<https://sites.google.com/view/devoncib>

Devon Communities in Bloom Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/DevonCIB>

### Town of Devon Contact

Heather Acres, Town of Devon

[hacres@devon.ca](mailto:hacres@devon.ca)

### CIB Committee Co-Chair Contact:

Aleta Mumby [mumby.aleta@gmail.com](mailto:mumby.aleta@gmail.com)

### Area in Square Miles:

5.5 sq mi – developed & undeveloped land

2.6 sq mi – developed areas

### Acres of Active Recreation:

400 acres

### Acres of Passive Recreation:

1 acre

### Do You Have a Volunteer Coordinator?

No



This symbol indicates that there was widespread community participation associated with the described activity.



This symbol is included for activities that have developed since the last profile book was published in 2019.



This symbol is included for activities that were reported on in the 2019 Profile Book but have been updated.



*Devon trails are enjoyed in all seasons*



### ***Message from the Mayor***

On behalf of the Town of Devon Council and Devon residents, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the 2021 Communities in Bloom judges. As you will see, our community has a lot to offer to residents and to visitors.

Last year, the Devon CiB committee developed two programs that recognize community members' contributions to make Devon a better community. Both the *Love Your Yard!* and the *Community Spirit Lives Here!* have been well-received by the community.

As you tour Devon, you will note the pride that Devon residents have in our community. There has been a focus on responsible environmental stewardship which is evident in our many greenspaces and initiatives undertaken by Council with community support. The residents' support has enabled Council and the community to work together to develop practices and programs that work toward a healthy and sustainable environment.

I hope that you enjoy your tour of and your visit to Devon. We look forward to your feedback.

**Ray Ralph**  
Mayor





## ***Message from the Devon Communities in Bloom Committee***

Welcome to Devon! We look forward to showcasing the many attributes of our community on your tour.

Our committee is a diverse group of individuals who offer a variety of skills and knowledge. We enthusiastically support one another as we plan and implement various projects. Since the last judges' visit, we have undertaken several initiatives.

COVID-19 affected our plans for 2020, causing us to change our focus to raising community spirit and awareness. This led to us establishing two high-profile programs: the first, *Love Your Yard!*, asked residents to recognize yards that they admired; the second, *Community Spirit Lives Here!*, asked residents to recognize the contributions of Devon community builders. Both were featured on our Facebook page and were covered in the *Devon Dispatch*, our local paper.

Other projects were less visible but equally important. We donated lumber and soil to Goldring Manor for their raised garden beds and purchased a 1000L water tank for the community garden. We also supported the transport and the installation of the David Thompson memorial rock in Voyageur Park. Many of our projects provided were educational. We hosted an event on trees and shrubs which provided information on fire blight and introduced our *Trees of Devon* project and the Bee Hotel Workshop dealt with pollinators. We also posted *Weed of the Week* (noxious weeds), in conjunction with the Lions Club, on our Facebook page. To enhance the appearance of the shrub and flower beds, we twice weeded most of the beds at Powerline Park and completed a spring clean-up and weeding of the bed at the Pioneer 73 Seniors' Club. At Centennial Park, we replaced a sign and ordered a plaque, both recognizing contributions to the Park. We are grateful that the Lions Club provided the gazebo for the Steppingstone and Bee Hotel Building workshops. It allowed us to present the workshops and the participants to gather safely during the pandemic.

In the fall of 2019, we worked with the Girl Guides to plant bulbs in the bed at the pumpjack sign bed in the south end of Town. Enhancing this bed is one of our major undertakings this year. We will amend its soil and plant a variety of shrubs so that it is attractive year-round. We will allocate the prize money from the 2020 "Bloom Where You're Planted" contest to this project.

This spring, we also developed a website to add another avenue to share information and to feature our *Trees of Devon* project.

We are grateful for the on-going financial and personnel support we have received from the Town of Devon. This collaboration enables both parties to further our goal of making Devon an even greater place to live.



***Message from Jordan Higgs, Manager of Parks,  
Recreation & Culture, Town of Devon***

On behalf of the Town of Devon Parks, Recreation & Culture department, I am excited to welcome Communities in Bloom judges and visitors to Devon.

Situated along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, Devon is a charming community that truly values inclusivity, making visitors and newcomers feel welcome. This may be experienced through visiting a locally owned business, attending a community event, or when enjoying one of the many parks or trail systems in town. We are especially appreciative of the efforts within our community to make Indigenous visitors and residents to feel at home in Devon. We want everyone to feel welcome.

While the last year has seen many challenges, the Devon Communities in Bloom Committee continues to flourish with a dedicated, creative, and enthusiastic group of volunteers that skillfully takes on many projects! Recognizing the importance of parks, trails, and nature on mental wellness, the committee prioritized certain projects including contributing to the raised garden beds at Goldring Manor and the development of the *“Love Your Yard!”* program encouraging residents to spend time outside in an accessible and safe way.

In our community, volunteerism and environmental responsibility runs deep. A walk through the river valley trails shows many examples of this with local community groups working in collaboration with town staff to develop and maintain trails as well as partaking in bioengineering projects. Volunteers have taken the time to learn about the bioengineering process and participate in hands on workshops that help stabilize eroding banks in the river valley.

Our family friendly community welcomes all visitors and invites you to take some time to enjoy everything we have to offer!

Sincerely,

**Jordan Higgs,**  
Manager of Parks, Recreation & Culture  
Town of Devon



**NEW** Devon Communities in Bloom launched *Community Spirit Lives Here!* during the winter of 2020/2021. It is an initiative that honours the community-building efforts of Devon’s volunteers, service personnel, great neighbours and business owners.

Residents and organizations were invited to reach out to Devon Communities in Bloom with their recommendations of people who are community minded and serve Devon well. It could be someone who volunteers, a neighbour who helps others in their area, an employee who provides exceptional community service or a business owner who is generous in their community-building efforts.

Communities in Bloom volunteers selected recipients for recognition each week (not counting the Christmas break), wrote an article about the recipient’s community spirit and delivered a *Community Spirit Lives Here!* poster that they could hang in their window. The articles were published in the Devon Dispatch and on the Communities in Bloom Facebook and website pages.







## Community

**1. Walk the Talks:** Each month community residents are invited to a café setting to listen to an expert speak about an aspect of environmental sustainability. Participation at these monthly events has been excellent with over 250 people requesting to be on the email invitation list. During COVID-19, events were moved to an online platform. The planning group is incorporated and is community – based. The Town of Devon supports this group with a support staff person.



**3. Community Connections Café:** This is a monthly event where residents are invited to listen to presentations with local or area experts on wellness issues. This has included topics such as the Edmonton & Area Land Trust, invasive species control, gardening with native plants, preserving garden produce, harvesting wild mushrooms and the River Valley Alliance.



**NEW**

**2. Home Energy Lab:** The local Walk the Talks planning group introduced and hosted the Home Energy Lab which consists of a short series of classes to learn how to reduce home energy usage and save money. This series was provided free for community members to attend. The energy education program was offered twice in the 2019/2020 year with 21 registered for the first series and 33 registered for the second.



*Several residents signed up for the free Home Energy Lab workshop series hosted by Walk the Talks.*

**UPDATED****4. Lions' Environmental Action:**

Since inception, the Club has been gathering unwanted eyeglasses, and recently hearing aids, from around the community. To date approximately 250,000 pairs have been delivered to the Lions eye glass recycling center in Calgary.

The Club has been actively removing invasive plant species in the campground. Removal of a huge outbreak of Himalayan Balsam on the edge of the campground and into the golf course has been taking place over the last two years. Hundreds of bags of the weeds have been removed. The Lions Club was able to encourage the golf course to tackle their portion of the problem in 2020.

In 2019, the Lions cut out and primed approximately 650 wooden fish for the ongoing Ripple Affect initiative. In 2020 a Purple Martin house was built and erected in the park. In 2021, the Club has implemented a garbage free system for campers to purchase firewood.



*Purple Martin house erected in Lions Campground in 2020*



*The Noxious Weed of the Week was posted on the LED sign and on Facebook pages during 2020 & 2021. They are also featured on the Devon Communities in Bloom website*

**NEW**

**5. Weed of the Week:** Initiated in 2020, the Weed of the Week program features 21 noxious or prohibited noxious weed that residents could easily find in and around town. Every Friday from the long weekend in May until the first weekend in October, the Devon Lions Club posts a "Weed of the Week" on their Facebook page and on their community LED sign. These are also hosted on the Devon Communities in Bloom Facebook and web pages.

**UPDATED****6. Wetland Restoration Project in Highwood Park:**

A native wetland in Highwood Park was enhanced and reclaimed in 2018 with the participation of the Devon Nature Club, the Alberta Native Plant Council and the Town of Devon. Kristen Andersen, a local vegetation and wetland ecologist, provided the technical expertise. Many native grasses, shrubs and flowers have been replanted and noxious weeds have been removed. Many residents have been involved. In 2020, signage was placed that highlighted the purpose of wetlands for biodiversity and biofiltration. This wetland is being maintained by people who live in the neighbourhood.



*Volunteers enhanced and reclaimed a native wetland in Highwood Park*

**7. Repair Fair:** Devon

Communities in Bloom hosted a Repair Fair on May 4, 2019 in conjunction with the Community Clean Up Week celebration BBQ. This was the first Repair Fair to take place in Devon. Residents were asked to bring their household items in need of repair to the volunteers that fixed them while the item owner had the opportunity to learn how to do it. A similar spring event with the addition of a car boot sale was planned to take place in 2020 and 2021. However, they had to be postponed due to COVID-19. Communities in Bloom hopes to host future events.



*Communities in Bloom hosted a Repair Fair in 2019 and plan to host more in future years*

**UPDATED**

**8. Communities in Bloom Winter Education Presentation:**

During January 2020, the Devon Communities in Bloom committee hosted their second annual winter education presentation for the community. The 2020 presentation was entitled “Caring for our Trees & Heritage Trees”. This event was presented by two local residents to over 30 members of our community.



*Community presentation on Caring for our Trees*

**9. Nature Walks:** Frequently, two community members and outdoor enthusiasts, Allan Macaulay and Kelly Harlton, provide nature walks for adults, youth and children around Devon’s River Valley.



