

# OUR Devon News

TOWN OF  
**Devon**  
ALBERTA

FALL 2019



## Important Dates

Sept. 28 & 29 – Fall Treasure Hunt

Oct. 1 & 2 – Fall Large Item Pick Up

Oct. 2 – Connect with Council  
Open House

Oct. 15 – Utilities Budget

Oct. 26 – Family Halloween Dance

Nov. 23 & 24 – 2020 Operating  
Budget Deliberations

Nov. 30 – Christmas In The Park

Dec. 4 – Seniors Tea and Jingles

December – Winter Program Guide

## Message from Mayor & Council



Mayor  
Ray Ralph

We are halfway through of our term and the work continues as we strive to do our part to build the best Devon possible for our residents.

Waste continues to be an issue throughout the country and we remain committed to finding new and innovative ways for Devon to deal with this growing concern. In August, we appointed a Task Force to focus on single-use waste reduction and work with the Town and Council to develop a strategy to reduce waste in the community.

Indigenous engagement also remains a top priority as we work with our First Nations neighbours to build relationships and work towards reconciliation. This past summer we hosted a number of indigenous based programs to educate our residents and we plan to keep this rolling into the fall to

provide more opportunities to learn about First Nations culture and some of the wisdom it can share with all of us.

On Oct. 2, Council will also be hosting an Open House for residents to drop in and learn about some of our accomplishments in 2019 as well as programs and initiatives we are currently working on as we move into 2020.

Finally, our 2020 Operating Budget Deliberations are scheduled for Nov. 23 and 24 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and I invite all residents to attend at the Town Office as we work towards establishing the Town's operating budget for the coming year.





# Connect with Council Open House



**Date:** Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019

**Time:** 6-8 p.m. (Presentation to start at 6:15 p.m. followed by a moderated Q & A)

**Place:** Devon Community Centre

Last fall, Devon Council held its first Community Open House where they shared some of the initiatives they were working on since being elected in 2017 and what they were hoping to achieve in 2019. Continuing with their commitment to communicating with residents, Council would like to invite Devon residents,

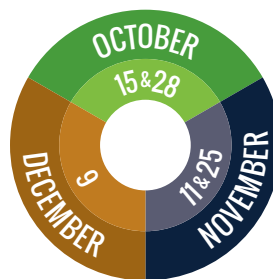
businesses and other interested parties to join them for their 2019 Connect with Council Open House.

Open House attendees will be treated to a short 15-20 minute presentation by members of Council highlighting some of the Town's achievements in 2019 as well as a brief look into what they hope to achieve moving into 2020. Following the presentation there will be a moderated group Q & A session where attendees will be able to submit their questions to be answered by Council.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Council Meetings

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

*\*There is only one Council meeting in December\**



# Town Launches Kitchen Catcher Program for Residents



As a part of the Town's continued commitment to exploring ways for Devon to reduce its environmental footprint, **the Town of Devon is now offering kitchen catchers to Devon residents at no charge** to help decrease the amount of food waste being sent to our landfill.

Devon residents are encouraged to pick up their kitchen catcher at the Town of Devon Office (limit 1 per household).

### Why Kitchen Catchers?

According to a waste audit conducted in 2018, about 34 per cent of the contents of the average residents' black garbage cart was composed of organic waste. Having a kitchen catcher readily available encourages residents to toss their food scraps or other household organic waste into it to be properly disposed of in their green organics cart.

Learn more about organic waste disposal at [devon.ca/organics](http://devon.ca/organics).



## Devon Council Appoints Single-Use Waste Reduction Task Force

With all the changes to the waste and recycling industry this past year, the Town has been exploring new ideas to help reduce its waste footprint and become a more sustainable community. To assist with this, Devon Council is looking to the community for input and is proud to announce the appointment of its Single-Use Waste Reduction Task Force.

The Task Force is comprised of five Devon residents, one member of Devon Council and the Town's Environment and Sustainability Coordinator and will meet monthly until Council deems their task completed. The mandate for the Task Force is to assist the Town with community engagement and the development of a strategy for eliminating

single-use retail plastic bags from distribution in Devon, while exploring additional opportunities for reducing Devon's waste that the Town should consider moving forward.

Learn more about Devon's efforts to reduce single-use waste at [devon.ca/single-use](http://devon.ca/single-use).



Mayor Ray Ralph, CAO Tony Kulbisky, and Devon residents and visitors attended the Treaty Talks film viewing and sharing circle on July 16.



## Devon FCSS Launches 28-day Family FUN-O Challenge



Devon FCSS is launching its first ever Family FUN-O Challenge to encourage Devon families to spend quality time together with a game of UNO each day! The challenge starts on Oct. 1 and will run until Nov. 30.

