

May/June 2004

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Complimentary Copy

Meewasin Valley

Explorer

Meewasin Congratulates Council/CitySpaces on Downtown Plan

The Meewasin board previewed the CitySpaces plan for the south downtown on April 5, 2004. CEO Susan Lamb made the following comments to city council following the preview:

There is a saying that goes: "Make no small plans for they have no ability to stir the hearts of men". Meewasin has had a sneak preview of the new south downtown plan this afternoon.

- ◆ These are no small plans; and
- ◆ They will stir the hearts of men, women, boys and girls of Saskatoon.

The south downtown plan is the most significant urban redevelopment in Saskatoon's 98 years and will be a framework for the next 100.

As you know, Meewasin has been excited about the south downtown since Raymond Moriyama's 100-Year Conceptual Plan. Moriyama identified the opportunity for a people place in the heart of our city in 1978. Meewasin has been part of refining that dream since then including the Affleck Plan and the Mayor's Task Force. We all took a step forward when the city acquired the land almost two years ago and last fall when the province committed \$4 million to fund the riverbank park. Meewasin received the first instalment of \$2.6 million in the last provincial budget and will begin working on the Riverfront in May.

Despite the fact that this is a major step forward, there is still a lot to be done. Meewasin looks forward to working with council and the community as they comment on and refine the plans. Following that input will come the heavy lifting as we finalize the details and attract potential investors.

The concept plan and online input forms are available on the City of Saskatoon web site: www.saskatoon.ca. The public is also encouraged to submit written comments to: South Downtown Project Manager, Facsimile: 975-3070.

Did you know that a "gift plus life annuity" can give you a tax-free monthly cash, a one-time charitable deduction, and help the charity of your choice? Call Meewasin at 477-9124 for more information on Planned Giving options.



Meewasin Valley Authority
402 Third Avenue South
Saskatoon, SK
S7K 3G5

Phone: (306) 665-6887

Fax: (306) 665-6117

E-mail:

meewasin@meewasin.com

Website:

www.meewasin.com

Meewasin - Saskatoon Credit Union Clean-Up Campaign 2004- THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who has, and to those of you who are planning to, take part in this year's campaign. Extending the campaign into a month long event has allowed many more people to participate. Your support for this event is greatly appreciated. If you have not yet registered you can still participate! Visit www.saskatooncreditunion.com or call Meewasin at 665-6888 for details!



Celebrate National Rivers Day on Sunday June 13!

Join Meewasin and the Partners FOR the Saskatchewan River Basin in celebrating the second annual **National River's Day!** Rivers Day takes place across Canada, to celebrate, commemorate, and preserve Canada's spectacular rivers. Canadian rivers represent adventure and discovery. They are a continuing source of beauty and joy for all of us.

Meewasin will be hosting a Shearwater River Celebration Cruise and barbeque from 7 – 9 pm. The cost is \$30.00/person which includes a river cruise and a delicious barbeque onboard the Saskatoon Princess. Pre-registration is required and will be done on a first-come/first pay basis. Register soon, as this event fills up quickly. Contact the Meewasin Valley Centre at 665-6888 for details and to register.



Meewasin Plant A Tree & Memorial Forest Commemoration

Meewasin's 18th Annual Plant-A-Tree & 5th Annual Memorial Forest Commemoration will be held Saturday, June 12th, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the bowl area at Innovation Place (15 Innovation Blvd). Guest speakers will include: Her Honour Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Dr. Lynda Haverstock, Dave Grambo Chair of the Plant-A-Tree committee and the President of Multi-Faith Saskatoon Robert White. Entertainment will include the Walter Murray Collegiate Jazz and the Queen Elizabeth School grades 1-3 choir.



Upcoming Projects at Meewasin

Meewasin has a number of projects planned for the coming season. These projects include the South Downtown Riverfront Project, the Southwest Trail Extension, the Northeast Trail Extension, the Northwest Seating Nodes and work at Rotary Park.



The Southwest Trail Extension is a trail linkage from the existing Meewasin trail south along Spadina Crescent West, across Spadina and into the former Sanatorium site. This trail extension is intended to provide an important neighborhood linkage from the Holiday Park community to the Meewasin Valley.

The Northeast Trail Extension will run from the intersection of Central Avenue and Attridge Drive along the north side of Circle Drive, through Sutherland Beach, and linking to existing pathways at Circle Drive Bridge. This will provide trail access to the Forestry Farm Park and Zoo and the Saskatoon Natural Grasslands.

Northwest Seating Nodes involves the installation of 7 seating nodes/rest stations along the Meewasin trail between the Riverworks Weir and Meewasin Park North. Benches and plant materials will be available for sponsorship through our donations program.