**10. Nature Awareness:** The Devon Nature Club sponsors speakers annually who raise awareness and educate our community on our natural environment. Presentations have included owls, birds of prey, geology, watershed management and understanding wildland parks. The last speaker was Lu Carbyn, an authority on wolves and coyotes. The Royal Alberta Museum provided a mounted wolf for the event. They have been unable to hold this during the past two years due to the pandemic. The Devon Nature Club hosts an active Facebook page where members post photos of birds, animals and plants of our local community.



*Nature walks are popular in Devon*

**11. Thrift Shop:** The Thrift Shop provides affordable, gently-used clothing and small household items to those who need it; great bargains for the shopper; and a means of recycling the excesses of our consumer society. Donations include clothing, household goods, linens, footwear, toys and books. It is open to the public three days a week. The volunteers work hard to inspect, sort and display items for sale, as well as to staff the Thrift Shop for shoppers. The proceeds from the Thrift Shop are distributed to those in need.



*Thrift Shop volunteers*

**12. Recycling Bedding and Men's Ties:** For the last thirteen years, members of St. Maria Goretti Parish, along with members of other churches, have been gathering at the Catholic Church every October for a sewing bee. This ecumenical project recovers used blankets and quilts to create bedrolls for the less fortunate. They are delivered to organizations in Edmonton (for example, YESS) and in Leduc (for example, HUB). Thanks to individual donors and the Thrift Shop, the 2020 work bees produced 112 items: 6 baby blankets, 30 good blankets, and 76 bedrolls.



*Ecumenical bedrolls*

**13. Facebook Re-Use Sites:** Facebook groups are a popular vehicle used for re-using/recycling products residents no longer want or need. Numerous sites are popular in Devon:



- Around Town Devon, Freeshare – 1.2K members; items are made available free to anyone who wants or needs them.
- Free Stuff in Devon, AB- 1.4K members; Free items only
- Devon, AB and Area Buy and Sell – 11K members
- Devon, AB Buy/Sell Anything and Everything – 4.9K members
- Leduc, Devon, Calmar AB & Area Buy & Sell- 1.6K members
- Calmar, Devon, Leduc Swap and Buy 11K members



*Four times a year a library book sale offers used books.*

- Around Town Devon, Alberta!! Trades, Rental Housing and Employment/Oddjobs- 2.2 K members

**UPDATED**

**14. Used Book Sales:** The Friends of the Devon Public Library have a book sale 4 times a year. They have now instigated a permanent Book Marketplace shelf in the library with rotating content. All sales are by donation. Current funds are being used to create up to 10 different “Borrowing kits”. Example kits include Bug Hunting and Astronomy.



*Neighbourhood wee library*

**UPDATED**

**15. Wee-Book Inns:** Three residences, one business and a daycare have erected wee book loaning libraries where you can pick up a book. The Devon Lions have one ready to mount in the Lions campground post COVID-19


**NEW**

**16. Bee Hotel Workshop:** This rescheduled workshop was held in the gazebo at Lions Park on September 19, 2020. The workshop was conducted by two presenters from EALT. The workshop included both an information (PowerPoint) session on native bees and a hands-on build of a small hotel. Participants ranged in age from pre-school to seniors. They took their hotels home with them. We purchased four additional hotels to use as prizes.



*Making bee hotels at workshop in 2020*

# Business & Institutions

**1. DESA Awards:** From 2017 – 2019,  The Town of Devon hosted the Devon Environmental Sustainability Awards (DESA) which recognized local businesses that make a positive impact in Devon. The following are businesses that were recognized:

## 2019

- Keep it Clean & Green
- Mainstreet Mud
- Novomet

## 2018

- Snippers Inc.
- Hardy's Your Independent Grocer
- Devon IGA

## 2017

- Urban Whyte
- Kingsman Cleaning
- Chris's Computers

**UPDATED**

**2. GroundSteam:** GroundSteam began by providing a service of picking up spent coffee grounds (SCG) at a local Tim Hortons restaurant. Since then, it has expanded to offer the service to other Tim Hortons in Edmonton and surrounding area. The coffee grounds have the potential to become a raw material for new products if they are separated at source. Currently, the coffee grounds are delivered to Annelida Casting Innovations and are used as a key ingredient in providing feedstock for their worms. They produce a variety of soil enhancements that can be used in large agriculture applications or by backyard gardeners alike. GroundSteam has recently expanded its service to include picking up food waste. Organics are another key ingredient used in this large vermicasting operation.



*Devon Bottle Depot*



*CanmetENERGY entrance sign*



*CLERC van picking up eyeglasses at Lions Campground*

**3. Devon Bottle Depot:** This is the location where residents can return their empty bottles and cans for cash. Cash received can be donated to help community projects.

**4. CanmetENERGY:** CanmetEnergy is Canada's leading research and technology organization in the field of clean energy. The Devon facility for CanmetENERGY focuses on the development of cleaner fossil fuels and related environmental technologies with a focus on oil sands and heavy oil.

UPDATED

**5. Eyeglasses Donation:** Over the last 4 years RKY Enterprises/Mirage Eyewear has donated over 120,000 pairs of new eyeglasses and sunglasses to the Devon Lions Club for distribution through CLERC (Canadian Lions Eye Recycling Centre).



Devon youth participate in the Yellow Fish Road program



Local artists design reusable bags

## Municipality

NEW

### 1. Single-Use Plastic Retail Bag

**Bylaw:** Devon Town Council enacted Devon's Single-Use Plastic Retail Bag Bylaw which prohibits the distribution of single-use plastic retail bags by all retail locations in Devon as of January 1, 2020. This is Devon's first step towards reducing single use waste in the community. This bylaw was developed in consultation with a community-based committee.



NEW

**2. Reusable Bags:** The Town of Devon partnered with the Arts Association of Devon to launch a Reusable Bag Design Art Contest to promote the message of reducing the use of single use items. Devon artists were invited to submit a design that visually represents how they would contribute to a healthy planet earth living in Devon. The two winning entries were printed on reusable bags that were distributed to every household in Devon in 2020.



**3. Yellow Fish Road (Municipal Led):** Trout Unlimited Canada's Yellow Fish Road program is a proactive initiative to educate communities about water pollution through storm drains. Oil, pesticides, fertilizer, paint, pet feces and other toxic substances can end up in the local water source through storm drains. Yellow Fish Road volunteers paint yellow fish symbols and 'Rainwater Only' text on storm drains. Brochures are distributed as a reminder to people that only rainwater should be entering the storm drain system.

**4. Ripple Affect (Municipal Led):** The Ripple Affect incorporates environmental science, social studies and art curriculum-focused education, and produces a public piece of art. Each session includes a watershed and fish habitat educational program that touches on the current



UPDATED

science and social studies curriculum, followed by a fish painting activity where every child selects a wooden fish to paint in bright colours. The Devon Lions cut the wooden fish that the kids paint. The project originated in 2017. Painted fish can be seen on the fence adjacent to the Devon Dog Park, Holy Spirit School, and Robina Baker School. They were hung at the schools during the 2019-2020 school year.

**5. Walkable & Bikeable Community:** Connected sidewalks and trails throughout the community are extensively used by cyclists and pedestrians. Maps are available to help navigate the trail system.

**6. Community Bus:** The community bus has regular routes within Devon and to nearby communities. It is also available to rent for special trips.

**NEW**

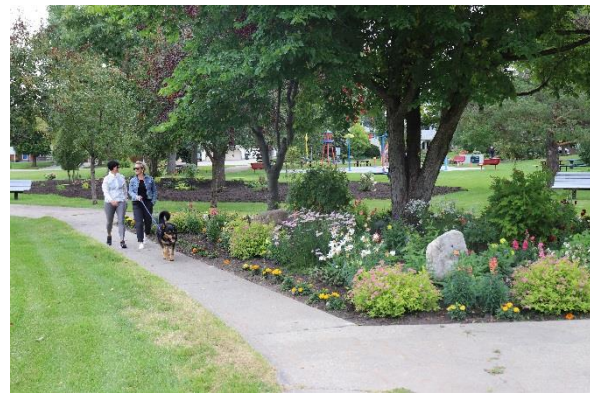
**7. Regional Transit Services Commission:** Devon is one of eight municipalities in the Edmonton Metropolitan region moving forward with delivering integrated transit services through a Regional Transit Service Commission. In June, 2021, the Town of Devon announced a pilot project that will see a bus offered on weekday mornings and evenings to provide Devon residents with a new option for getting to and from Edmonton.

**8. Sand Provided for Residents for Winter Walkways:** The Town of Devon provides free sand for residents to use to keep their walkways safe during winter. This helps to reduce the use of salt. Salt doesn't disappear with the snow and ice it melts. Instead, it dissolves into sodium and chloride ions and washes away down sewer drains and into the river. It can even seep into groundwater supplies.

**9. Free Compost & Wood Chips for Residents:** The Town places compost and wood chips in a public area near the Community Centre and Recycling Station. It is available, at no charge, to residents each year.



*Ripple Affect fish on fence adjacent to the Devon Dog Park*



*Connected sidewalks and trails throughout the community are extensively used*

**10. Compost for Public Spaces:** The Town of Devon uses compost to supplement the soil in parks and playgrounds.

**11. ToD Website Environmental Sustainability:** Information for residents and businesses about how to do their part to address climate change is now available on the Town of Devon's website.

**12. Organics, Recycling & Waste Management Program:** The Town provides weekly collection of garbage and blue bag services for residents and businesses. Organics are collected weekly from May until October. Over the winter, there is bi-weekly service. The recycle depot is open four days a week to collect a wide range of items including electronics and household hazardous waste, appliances, tires, paint, metals,

**UPDATED**



compostable materials, newspapers, cardboard etc. In December 2020 a pilot project began for the collection of Styrofoam with favourable results so far.



**13. Kitchen Catcher Program for Residents:** In 2019 and 2020, the Town of Devon provided free kitchen catchers to residents who did not have one as part of its ongoing efforts to decrease the amount of food waste being sent to our landfill.

**14. Organics and Recycling at the Community Centre & Arena:** Recycling and organic bins are provided at the community centre and arena following a pilot project in 2019.