### The Challenge

To participate in the Family FUN-O Challenge, families will be required to play UNO for 10-25 minutes each day for 28 days. Challengers do not need to complete all the days in a row and can space them out as needed throughout the Oct. 1 – Nov. 30 timeline.

**Week 1**

**10 minutes**  
of UNO per  
day for 7  
days

**Week 2**

**15 minutes**  
of UNO per  
day for 7  
days

**Week 3**

**20 minutes**  
of UNO per  
day for 7  
days

**Week 4**

**25 minutes**  
of UNO per  
day for 7  
days

The term family is used loosely for the challenge and at a minimum may consist of one person over 18 and one person under 18 participating in the household. Those without UNO cards are invited to drop by the Town of Devon Office at #1 Columbia Ave. West to pick up a free pack of cards and game sheet.

Families that complete the challenge and submit their game sheet will be entered into a **grand prize draw of \$200** towards a family outing of their choice. Printable game sheets and a list of rules for the challenge are available at [devon.ca/uno](http://devon.ca/uno).



## Indigenous Program Update

Since the start of Devon's Indigenous Engagement Initiative in May, the Town has been busy putting together cultural awareness events as well as new opportunities for Devon residents and visitors to learn about First Nations and Métis culture.

### Some of the indigenous events the Town has hosted this summer include:

- Presentation by Rocky Ward of Native Counselling Services of Alberta on the impacts of the residential school system in Canada
- A community film viewing of Treaty Talks: Sharing the River of Life
- Two presentations/workshops by Michif Cultural Connection of St. Albert that shared information about Métis culture, language and history and the art of finger weaving
- A medicine bag and beading workshop by Jo Swampy of Maskwacis
- Elder Philip Campious joined the EPCOR RiverFest event for a river blessing and tipi set up
- Sixties Scoop Indigenous Society of Alberta brought their national exhibit Bi-Giwen: Coming Home - Truth Telling from the Sixties Scoop to the Devon Community Centre

Another program scheduled to launch later this fall is called Residents for Reconciliation. This program will provide an opportunity for residents to get together and learn more about indigenous culture and reconciliation.

Indigenous engagement and reconciliation remains a top priority for Devon as the Town remains fully committed to working with Treaty Six Nations and their members to continue down the path of reconciliation in a genuine and holistic manner.

Stay tuned to the Town of Devon website ([devon.ca](http://devon.ca)), Facebook/Twitter accounts and ad pages in the Devon Dispatch to keep up to date on all upcoming indigenous engagement opportunities.



# Devon Communications Survey Results

As a part of Devon Council's commitment to continued improvement communicating with the public, the Town conducted a public survey from July 5 to Aug. 16 to learn where Devon residents and businesses were currently getting their Town of Devon related information from and what types of

information they were interested in receiving from the Town.

All together there were **191 responses** to the survey with some takeaways to help better guide the Town's future communications planning.

## Top 5 ways survey respondents received information



Town of Devon Facebook - 73% (139 respondents)



The Devon Dispatch newspaper - 63% (120 respondents)



Town of Devon website - 53% (101 respondents)



Utility Bill Inserts - 33% (62 respondents)



Lions LED Sign & Our Devon News Newsletter - Both at 25% (48 respondents each)

## Top 5 types of information survey respondents would like to receive



Community Events - 91% (174 respondents)



Recreation Programs - 70% (133 respondents)



Council Decisions & Strategies - 65% (123 respondents)



Tax and Utility Information - 65% (123 respondents)



Policies and Bylaws - 62% (118 respondents)

## Recommendations for Future Communications Planning

Emphasize promotion of Town related information through social media as it is low cost and has proven to be effective

Complete a visual overhaul of the Town of Devon website to increase accessibility

Consider launching an email list that residents can subscribe to for bi-weekly updates on programs and initiatives from the Town



## New Phone Number for Community Peace Officer Complaints

The Town of Devon has signed on with the Yellowhead County

Regional Emergency Communications Centre (YRECC) to provide dispatching services for the Town's Community Peace Officers (CPOs). The new dispatching centre provides Devon residents with a more efficient process to register complaints to the Town's CPOs while

also offering a new level of safety for the Peace Officers.

Residents looking to register complaints to Devon's CPOs are now invited to call **825-316-2008** to submit a complaint. **This number is toll free and answered 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.** To ensure no complaints are missed during the transition, the existing Peace Officer complaint line is being forwarded to the dispatch Centre.

Peace Officer Complaint Line:



**825-316-2008**

## CONTACT US



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@TownofDevon



Office Open Monday to Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
(except holidays)



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