



# Parks

## Devonian Gardens: Backgrounder

March 2017

### General

- In the 1970s, the Devonian Group of Charitable Foundations and Oxford Development donated Devonian Gardens to The City of Calgary.
- Devonian Gardens was created as an indoor park for Calgarians and visitors to enjoy year-round.
- Devonian Gardens originally opened in 1977, and is now located on the fourth floor of The CORE shopping centre in downtown Calgary.
- The Gardens are approximately 2.5 acres (10,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of indoor tropical park.
- Devonian Gardens are Calgary's only indoor park, a unique urban oasis featuring a variety of tropical plants including a Living Wall, a playground and ample seating that invites Calgarians to pause and enjoy nature in an urban setting.
- Devonian Gardens is home to over 550 trees and 10,200 ground covers and shrubs.
- The playground area includes a play structure, bucket spinners and a climbing wall for children, and sitting areas for parents and park users to enjoy the space.
- A major renovation was undertaken from 2007 – 2012, and the Gardens were temporarily closed to the public. During this time, necessary life-cycle work was completed, along with improvements to ensure the Gardens continue to be enjoyed by generations to come.
- The repaired area of Devonian Gardens will be open during The CORE's hours of operation:
  - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
  - Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
  - Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Ongoing repairs

- In 2016 Calgary Parks identified water leaks in some planters for house trees, shrubs and groundcovers.
- The project team continues to investigate the source of the water leaks as they work through the park, repairing the waterproofing in the planter beds.
- The bulk of the work consists of taking trees, plants and soil out of the planters, identifying issues in the planters and then repairing them before replacing the soil and vegetation.
- Costs associated with the water leak repairs are covered under warranty.
- The City initially believed the park would need to be closed completely until all repair work was complete. Because of the approach the project team has taken, areas of the park will be reopened earlier than anticipated.
- For more information on Devonian Gardens and progress of the repairs please visit [calgary.ca/devo](http://calgary.ca/devo). Updates will be provided to the media through The City's Newsroom as we open additional phases throughout the year.