**15. Green Cleaning Products:** The Town of Devon uses environmentally friendly cleaning products in its facilities.

**16. Transition to Compostable Plates, Cups and Utensils:** The municipality has introduced, and will continue to use, compostable materials at Town initiated community events.

**17. Net-Zero Community:** Devon Town Council set an ambitious goal in 2017 to become a Net-Zero municipality. In general terms, this means the amount of energy used within the municipality would be offset by the amount of energy produced. This means using innovative planning, technology and best practices to conserve energy and increasing the supply of renewable energy generated in Devon. Sustainable planning plays a key role in reaching this long-term goal.

**18. Devon Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report:** The inventory helps the municipality track which sectors use the most energy and emit the most GHG emissions enabling it to prioritize reduction efforts. An inventory also helps the municipality track where money is being spent on energy, potentially revealing cost-saving opportunities. Additionally, the inventory provides a starting point from which progress can be measured, helping track the effectiveness of a GHG emission and energy efficiency plan. The



Free Items available at the recycling centre



Community bus

**STYRO RE CYCLE**

EPS (Expanded Polystyrene) common name is Styrofoam. May be marked as #6 or #06 with the recycle symbol. Clean to lightly soiled Styrofoam only, no Biological contamination (example food). For packaging Styrofoam this means removing all tape, plastic wrap, and cardboard.

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**Accepted Materials**

 Construction polystyrene ✓	 Craft expanded polystyrene ✓
 Expanded Polystyrene Packaging ✓	 Disposable Polystyrene Cooler ✓

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**Not Accepted Materials**

 Extruded Polystyrene Packaging (64) ✗	 Toys: Pool noodles, foam mats, stress balls, sports flippers ✗	 Extruded Polystyrene film ✗	 Biodegradable packing peanuts ✗
 Meat Trays ✗	 To-go food and beverage containers ✗	 Polystyrene egg cartons ✗	 Polystyrene packing peanuts ✗

Pilot project at the recycling centre has allowed residents to drop off Styrofoam since December, 2020

quantification of GHG emissions, along with the demonstrated commitment and planning towards GHG reductions can also allow a municipality to access provincial and federal funding opportunities.

**UPDATED**

**19. Devon Waste Audit Program:** S-Cubed Environmental was retained by the Town of Devon to determine the composition of the Town's solid waste streams from the residential sector. The waste audit was conducted May 29 and 30, 2018. The previous waste audit was conducted in June 2012. The report can be found on the Town of Devon's webpage. Through the summer of 2021, the Town of Devon will team up with the Leduc & District Regional Waste Management Authority to participate in a regional landfill waste audit.

**20. Town of Devon Green Strategy:** This document provides a strategic approach and direction for the Town of Devon to reach environmentally sustainable goals in an economically feasible manner. Green Devon lays out short-term and long-term goals, along with objectives, and recommended actions for six priority areas. Due to changes in technology, programs, and other elements, this document is subject to change.

**UPDATED**

**21. Solar Program:** In 2015, Devon embraced a solar program. The first project was the installation of solar lights in the off-leash dog park and at the boat launch and in the parking lot in Voyageur Park. This was followed by the installation of a 100 kW solar system on the roof of the Devon Community Centre.

In 2016, the Town was awarded the 2016 National Municipal Environmental Award by the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA). It recognized the environmental excellence demonstrated by Devon's solar program.

Since then, the Town has been installing solar lights at pedestrian crosswalks. This is an on-going program and will continue in 2021.

Under a three-year program that ran from the fall of 2017 until the fall of 2020, 81 bollard lights



*Solar crosswalks are utilized throughout the community*



*Solar panels on Devon Community Centre*



*Solar panels were installed on the arena in 2021*

were installed along some of Devon's multi-use trails.

The most recent endeavour under the solar program was the installation of a 101 kW solar panel on the roof of the Dale Fisher Arena earlier this year.

**22. Dark Sky Compliant Streetlights:** In 2016, Fortis Alberta converted a total of 590 existing High-Pressure Sodium (HPS) streetlights to LED technology. Through these conversions, the Town will save approximately 221,700 kWh/year. This is equivalent to taking 30 cars off the road; operating 28 homes; or planting 6,500 trees per year.

**23. Partners for Climate Protection Devon:** Town Council moved to join the Partners for Climate Protection on April 10, 2017. The program involves a framework of Milestones to be completed which will aid Devon in reaching their sustainability goals. Members also benefit from opportunities to receive funding support through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). Regional Partners for Climate Protection members include the City of Edmonton, the City of Leduc, the City of Spruce Grove and the Town of Stony Plain.

**24. Climate Resiliency Initiatives:** The Devon municipality is a part of two initiatives that address future climate risks and actions that can be taken. One is the regional All One Sky Foundation (Edmonton Region); the other is the national QUEST resiliency project.

recovered through the owner's property taxes. Property owners who choose to make improvements would help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, create jobs, stimulate local economies and save money on their energy bills. The Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) will be available to Devon resident property owners and businesses beginning in the summer of 2021.

**NEW** **25. Wastewater Treatment Plant:** A new \$28 million wastewater treatment plant was completed in 2020. The new plant is built to support future development while continuing to treat wastewater to a high standard before being discharged into the North Saskatchewan River.

**NEW** **26. Clean Energy Improvement Program:** The Clean Energy Improvement Program is a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE-style) program that helps people make energy efficient upgrades to their properties without having to put money down. The cost of the upgrade is



## Community

UPDATED

**1. Lions Planting Trees and Shrubs in Park:** The Club has a rigorous program of renewal of trees in the campground. 2018 plantings included 82 deciduous trees and about 240 shrubs in a variety of species in the Devon Lions Campground. New trees are added for beautification and to replace existing trees that have become dangerous. All the shrubs are native species, mostly Red Osier Dogwood with some High Bush Cranberry and Prickly Rose. The bulk of the shrubs were used to plant a hedge which is designed to keep campers off the road. Temporary fencing has been erected to protect the shrubs until they get established. In 2019 about 40 or 50 dangerous black poplar trees were removed to protect campers from falling trees. In 2021, 46 new spruce and pine trees were planted in the campground.



**2. Tree Planting in Centennial Park by Bloom 2000 Committee:** Centennial Park was created in 1967 as a part of Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. Many members of the community donated trees



*Devon Lions Club planted more trees in the campground during the spring of 2021*

which included varieties such as spruce, pine, ash, poplar and lilac. Many of these were damaged in the tornado of 1987 though some original trees remain. The Town replaced some of those that could not be salvaged. The park underwent a substantial renovation in 2000 and 2001. On the newly created berms, the Bloom 2000 group planted all the shrubs and junipers. Along the path from the Nordic bed to Saskatchewan Avenue, Rudolf Flowering Crab were planted. The installation of the Spray Park resulted in some of these needing to be

replaced (by the Town). Devon General Hospital donated three Mountain Ash that had to be moved due to hospital renovations. Unfortunately, only two survived. In 2000, Bob Matthews donated an oak to commemorate the Town’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the new millennium. In addition, three memorial trees have been planted: an oak, a hawthorn, and a Shubert Chokecherry.

**3. Tree Transplanting:** The Devon Nature Club transplants native and historic hardy trees to various parks and green spaces on a regular basis. They always work in conjunction with the Devon Parks Department to preserve and enhance green spaces.



The “Trees of Devon” publication features local trees of interest

**NEW**

**4. Trees of Devon Publication:** The Devon Communities in Bloom committee has been identifying trees of interest within the community. They are currently compiling a “Trees of Devon” publication that will provide photographs and information about these trees. The first edition of the publication will be available during the summer of 2021 on their website.



Walk the Talks volunteers plants trees to thank their presenters

**NEW**

**5. Walk the Talks Plants Trees:** Walk the Talks, a volunteer group that provides community education events about sustainability, plants trees as a gesture of thanks for each presenter. In 2020 and 2021, the group planted trees in town-approved locations in Voyageur Park.



Devon Golf and Conference Centre

## Business & Institutions

**1.** The Devon Golf Club, the CanmetENERGY Research Facility, the hospital and the schools all have a variety of trees that are well-established.

# Municipality

UPDATED

**1. Bioengineering:** In 2017, Town staff and community members were trained on bioengineering techniques to mitigate erosion in Devon's river valley. Bioengineering was done on a river shore area at the Lions Campground that same year. With support through a Watershed Restoration and Resilience grant, more bioengineering work was done in 2019 and 2020 in the Beaver Loop area and in Voyageur Park. Volunteers assist in the field work in some locations. Overall, the project has been successful and will continue in 2021.



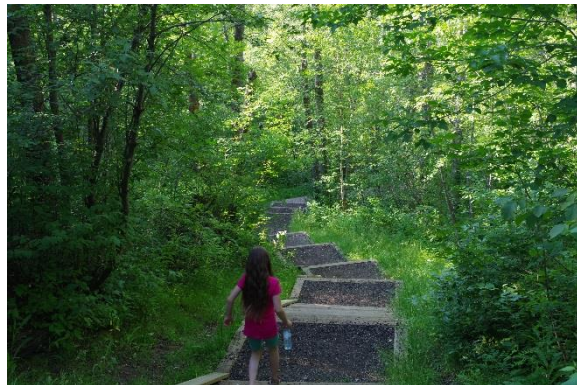
*Soil bioengineering along the river*

**2. Black Knot Public Education & Control:** Information for residents on how to address black knot on their trees is provided on the Town of Devon's website and publications. Two public education workshops were held in March of 2019. Residents are responsible for removing black knot on their property as per the Community Standards bylaw. Town staff regularly addresses black knot on public lands. The incidence of black knot on private and town lands has decreased since the inception of this initiative.



*Information about black knot is provided publicly*

**3. Urban Forest Management Plan 2015:** The guiding principles of this plan include: 1. Promote a healthy, diverse and sustainable urban forest in Devon. 2. Inform and engage the community in the work of protecting and managing the urban forest. 3. Think globally and regionally; plan and act locally. 4. Use best practices, innovation, science, research, information and technology applicable to the Devon area.



