

## From gravel to green, new Downtown park will be serene

June 10, 2016

Downtown Edmonton celebrated the future home of Alex Decoteau Park, which will bring a space to play, meet and relax to the city's centre. The park, which is named after Canada's first aboriginal police officer, will be located at the corner of 105 Street and 102 Avenue and is highly anticipated by the community.



"It's projects like Alex Decoteau Park that shape Downtown as unique, modern and community-minded," said Mayor Don Iveson. "Urban parks play an important role in the appeal of the downtown core, and this park will bring much anticipated green space to the area."

"Alex Decoteau Park is a significant project to our growing Downtown neighbourhood," said Chris Buyze, President of the Downtown Edmonton Community League. "We wanted to create something that was designed by community members, for community members. Downtown is a great place to live and I think Decoteau Park truly reflects that."

Located on 0.35 hectares of land, the park will feature: a community garden; ground-level water sprays that can arch and jump to rhythm and lights; public art; and a fenced off-leash dog park.

Alex Decoteau Park is one of several catalyst projects included in the City's Downtown Plan and is the first Downtown park built in 16 years. The budget for the project is \$4.35 million, which will be funded through the Capital City Downtown Community Revitalization Levy. Alex Decoteau Park is slated to open in 2017.

Alex Decoteau became the first aboriginal police officer in Canada when he joined the Edmonton Police Force in 1909. He was a recognized athlete and competed in the 1912 Olympics. Decoteau enlisted in the Canadian Army at the start of WWI, but was killed in the Battle of Passchendaele in 1917.

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### For more information:

[edmonton.ca/go\\_downtown/alex-decoteau-park](http://edmonton.ca/go_downtown/alex-decoteau-park)

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