*Stairs down to the river valley*

**4. Integrated Pest Management Plan:** This plan provides detailed information on how to prevent and manage pests on lands within the Town. It promotes ecologically sound pest



*Devon Golf and Conference Centre aerial view*

management principles, concepts and techniques and promotes opportunities for public education and information regarding environmentally sound methods of pest management.

**5. ToD Tree Inventory:** The Town of Devon keeps a tree inventory that lists all the trees (2,800) that the Town maintains on public lands. The trees' condition is recorded yearly, following the annual assessment.

**6. Tree Replacement:** The Town budgets for tree planting to replace damaged or dead trees on public land. Approximately 60 trees per year are planted.

**7. Mulch Provided for Residents' Gardens:** Storm- damaged tree limbs that are healthy are chipped into mulch for residents to use in their gardens.



*Saskatchewan Avenue*



## Community

**1. Residential Properties:** We have many nicely landscaped residential properties. Devon residents tend to keep their properties tidy. The Community Standards bylaw helps to ensure that residents keep their properties up to standard.



**2. Highway Cleanup:** The Lions Club participates in the Alberta wide Adopt-a-Highway cleanup every May. They clean the ditches along Highway 60 within Devon.



The Lions organize a spring cleanup each year along Highway 60



Devon takes pride in their tidy green spaces



# Business & Institutions

1. Businesses and Institutions are proud of their premises which are well-maintained. The owners, employees or members regularly pick up garbage; clean their sidewalks, year-round; and either sweep or remove the snow from their parking lots, depending on the season. By keeping their premises tidy, they recognize that first impressions count.



*Members of the Communities in Bloom committee participate in Pitch In Devon*

# Municipality

## 1. ToD Treasure Hunt & Large Item

**Pick Up:** Twice a year, residents put large items that they no longer want by the curb of their street. All residents are encouraged to treasure hunt and pick up the items that they would find useful. During the following week, the municipality picks up the remaining items.



*Guides & Brownies participate in Pitch In Devon*

UPDATED

**2. Community Clean-Up:** Each year the Town of Devon organizes a community clean-up week. This is actively supported by various community groups and families. Prizes are given out. Community clean-up week was scheduled for April 22- 30 in 2021. In past years, there has been a celebration BBQ with all participants invited, however, the BBQ was cancelled for 2020 and 2021 due to the public health concerns brought by COVID-19.



**3. Mutt Mitt Program:** Bags are available throughout the community and river valley trails at garbage and recycling bin stations so that residents can ensure our community remains clean by picking up after their dogs. Currently there are approximately 7500 bags replaced per month. The Town of Devon is currently moving to compostable bags from plastic bags.

**4. Public Recycle/Waste Bins:** The Town of Devon works with the AB Beverage Container Recyclers Corporation to provide public recycling/waste bins throughout the community. There are 175 bins of various shapes and sizes provided on public lands.

**5. Lawn & Snow Buster Program:** The goal of these programs is to provide snow removal or lawn care assistance to seniors and those who are permanently or temporarily disabled and cannot afford to pay for these services. Volunteers can register with the Town of Devon program and are connected to those requiring services.



**6. Community Standards Bylaw:** This bylaw covers unsightly property and addresses areas such as lawns and weed control, littering, garbage and recycling management. It defines the length of time that recreational vehicles can be parked on the streets.



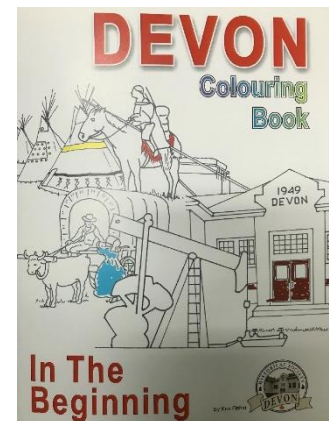
## Community

UPDATED

**1. Devon Historical Society:** The Historical Society collects and preserves items depicting Devon's past. The museum is normally open to the public on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. It is housed in the former Town of Devon Civic Building. Recently the Historical Society acquired Devonian newspapers from 1949 – Sept 1957. Their 2020 project was a 20-page Devon History Educational Colouring book which was provided to local grade 1 and 2 students and is available for sale. This year they hung 15 historical photos at the Norma Dee's restaurant which is located in the Devon Hotel, a heritage building. The Devon Historical Society also created a YouTube video about the Devon Pioneers from 1890-1950 which can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbeP1kjqwLc> YouTube videos of Devon in the 1950s and 1960s are also available and can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OP8u97eRYw8> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47MNPPPAXbc>



*Devon historical photos displayed in local restaurant*



*The Devon Historical Society created a Devon history colouring book*

**UPDATED**

**2. Canadian Energy Museum:** The Museum is located just south of Devon, on the site of the original Leduc #1. In 2018, the Museum acquired the original Leduc #1 oil derrick. Since then, it was moved from Edmonton, refurbished, painted and has been erected near the entrance to the Museum site.

The Museum showcases the industries upon which our province and our country are built. Its goal is “to strive to be Alberta’s foremost energy science museum, where we can engage guests of all ages in the diversity, complexity, and history of Canada’s energy sector through sustainable, responsible, and educational experiences”. There are virtual learning activities for educators and parents to use while the Museum is closed. The staff has also been adding interesting facts and photos about the centre that virtual visitors would enjoy.



*Leduc #1 Oil Derrick was returned to its original site in 2020*

**NEW**

### 3. Merry & Bright, 2020 Light

**Parade:** A COVID-19 friendly substitute for Christmas in the Park was required. Brightly lit floats and Santa Claus followed a 30 km route through town to bring the party to the people. Activity kits for children could be applied for ahead of time.



*Merry & Bright 2020 Light Parade*

**4. Devon Days:** In 1951, Imperial Oil organized an annual summer Oilman’s Show which was sponsored by the Devon Lions Club. In the 1950s the company added a parade, a small fair with rides and a Ferris wheel. It had become a gathering where everyone would meet on the street, visit and often end up at the Pagoda for a dance. In later years, the name was changed to “Devon Days”. Currently, a community-based committee organizes the event. More recently, this has become a 5-day event that includes a public BBQ, a parade, carnival rides, a festive street market, dances and fireworks.



*Merry & Bright 2020 Light Parade*

**5. Christmas in The Park:** Christmas comes early in Devon. The Lions Park Campground comes alive from 4 to 8 pm on a late November Saturday. In the campground, there are thousands of lights and decorations; a luminary maze lit by over 1500 candles; and all sorts of family fun including hot chocolate and apple cider, hot dogs, maple syrup taffy, horse-drawn sleigh rides, storytelling, historic fire engine rides, a petting zoo, and of course a special visit from Santa and the Grinch. Approximately 2500 residents and visitors enjoy this annual event. A community committee which includes representatives of the Town of Devon, the Lions and other volunteers meet year-round to plan this event.



*Lions Commemorative Garden*

**UPDATED**

**6. Lions Commemorative Garden:**

The Gazebo and gate to Lions Commemorative garden were completed in 2019. The park is a celebration of the 500 plus members of the community who have been Lions in the last 70 years and who have worked or are working to make Devon a better community. In April of 2021, eight storyboards with a history of the Devon Lions Club were erected in the gazebo. The original sign welcoming all to the Devon Lions Campground was restored. It was placed in the Lions Commemorative Garden on July 14, 2020. Pat O'Brien was a charter member of the Devon Lions Club who used his construction equipment to clear the first 14 acres of the current campground in 1958. He passed away on August 7, 1958. When original picnic grounds opened in 1960 it was dedicated in his name.



*The Memorial Park sign in Lions Campground honouring Pat O'Brien was restored on July 14, 2020*

**NEW**

**7. Lions Club Celebrates 70 Years:**

On Nov 1, 2019 the Devon Lions Club hosted a Charter Night celebration to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Club being chartered on October 27, 1949. Lions from all over the province and representatives from Lions International attended. On July 4, 2019 Devon Lions dedicated a plaque to commemorate the Club's original meeting place, currently known as Norma Dee's. The Lions' call to meeting bell and case have been here for many years. The



*The Devon Lions erected storyboards depicting their history in the Commemorative Garden gazebo*

building is now a local restaurant and patrons were curious about the significance of the bell.

### 8. Lionetts Memorial 'Forest':

Memorial trees have been planted for many Lionetts who have passed away in an area in the southern portion of the Devon Lions Campground. When a tree is planted, the Lionett's name is added to a memorial bench. Each plaque indicates the species of tree planted.



*Members of the Devon Lions Club*



*Lionetts Memorial Bench*



*Remembrance Day 2020*

**NEW**

### 9. Devon Legion Branch #247

**Celebrates 70 Years:** The Legion received its charter on May 7, 1949.

As part of the celebration they restored their past presidents board and created two 70th anniversary binders documenting their history. On September 14, 2019 they held a banquet where veterans, Legion members, guests and select dignitaries gathered at the Devon Legion Hall to celebrate the 70th anniversary.



**UPDATED**

**10. Legion Cenotaph:** The cenotaph is a Fieldstone Cairn. It was originally dedicated on November 11, 1962. Because Devon was not settled prior to the wars, no veterans from Devon had volunteered so the original plaque commemorated all those who had served during the two World Wars and the Korean War. The new one (2011) commemorated all those who had served our Country. The original plaque is displayed inside the Legion.

**11. Bell Cairn at the United Church:** From 1950 until 2007, the Devon United Church was a part of a joint pastoral charge with Calmar United Church. The Church in Calmar closed in 2007 and the bell from the Church was given to the Devon Church. As part of the Church's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, the cairn and bell were installed in October 2014.

**12. Devon Schools Honour Principals:** Devon's first school, built by the Clover Bar School Division, was completed in 1949. It is just east of the current Robina Baker School and is used by Devon Pre-School, Local Youth Experience, Parent Link, East of 60 and the Pottery Guild. In

1950, the newly created Devon SD #4972 purchased the building and authorized the building of a new 4-room school to the west of the first building. Among the teachers hired for the 1950-1951 school year was Robina Baker. She was appointed Principal in 1971 and retired in 1974. That summer, the elementary school was renamed Robina Baker School. In 1952, John Maland was hired, and later that school year was appointed Vice-Principal. At the beginning of the 1953-1954 school year, he was appointed Principal. He held this position until 1971, when he was appointed School Superintendent. He remained Superintendent of the Devon Schools until 1985. After his retirement, the Devon High School was renamed John Maland High School.



*Bell Cairn at the United Church*

**13. Naming Buildings/Areas:** The Town has recognized people who have made a significant contribution to Devon. Two mayors have been recognized – Dale Fisher (the arena) and Bob McDonald (Nature Park). Former councillors were recognized in the naming of Maddison Manor (a low-income apartment building) and Goldring Manor (affordable housing for seniors).

**14. Memorial Plaque on Athabaska Avenue:** The Town of Devon was incorporated as a town in 1950. To mark the Town's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Chamber of Commerce created a mini park and installed a commemorative cairn. There are two plaques: one recognizes the crew of Leduc No. 1; the second recognizes the Town's Builders and Founders.



*Devon's first school is now used by other community groups and organizations*



*Chamber of Commerce created a downtown mini park*

**NEW**

**15. Trees of Devon Document:** Devon Communities in Bloom is currently in the process of creating a booklet titled "Trees of Devon". The booklet will include the location and photographs of a selection of trees that are considered to have some unique aspects. This might include their historical significance, the attractive nature of a tree or what part of the world the species of tree is native to. The booklet will also provide a map with the location of all the featured trees



including street address and GPS coordinates for trees in parks or on trails.

### 16. Devon Calmar Christmas Bird

**Count:** Since at least 1985, residents of Devon have been participating in the Devon Calmar Christmas Bird Count to assist in monitoring our natural heritage.



*In 2020, the Devon Communities in Bloom committee replaced the Bloom 2000 sign in Voyageur Park*



*In 2020, the Devon Communities in Bloom purchased a plaque to mark the millennium tree in Centennial Park*

### **NEW** 17. Heritage Signs at Centennial Park:

When Centennial Park was redeveloped in 2000, a sign was installed at the Athabasca entry, recognizing the contributors to the new park. Over time, the sign had deteriorated. In 2019, the CiB committee ordered a replacement. The post was cleaned and repainted and the sign installed in the spring of 2020. A burr oak tree was donated to the new Park during the summer of 2000. It commemorated the Town's fiftieth anniversary and the new millennium. For the most part, people were unaware of the presence and of the significance of the tree. In 2020, the CiB committee decided to order a plaque (the same as those under memorial trees) to mark the tree. It was installed in the fall of 2020.



### **NEW** 18. David Thompson Memorial

**Rock:** A couple of community volunteers created a David Thompson Memorial by chiseling a commemorative message on a rock noting Thompson's many trips past Devon along the North Saskatchewan River between 1798 and 1812. A small ceremony was held when the rock was placed in Voyageur Park during the summer of 2020.



### **NEW** 19. Communities in Bloom Sign:

Devon received a 4-bloom rating by Alberta Communities in Bloom in 2019. A sign celebrating this accomplishment can be found beside the community's "Welcome to Devon" sign.



**NEW**

**20. Ceremony at Battery Creek:** Enoch Cree Nation (maskêkosihk) members, the Devon Nature Club and the Indigenous Engagement Coordinator from the Town of Devon gathered for a ceremony to bless, protect and preserve the waters of Battery Creek and the surrounding watershed area during October of 2020.



Local volunteers created a David Thompson rock memorial which was placed in Voyageur Park in 2020

**UPDATED**

**21. Wetland Restoration Project in Highwood Park:** A native wetland in Highwood Park was enhanced and reclaimed in 2018 with the participation of the Devon Nature Club, the Alberta Native Plant Council and the Town of Devon. Kristen Andersen, a local vegetation and wetland ecologist, provided the technical expertise. Many native grasses, shrubs and flowers have been replanted and noxious weeds have been removed. Many residents have been involved. In 2020, signage was placed that highlighted the purpose of wetlands for biodiversity and biofiltration. This wetland is being maintained by people who live in the neighbourhood.



Devon Communities in Bloom received 4 blooms in 2019

**NEW**

**22. Halloween Decorating Contest:** During October 2020, Devon Communities in Bloom held a Halloween house/yard decorating contest. Community members posted their nominations on the CiB Facebook page and voted for the favourites.



A sacred blessing ceremony was held at Battery Creek during October 2020.



New sign for the Highwood neighbourhood wetlands area was placed in 2020



# Business & Institutions

**NEW**

**1. Tim Hortons Mosaic:** A mosaic depicting our River Valley, made from reused Tim Hortons gift cards, was created with the participation of community members of all ages under the guidance of a local artist. Residents created this art during Neighbourly Devon pop-up coffee events. A junior youth group also participated.



*Mosaic made with re-used plastic gift cards was hung in 2020*

# Municipality

**1. Winter Walk Day:** Devon participates each year in Winter Walk Day, which is a province-wide initiative to get Albertans up and moving during the chilly winter months. In 2021, Winter Walk Day took place on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and included the participation of schools.

**2. Family Day:** Each February, the Town of Devon arranges for an outdoor Family Day celebration. Residents can enjoy a variety of fun winter games and activities in the fresh air. These activities include cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, scavenger hunts, giant-sized games, homemade ice cream and bannock making, nature walks and more. Campfires are on-site to keep participants warm. A virtual Family Day celebration was held for 2021.



*Students participate in Winter Walk Day 2021*

**NEW**

**3. Canada Day Parade Throughout the Community:** COVID-19 did not stop the Town of Devon from celebrating Canada Day in 2020. A 3-hour parade went through the entire community so that residents could celebrate from the front of their homes while visiting with their neighbours. This event was highlighted on Global news as a unique way to celebrate the occasion.



*Family Day 2020*

**NEW****4. Indigenous Engagement**

**Framework:** In April 2020, Devon Council passed the Cultural Awareness and Relationship Building with Indigenous Peoples Framework. This historical document outlines best practices of engagement with Indigenous Nations, and includes land acknowledgements, information about history, protocols and the benefits of engagement. This framework was created to help create a clear outline for Devon's Indigenous Engagement process moving forward. The Town hired an Indigenous Engagement & Culture and Inclusion Coordinator to create and manage the implementation of the Framework.

*Canada Day parade in 2020***NEW****5. Pride and Two-Spirit Celebrations:**

The Town of Devon worked alongside the Edmonton 2 Spirit society to host a series of virtual events in celebration of Pride Week June 8-12, 2020. Events included a virtual drag show and make-up tutorial with Edmonton Two-Spirit members, a virtual presentation by E2S director Jeffery Chalifoux and a film viewing of *Between the Shades*.

*Pride Week 2020***NEW**

**6. Treaty Six & Métis Nation Flag Raising:** June 19, 2020 marked a historical day in Devon when the Mayor, along with the Treaty 6 Grand Chief and Métis Nation of Alberta Region Four President, raised the Treaty Six Territory and Métis Nation of Alberta flags to be permanently displayed in front of the Town office. The Chiefs of kisipatinahk, akamihk, neyaskweyahk, kipohtakaw, and maskêkosihk Nations were in attendance, including Grand Chief of Treaty Six Territory William (Billy) Morin and President Tracy Friedel and Vice-president Gary Gagnon of the Métis Nation of Alberta Region Four. By permanently raising the Treaty Six and Métis Nation Flags, Devon shows its commitment to the Treaty relationship and its acknowledgement of the lands and territories it lies within.

*Treaty 6 & Métis Nation flag raising ceremony in 2020*

**NEW** **7. Pow-Wow & Jigging:** In September 2020, a Pow-Wow & Jigging event was held in Secret Park which is located within Voyageur Park. Residents brought their lawn chairs and practiced physical distancing while enjoying an evening of Indigenous cultures.



*A Pow-Wow & Jigging event was held in Secret Park in the fall of 2020*

### 8. Bob MacDonald Nature Park:

Devon's natural heritage gem is a 300-acre old growth white spruce forest park that encompasses the Battery and Washout creeks' riparian area. Devon town council created this park on March 17, 2016 after prompting by the Devon Nature club and the McDonald family. The park was named in honor of Bob McDonald a former mayor and avid walker of the ravine trails. The park is home to an extensive and diverse cross section of flora and fauna. It has a vigorous community of goose neck moss, which is rare in Alberta, red-sided garter snake hibernacula, some American marten, and several breeding pairs of at-risk Western Tanager have been spotted there. Battery Creek is a valuable spawning habitat for many of the 37 species of fish that live in the adjacent North Saskatchewan River. A 2019 survey conducted by a Seniors Fisheries Biologist and the Devon Nature Club identified 5 species in the creek. The park contributes to the cultural and historic preservation of a healthy fishery for all to enjoy. A new sign was erected in 2020.



*New sign in Bob MacDonald Nature Park*

**9. Pumpjack Features:** As an acknowledgement of Devon's heritage, there are decorative pumpjack features located along Highway 60. These features are backlit with LED lights. Additionally, one is found situated between the Town of Devon office and the Fire Hall. A miniature pumpjack is featured above the updated map of the Lions Campground located at the campground entry. The Splash Park also includes a water feature that resembles an oil derrick.



*One of Devon's murals in the downtown area*

**10. Murals:** There are three murals created by local artists on public display in Devon. One is on the west facing outside wall of the fire hall. Another can be seen at our downtown mini park. In the foyer of the community centre, visitors can view the legacy mural which depicts several aspects of Devon's heritage.



*A mini-drum workshop was held virtually in 2020*



*Learning about Cree Culture Sharing Circle in 2020*

**NEW** **11. nehiyawewin Language (Cree):**

In 2020, Devon hosted two Cree language courses for the community in partnership with fluent nehiyaw instructors. These courses aimed to support the Cree language in Devon and provide the community with a basic understanding of learning this language. Indigenous languages are at risk of extinction globally. By offering language courses, we are actively helping to preserve and protect these languages.

**NEW** **12. Indigenous-based Skills and Craftwork:**

Throughout the year, Devon has collaborated with Indigenous artisans and facilitators to host various workshops, allowing participants to learn, hands on, different skills and crafts. Some of the activities included a month-long ribbon-skirt series that attracted not only Devon residents, but also Nation members from across Canada and as far away as New Mexico and Arizona, USA. Mini-drum and felt doll workshops were also held virtually which was a fun and engaging activity for the community.

**NEW** **13. Sharing Circles:** Many sharing and healing circles were held throughout 2020, with Indigenous Elders. These circles were held both in-person and online, and created a space for healing, discussion and learning. Nehiyaw knowledge and stories were shared, and participants were able to come together as a community throughout the pandemic to share and learn with one another.



## Community

**1. Riverview Bike Park:** Initiated by students, this park consists of a wooden skills area, a pump track, a progressive set of dirt jumps, beginner and advanced drop zones, expert jumps and a few flow trail loops. The Riverview Middle School Mountain Bike Club made a presentation to Town Council to propose the building of a mountain bike skills park in Town. Council challenged the youth to raise funds for the park, so they took it one step further and entered the bike park in the 2011 Kraft Celebration Tour contest and won! Kraft Canada presented the \$25,000 award to the students so work could begin on the Bike Park.



*Riverview Bike Park*

UPDATED

**2. Powerline Park:** In 2015, the Devon Nature Club volunteers undertook maintenance of the shrub beds in Powerline Park. These beds contain many native fruiting and flowering shrubs. There are saskatoons, cranberries, gooseberries and currants. These fruits feed the birds and are also great to pick.



*Communities in Bloom members volunteer to pull weeds and thin shrubs at Powerline Park in 2020*

For two years, the group provided weed control. At this time a heavy mulch was applied, ending the Nature Club involvement. In 2020, the CiB committee organized two workdays to again tackle the weeds which were overtaking the beds.

### 3. Lions Park Campground

**Boardwalk:** A boardwalk constructed in 2018 over top of the 330-foot sheet pile bank restoration project provides a lovely vantage point to view the North Saskatchewan River.



*Boardwalk in Lions Campground*

**NEW**

**4. Lions Club Berm:** The Devon Lions Club has built a berm system to help protect the park against flooding. The campground was previously at about an 8-year flood level. With the addition of berms which are constructed of a combination of dirt and cement blocks, it is now protected to about a 50-year flood level.



*In 2020, the Devon Lions Club built a berm system to help protect the park against flooding*

### 5. Athabaska Entrance to Devon:

Members of the current Bloom 2000 group plant and maintain the flower bed at the Athabaska Avenue entrance into Devon. Two members, assisted occasionally by others, maintain the bed after planting. The Town of Devon waters the bed when the containers and hanging baskets are watered.



*Devon volunteers plant & maintain flowers at town entrance each year*

**6. Bike Trails:** The Devon Bicycle Association has been actively involved in building trails throughout the river valley. More recently, they have been developing over 5 km of multi-use trails on the west end of Voyageur Park. They use international mountain biking standards in their builds.



**7. Ski Trails:** The Devon Nordic Ski Club (est. 1958) promotes recreational cross-country skiing for people of all ages so they can enjoy a low-cost, local, outdoor winter activity that contributes to their health and sense of well-being. Club volunteers groom over 15 km of classic and skate skiing trails in the river hills and valley on land shared



*Youth enjoy ski trails*

with the Devon Golf & Conference Centre and Lions Park who are valued partners in providing year-round recreation for residents of Devon and the surrounding area. Certified coaches volunteer to help young people develop technical skills, physical fitness and a love of the outdoors through Nordiq Canada's youth programs: Bunny Rabbit (ages 4-5), Jack Rabbit (ages 6-9), and Track Attack (ages 10-12). To make cross-country skiing an inexpensive family activity, the club has an inventory of skis, boots and poles that are rented to families with children in the youth programs at a low cost for the full season. Registration is done at [Zone4.ca](http://Zone4.ca). The club is able to serve the community thanks to people who purchase memberships, give donations, and volunteer. More information about the Devon Nordic Ski Club can be found on its Facebook page.



*Hoodoo Trail*

**NEW**

#### 8. Reclamation of Unauthorized Trails:

The Nature Club, in conjunction with the Town of Devon, is re-vegetating damaged areas (unauthorized trails) with native species.



#### 9. Biodiversity, Biofiltration and Bank Stabilization:

The Devon Nature Club, in conjunction with the Town of Devon, has transplanted native trees onto the banks of Washout Creek in order to prevent erosion and to increase biofiltration and biodiversity.



**NEW**

#### 10. Steppingstone Workshop:

In 2020, Devon Communities in Bloom hosted a rhubarb leaf steppingstone workshop. Held at the Lion's Park gazebo, Gloria Sirski-Bates and Darlene Mullen facilitated the event to enable participants to make their steppingstones onsite using rhubarb leaves and concrete mix.



*Devon Communities in Bloom hosted a rhubarb leaf steppingstone workshop in 2020*

# Business & Institutions

**1. Devon Golf and Conference Centre:** The Devon Golf & Conference Centre is set along the scenic valley of the North Saskatchewan River. It first appeared in 1954 as a 9-hole golf course, built for the oil workers servicing Leduc #1 oil field. The course was expanded to 18 holes in 1970. Golfers who visit Devon will find narrow, tree-lined fairways that closely follow the natural contours of the river valley providing a challenge for all levels.

**2. Devon Lions Campground:** Devon Lions Campground is a beautiful 229 site campground located adjacent to the river, operated by REEL Camping Ltd on behalf of the Devon Lions Club. The campground and all its rental facilities such as the chalet, gazebo and camp kitchen are made available for service groups to use upon request. The campground provides a venue for many town events including Christmas in the Park and Family Day.



**3. Devon Public Library Speaker Series:** The public library hosts a regular speaker series which often include topics of interest to Communities in Bloom such as gardening with native flowers, keeping trees healthy or how to grow an herb garden. During the restrictions brought about by COVID-19, the library has paused the speaker series with the intention of resuming when conditions are more favourable.



**4. Sii 360 Inc.:** In 2019 Sii 360 Inc. moved to Devon and began construction on their new warehouse promising "a state-of-the-art building and park like setting, (in) keeping with Devon's natural surroundings". Their property, which is currently undergoing extensive landscaping, is an asset to the community.



*Entrance to Devon Lions Campground*



*Tenting on riverbank*



*Ravines skating rink*



# Municipality

## 1. Parks Recreation and Culture

**Master Plan:** Community engagement was an important feature behind the development of this Master Plan. This plan includes the priorities of Connecting People and Nature; Active Living; Inclusion and Access; Supportive Environments; and Building Recreation and Community Capacity. The engagement process alerted the Town that residents consider the environment as a top priority.



*Soil bioengineering along the shores of the North Saskatchewan River*

**2. Parks:** Devon has several well-maintained parks, playgrounds, sports fields and skating rinks which contribute to the attractive landscape of the community. In addition to larger park spaces, there are smaller pocket parks and walkways which, all totalled, comprise 34 areas.

UPDATED

## 3. Voyageur Park Improvement

**Project:** The Voyageur Park Improvement Committee (VPIC) consists of residents and a couple of Town staff members. The VPIC put together a sophisticated community engagement strategy to determine what residents wanted to see at Voyageur Park. World cafes, surveys, interviews and an open house were the tools chosen to engage the public, including youth. After extensive engagement and the input from three short-term resident sub-committees, a plan that incorporated community preferences was put together and was approved by Council. A map depicting the elements is available on the Town's website. In 2020, new signage was installed, as were picnic sites in Secret Park. A new gazebo near the bike skills park will be erected in 2021.



*Centennial Park flower bed*

smaller dog park adjacent to the larger section for smaller dogs.

## 5. River Valley Alliance (RVA):

Over 20 years ago, a group of volunteers came together with a shared vision and a shared love for the river valley, and the River Valley Alliance was born. The Alliance's Plan of Action envisions transforming the river valley into a world-class, integrated, cross-municipality, continuous park and trail system running from Devon to Fort Saskatchewan, approximately 100 km long. It is 70% complete. The RVA works with six municipalities to coordinate the planning, funding and development of the trail systems and projects that support accessibility and connectivity to the river valley. The Town of Devon is represented by one Devon councillor who is on the Board of Directors and two Devon residents



who are on the Community Engagement Committee. The first phase, completed in 2015 upgraded about 10 km of Devon trails and added a staircase (known as the “Legs of Fire”) from street level into the river valley. The secondary trail on the south side of the river will eventually link the Devon trail system to the Edmonton RVA trails. The Devon portion, from the Lions Campground to the Rabbit Hill ravine, was completed in September 2020. This 3.5 km trail follows the Battery Creek ravine, the top of the riverbank, and descends via a staircase, to the bottom of the Rabbit Hill ravine. It offers stunning views of the North Saskatchewan River.

**6. River Valley Multi-Use Paths:** The river valley is a point of pride in Devon. Its extensive network of multi-use paths is enjoyed by both residents and visitors. A Master Plan was developed through the participation of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Board and widespread community engagement. It includes plans for future trails.



*There are several natural trails to enjoy*

**NEW**

**7. Trail Ambassador Program:** At the suggestion of a citizen, the Town has organized a group of community members to form a trail ambassador program. While the program is in its infancy, the group has established that their main objective will be to improve the experience for people on the trails. There will be a strong focus on environmental sustainability while promoting indigenous and cultural education of the area surrounding the trails.



*Voyageur Park on the North Saskatchewan River*

**8. “Our Devon” Light Post Banners:** Several streets in Devon feature “Our Devon” banners on street light posts. These banners showcase Devon residents participating in various activities in and around Devon. Some examples of activities on the “Our Devon” banners are: Riverview Raiders basketball; biking at the Voyageur Park bike park; walking on our extensive trail system; skating at the Dale Fisher Arena; fishing in the North Saskatchewan River; golfing at the Devon Golf Course and many more activities.



*River Valley in the fall as seen from the new RVA trail*

**9. Site Furnishings:** Picnic tables, benches, garbage and recycling bins and bike racks are provided in public gathering spaces

**10. Bench Memorial Program:** Members of the public can donate, and have donated, benches with commemorative plaques in Devon's parks, along pathways and in the cemetery.



**11. Downtown Lit Trees:** During the winter nights, residents and visitors enjoy the illumination of the trees, wrapped with a multitude of LED lights, in the centre boulevard on Athabaska Ave.

**12. Management of Noxious Weeds:** Noxious weeds are managed on public lands following current best practices as described in the Town's Integrated Pest Management Plan.

UPDATED

**13. Soil Bioengineering:** In 2017, Town staff and community members were trained on bioengineering techniques to mitigate erosion in Devon's river valley. Bioengineering was done on a river shore area at Lions Campground that same year. With support through a Watershed Restoration and Resilience grant, more bioengineering work was done in 2019 and 2020 in the Beaver Loop area and in Voyageur Park. Volunteers assisted in the field work in some locations. Overall, the project has been successful and will continue in 2021.



UPDATED

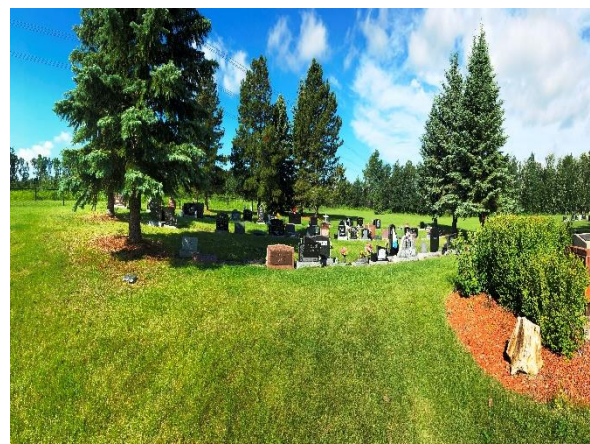
**14. Peace Cemetery:** The Peace Cemetery is situated on a quiet country road just off Highway 19. It is a quiet and peaceful spot where it is not uncommon to see wildlife. The Town maintains the cemetery, which includes several memorial benches donated by the public. During 2019, a Cemetery Master Plan was developed, with input from community members, to review the existing site, prepare guiding principles for the design, project interment needs, and explore and evaluate options for design improvements. In 2020, a columbarium was added to the site.



*"Our Devon" light post banners feature photos of residents participating in various activities in Devon*



*Winter lights on Athabaska Ave.*



*Peace Cemetery*



## Community

UPDATED

**1. Devon Community Garden Society:** This society was established in 2017 and has approximately forty individual gardeners or gardening couples growing a variety of flowers and vegetables in a community garden located just west of Discovery Place on Highwood Boulevard. The most enjoyable part of gardening is visiting with other gardeners and sharing ideas and produce. There is one plot that is producing offspring from Devon’s Heritage trees to be replanted around town. In 2020, the Town of Devon expanded the community garden with the addition of 22 raised beds.



The Town of Devon added 22 more garden plots in 2020

NEW

**2. Guides Plant Bulbs at Entrance Sign:** In the fall of 2019, the Devon Communities in Bloom Committee organized an opportunity for the Girl Guides to plant daffodil and scilla bulbs at the south community entrance sign.



Girl Guides planted bulbs at the Devon Entrance sign in 2019

NEW

**3. Shrubs at Entrance Sign:** During the spring of 2021, the Communities



in Bloom committee enhanced the soil with amendments and planted shrubs at the South Entrance sign to Devon.

**NEW**

**4. My Favourite Flower:** In 2021, The Communities in Bloom committee invited community members to submit photos of their favourite flowers and plants to be posted on the CiB Facebook page. The committee hopes this will provide inspiration for other gardeners.

**UPDATED**

**5. Bloom 2000:** This was the original Communities in Bloom group. This group planned, planted and maintained the beds at Centennial Park. The exception is the Nordic bed at the centre of the park. Currently, the few original members are joined by a group of regular volunteers and supplemented by others for major undertakings, such as planting. The group plants annuals at Centennial Park and in the Town of Devon sign bed at the Athabasca entry. During the summer months (May through September), the group gathers Monday evenings at 6:30 for an hour or so to weed, prune, dead-head, and water the beds. Anyone is welcome to join. In recent years, the group has redeveloped the beds in the park. In 2020, the current Communities in Bloom committee purchased a new sign to replace the deteriorated original one that had recognized the contributions to the park.



#### **6. Devon Nordic Ski Club Garden:**

Aided by others, maintains the Nordic bed in Centennial park. The Ski club purchases the annuals to add to the existing perennials. The Nordic bed is at the centre of Centennial Park where the sidewalks from Athabasca Avenue, Saskatchewan Avenue and Sylvan Street converge. The Town assigned the flower bed to the Club after it requested a space to use to raise its profile in the community. Members cultivated and planted it. A sign, created by two members, denotes the sponsorship. The bed is triangular and pre-dates Bloom 2000.



*Devon Communities in Bloom volunteers planted flowering shrubs at the south entrance sign in 2021*



*Devon Communities in Bloom coordinated yard & garden tours in 2019 and plan to hold more in the future*

**NEW**

**7. Pioneer 73 Garden Upkeep:**

Volunteers from the Devon Communities in Bloom Committee helped to clean up the garden of Pioneer 73 in 2020.



**8. Resident Yard & Garden Tour:**

The Devon Communities in Bloom Committee organized the first tours of local residential gardens in 2019 where 10 gardens were featured. The committee is optimistic that they will host more resident/yard tours in future years.



**NEW**

**9. Love Your Yard!:** In 2020, the Communities in Bloom Committee launched this project that recognized residents' attractive yards. A sign that said "Love Your Yard!" was placed in those yards for 2 weeks before the recipient would move it to another resident's property. In all, 24 yards were recognized. News articles featuring these yards were posted in the local paper. Love Your Yard! continues to celebrate attractive gardens in 2021.



*Love Your Yard! was launched in 2020 recognizing attractive yards*

## Business & Institutions

**NEW**

**1. Library Herb Kits:** In the spring of 2020, the Friends of the Devon Library provided clay pots, paint, soil and a variety of herbs. Families would paint the pots and grow their herbs together and then send in periodic updates with how they were doing.



*The Friends of the Devon Library supplied pots to paint and herbs to plant*

**2. Devon Golf and Conference Centre:** Flowers are added to the bed at the entrance to the Centre. In addition, containers are planted and are placed in various locations around the facility to enhance areas.



*The library makes lovely use of Equinox planters donated by Communities in Bloom*

**3. Devon General Hospital:** The Devon General Hospital Foundation supports many programs that



enhance the experience of both the public and patients. Among the many programs offered, the Foundation enhances the entrance to the hospital by providing flowering planters near the benches at the main entry. As well, the Foundation has developed and planted an outdoor courtyard for the benefit of the hospital's patients. There are in-ground plants augmented by planters. Recently, new patio furniture has been added to allow the patients to enjoy the outdoor environment. Video: <https://www.adrenalinephotography.ca/p963305896/e965eb9a0>

**4. Businesses Use Flowers:** Many businesses in the community add flowers to enhance the entrance to or, in some cases, the patios of their business. Some plant containers; others plant both containers and beds. To encourage businesses, the Devon Communities in Bloom committee donated Equinox planters to two downtown businesses.



*Flowers at Tim Hortons*



*Flowers at a downtown pocket park*

## Municipality

**1. Flower & Vegetable Planters and Hanging Baskets:** Flowers and vegetables are planted in 41 large planters which are placed near the Town entrances and in the downtown area. Additionally, the Town of Devon hangs 72 baskets in the downtown area: larger ones are hung at the Community Centre and the Town's office building. Town staff maintain them throughout the summer.

**NEW**

### **2. Raised Planter Beds at Goldring Manor:**

With the participation of community volunteers and Devon Communities in Bloom, the Town coordinated efforts to produce 7 raised planter beds for the senior residents at Goldring Manor during the summer of 2020.



*Seven raised garden planters were made for the residents of Goldring Manor*



# Appendix

Bloom Where You're Planted  
Judges' Suggestions



# Bloom Where You're Planted 2020

***Devon Communities in Bloom won the 2020 Fortis Alberta's "Bloom Where You're Planted" Contest. The \$300 prize money was used to purchase flowering shrubs that were planted during the spring of 2021 at the Devon south entrance sign along Highway 60. The following is our contest submission describing the first 8 months our 2020 activities.***

The Devon Communities in Bloom (DCiB) group embarked on an ambitious program for 2020 by initiating eleven new projects. While being cognizant of public health and safety due to COVID-19, the emphasis has been on community participation and recognizing Devon residents for their valued contributions through volunteer initiatives.

Educating the public has also been an objective of our program. DCiB committee members presented on January 17<sup>th</sup> to about 40 people ideas on the management of fire-blight and information on the Devon Heritage Tree program. Through the Community Connections Café program, a presentation on noxious weeds was held on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Through two gardening projects, DCiB assisted residents who wanted to grow their own produce. For the first project we donated, a 1000L water tank to the newly expanded community garden. The second project involved participation in building seven large, raised planters, with help from community volunteers, for use by the residents of Goldring Manor, a low income, seniors' residence. The project was extremely well-received by the residents.

We recognized "Bloom 2000", a volunteer group that has maintained Centennial Park

gardens and the Town of Devon entry sign bed on Main Street since 2000 and who were instrumental in the redevelopment of the Park. DCiB and volunteers replaced their damaged commemorative sign and also ordered a plaque for a donated Oak tree commemorating the completion of the Park, the new millennium, and the Town's fiftieth anniversary.

Three other projects involved residents demonstrating pride in the appearance of their community. Last fall, DCiB and the Girl Guides planted a variety of bulbs at the entrance to the Town. This spring beautiful daffodil blooms were clearly visible from Highway 60. In May, committee members cleaned up the flower bed at a seniors' drop-in centre. Then in July, our committee organized a weed pull in the shrub beds at Powerline Park. We featured a "Weed of the Week" on our Facebook page, the Lions' website and on their electronic sign to educate residents about invasive species in Devon.

A DCiB highlight of the summer has been a new initiative: the "Love Your Yard !" campaign where large, highly visible signs are planted on attractive front yards. A sub-committee selected the first four yards and subsequently four new yards are chosen by the recipients of the signs every two weeks. The program has been well-received in the community and the recipients were flattered with being selected to have their beautiful yards recognized with most of them agreeing to be profiled on our Facebook page.

Another popular activity organized and funded by DCiB was a rhubarb leaf steppingstone workshop. It was run by community volunteers who taught participants how to make artistic, concrete stepping stones with rhubarb leaf imprints.

Besides our Facebook page, many of these activities have been covered by our weekly, paper, the *Devon Dispatch*. Even though DCiB had to modify its program in response to COVID-19, we feel that our 2020 plan has further developed the mission of Communities in Bloom.

## Judges' Suggestions from Prior Year (2019)

Suggestion	Implemented	Notes
<b>Tidiness:</b> Regular talks on weeds also serve as an important trigger and reminder.	Yes	Community Connections Café presented a talk on all invasive species in March 2020. The presenter was Doug Macauley, Vice-chair of the Alberta Invasive Species Council.
<b>Tidiness:</b> We suggest in future tours that the judges do a downtown walk so they can get a better picture of tidiness in this area, including the presence or absence of various types of litter.	Yes	This is planned for the 2021 Judges' Tour
<b>Tidiness:</b> Continue with diligent surveillance for weeds in public spaces and reminding residents about their spaces.	Yes	The <i>Weed of the Week</i> was posted on our Facebook and google pages during the summer of 2020 and will be in 2021. It also is on the Lion's Facebook page and on the LED sign on Superior Street. In 2020, we planned a noxious weed pull and to distribute information on noxious weeds. It was rained out. We will plan another weed pull in 2021. We did complete a weed pull in Powerline Park. The most common weed was Canada thistle.
<b>Tidiness:</b> We noticed some creeping bell flower in the grass in Centennial Park. Such areas need persistent maintenance.	Yes	This suggestion has been shared with the Town of Devon.
<b>Tidiness:</b> If there are no recyclable containers in the downtown area, we would suggest some near litter containers.	Verified	On Athabaska Avenue, there are seven garbage receptacles and two recycle receptacles
<b>Tidiness:</b> Continue with reminders to business areas about weeds especially those growing on side streets and against buildings.	Yes	The Chamber of Commerce included this in a newsletter in the spring of 2021. In 2020, The <i>Weed of the Week</i> and a poster to clean up premises reminded all Devon residents and businesses to be weed-free. Weed of the week will also run during the summer of 2021.
<b>Environmental Action:</b> On future tours, the judges may find a quick stop at the recycling station and compost/mulch area useful and interesting.	Yes	It is planned for the 2021 tour.
<b>Environmental Action:</b> On future tours a quick stop at the Esso building especially if the project is moving forward to a net zero building will be useful and informative.	No	This project is currently on hold pending receipt of grant money to implement it.

<p><b>Environmental Action:</b> In keeping with the talk on pollinators organized by the CiB Committee, a workshop for children/adults on building bat houses and bird hotels may further inspire residents to protect and promote pollinators.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>A bee hotel workshop, presented by EALT was held September 19, 2020.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Action:</b> Nature Walks can be even more educational by drawing attention to noxious weeds if that is not already being done.</p>	<p>Pending</p>	<p>Given the pandemic, Nature Walks are currently on hold. They will resume when the threat level from the pandemic dissipates.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Action:</b> Continue with the program, Yellow Fish Road. With the yellow fish painted on the storm drains and “rain only” leaves a powerful message of awareness and educates the children early.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>A small youth group participated in the program in 2020. They painted two storm drains, distributed information to houses in the neighbourhood and presented information to other youth.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Action:</b> Continue with the Ripple Affect Program, not only does it educate in a fun exercise but the brightly painted fish cut out by the Lions Club and painted by the children presents a visible sign of awareness.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>At our 2019 Repair Fair, held in conjunction with Clean-up Treasure Hunt Day, a table was available for the children to learn about the Ripple Affect and to paint a fish. The first displayed, beside the dog park, were hung in 2018. Robina Baker (2019) and Holy Spirit Schools also display fish on the chain link fences in their school yards.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Action:</b> Continue with the environmental sustainability initiatives as they are impressive for a small Community. Continue to share progress with partnerships and other communities.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Environmental Initiatives are valued in our community and are ongoing.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Action:</b> Continue participating on the task force on single use plastics by- law.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Town appointed a community task force. Its recommendations resulted in the passage of a by-law limiting the availability of single use plastic bags. It came into effect January 1, 2020.</p>
<p><b>Environmental Action:</b> Even though summer water restrictions may not be necessary at this point, encourage the residents to collect rainwater as it makes for healthier plants.</p>	<p>Partially</p>	<p>For the <i>Love Your Yard!</i> Program this year, nominees will be asked if there is a rain barrel in their yard. If they do, this will be highlighted in the news articles. We created, and posted, a poster promoting the value of rainwater collection for healthier plants and soils. It also saves money on your water bill, reduces energy use and carbon emissions, and replenishes groundwater.</p>

<p><b>Heritage Conservation:</b> Continue with the project to identify, photograph and geolocate heritage trees as this will be an invaluable legacy for the future.</p>	Yes	<p>This is an on-going project. Version 1 of our <i>Trees of Devon</i> is posted on our website. <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/devoncib/home">https://sites.google.com/view/devoncib/home</a></p>
<p><b>Heritage Conservation:</b> Natural heritage is an important component in this criterion, may we suggest that when the community profile is updated that natural heritage be included in this section for continuity.</p>	Yes	<p>This has been included in our Profile document.</p>
<p><b>Heritage Conservation:</b> We would suggest that in a large area such as Bob McDonald Nature Park, an information board be erected to explain natural heritage.</p>	Yes	<p>The Town of Devon erected information signs at Bob McDonald Park and in Highwood Park explaining the significance of the areas.</p>
<p><b>Urban Forestry:</b> We encourage the CiB Committee to continue working on the Heritage Tree project.</p>	Yes	<p>The sub-committee has been busy over the course of the year. More trees and photos have been added to our data base this past year. We have renamed the project <i>Trees of Devon</i> and have produced the first version of our booklet.</p>
<p><b>Urban Forestry:</b> We noted on our tour that some lovely trees have been planted in public parks unknown to the town staff. Whereas this is a commendable gesture, trees planted in the wrong place may cause maintenance and care issues. If this practice continues, the town may need to inform the residents and set up an application procedure to plant on public property.</p>	Yes	<p>This recommendation has been shared with the Town of Devon.</p>
<p><b>Urban Forestry:</b> Review the Urban Forest Management Plan on a regular basis so that the trees recommended for boulevard planting and other areas are still the best choices in today's environment.</p>	Yes	<p>This recommendation was shared with the Town. The CiB committee is planning to include recommended trees for residential yards in its <i>Trees of Devon</i> publication.</p>
<p><b>Urban Forestry:</b> Continue to follow the Urban Forest Management Plan and update as needed as this is an impressive</p>	Yes	<p>This recommendation has been shared with the Town.</p>

guide to continue having a beautiful urban forest canopy.		
<b>Landscape:</b> The judges next year may be able to see some of the new changes in the Lions Park and Campground and in Voyageur Park.	Yes	This is planned to be in the 2021 tour.
<b>Landscape:</b> We saw many green spaces which are an integral part of the CiB program. We commend Devon for making green spaces such a priority. As we worked on this evaluation, may we suggest that a small part of the tour be also spent in the downtown area as a walking tour and to also view the town entrance sign, banners, cenotaph, memorial plaques, all the murals, the community hall and generally the landscaping and floral displays in the downtown area.	Yes	Will be part of the judges' tour in 2021
<b>Landscape:</b> We hope the garden tour will continue and attract even more volunteers and make the Communities in Bloom Program even more visible in the community. This is such an excellent way to showcase Devon and area gardens. It also facilitates new acquaintances which happens in the Neighbourly Devon program.	Partially	COVID-19 has hampered plans to conduct a second tour. The committee introduced the <i>Love Your Yard!</i> program instead. It allows the community to celebrate residents' commendable efforts at landscaping and follows pandemic protocols.
<b>Floral Displays:</b> As mentioned in landscape, a walking tour of the downtown area would give the judges a better view of the floral displays in these areas.	Yes	The walking tour is to be included in the 2021 tour.
<b>Floral Displays:</b> The library was well-used when we were there. Some large planters in a grouping may make it even more inviting along with a bench, recycle and garbage receptacles.	Partially	The CiB Committee purchased, and donated, two Equinox Planters to the Devon Library in 2020. Since the library is on private property, Alldritt and/or the library would be responsible for the other items. Currently, there is a bench in front of the library ATM which is being used to set out books requested by library patrons.

<p><b>Floral Displays:</b> The planters with vegetables and flowers are an excellent choice. Perhaps they can be made even more spectacular with a taller centre such as a clump of Swiss chard or some planters could have a display of herbs and a mix of vegetables along with the flowers.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>This recommendation was passed on to the Town.</p>
<p><b>Floral Displays:</b> The judges next year may see some of the enhancements made to the beds in Centennial Park.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Centennial Park is planned to be on the tour</p>
<p><b>Floral Displays:</b> As the beds in Centennial Park get renovated, use of plants to attract pollinators could be used in part of a bed as a demonstration of pollinator friendly plants.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>There are pollinator plants in all the beds.</p>
<p><b>Floral Displays:</b> The planters and hanging baskets and the trees with lights on the central boulevard make a striking and colorful display. They are beautiful and well taken care of. We would like to suggest more floral displays along the store fronts. Perhaps store owners can be recognized for attractive displays. The community profile showed an attractive planter made of tires. This may be a good example of a business using creativity in their display. Perhaps a fun challenge to the other store owners may inspire more creativity.</p>	<p>Partially</p>	<p>On April 14, 2020 we had hoped to present our program to the Chamber of Commerce. This recommendation was included as part of it. However, COVID prevented this event from happening. When it became evident that we could not present this year either, information was sent to the Executive Director who planned to put the descriptors, the recommendations and photos in a newsletter.</p> <p>In 2021, the Devon CiB donated an Equinox self-watering planter to two businesses to encourage those businesses to beautify or enhance the front of their buildings.</p>



*Seen from Discovery Place, local resident Laurie Keindel made a poppy in the snow with her boots to pay tribute to the veterans who live at the senior's residents.*



*Devon is nestled along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River*