Design plans to restore an area of Rotary Park that was affected by a land slump in 1999 will begin this spring. The project cost is shared by the City and Meewasin and will involve some technical issues as well as the completion of the plantings for this area.

Meewasin Rink



The 2003/2004 skating season has come and gone, and thanks to our supporters, sponsors, and staff, it was a very good season indeed. We had 6,253 visitors from all over the world this season, visitors from Australia to Wales. The rink also hosted a Jam Can Curling Event promoting the Nokia Brier on February 29, 2004. The Meewasin team hopes you enjoyed using the rink this winter and looks forward to seeing you again next winter!

Meewasin Valley Centre and Gift Shop

402 Third Avenue South ~ 665-6888

Open 9 to 5 Weekdays - 12:00 to 5 Weekends & Holidays



May is a Time for Rejuvenation

May 2 - Composters Workshop - For Adults (2 pm)

Composting is an excellent way to get rid of your house and garden garbage and improve the quality of your soil all at the same time. Join the Saskatoon Waste Reduction Council for this "soil improving" program. Please call 665-6888 to pre-register.

May 2 - "Pebble in a Pond" Exhibit Opening - For Everyone (2 to 4 pm)

Everything that we do in this world affects people and environment around us and around the world. This exhibition will examine the fragile nature of our lives and of the environment. The artist will be in attendance and refreshments will be served.

May 9 - Mother's Day - For Kids ages 6 - 12)

Make a beautiful vase and flowers for mom on Mother's Day. Please call 665-6888 to pre-register. Parents/guardians must attend. Program cost \$2.00/craft.

May 16 - Nutana Walking Tour - For Everyone (2 pm)

Join us on a walking tour of the Nutana area and learn some of the history behind the original settlement of Saskatoon. Please call 665-6888 to pre-register.

May 23 - "Saskatoon's Castle" Presentation - For Everyone (2 pm)

Why did the Delta Bessborough Hotel wait 4 years to open after it was finished? Who was the first registered guest? What are some other stories about Saskatoon's Castle? The answers to these questions can be found at the Meewasin Valley Centre today.



May 24 - Queen Victoria's Birthday - For Kids (2 pm)

Learn about Queen Victoria, and learn why we celebrate her birthday every year. We'll make a craft that was popular when Queen Victoria was alive and share birthday cake! This program fills up quickly, so please call 665-6888 to pre-register now! Parents/guardians must accompany. Cost \$2.00/child.



Meewasin Valley Centre Celebrates the South Saskatchewan River in June

June 6 - "Bridge Tales" Presentation - For Everyone (2 pm)

Saskatoon has seven bridges that span the South Saskatchewan River, and Archie, the fictional narrator, has stories about each one. How many do you believe?

June 13 (Day) - Meewasin Trail Hike - For Everyone

Join the U of S Extension Division, Meewasin, Saskatoon Nature Society and Star Phoenix members in celebrating the Meewasin trail. The plan is to hike and explore the trail and learn more about the South Saskatchewan River, the plants, wildlife and even some of the city's history. Please call 665-6888 for more information and to register.



June 13 (Evening) - National River's Day Celebrations - For Adults

In celebration of National River's Day, Meewasin is planning an evening boat cruise along the beautiful South Saskatchewan River. (Please see previous page for more information.) Please call 665-6888 to pre-register for this program.

June 20 - Rainsticks for Dads- For Kids (2 - 4 pm)

Come and learn about the importance of rain and make your own rainstick! Parents/guardians must accompany. Please call 665-6888 to pre-register. Program cost \$2.00/craft.

June 27 - River Critter Discovery- For Kids (2 pm)

This afternoon will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the small creatures that live in our river. We will have a pour-a-pond so that children can safely see these animals and then we will make a fish kite. Please call 665-6888 to register. Parents/guardians must accompany. Cost \$2.00/craft.



July 1 - Canada Day! - For Everyone (2 - 4 pm)

Come and join the Meewasin staff in a celebration of Canada Day. Learn more about the history of our flag, make a Canada Flag Windsock and enjoy some "Canada" birthday cake! Cost \$2.00/craft.



Beaver Creek Conservation Area

Invites You to Explore...

Sensational Scenes of Spring

Marvelous May - Sundays at 2:30 pm

Awaken all of your senses on an interpretive hike and discover who's back and 'springing' to life. Birds, bees, and budding trees will all be here for you to see. Binoculars will be provided.

Jubilant June - Sundays at 2:30 pm



Jump into June by participating in an interpretive hike that celebrates the wonder of water. Discover the wildlife diversity of the watery world of Beaver Creek, the ribbon of life that sustains inhabitants both in and around it.



Group Bookings and Guided Canoe Tours

Book your group adventure at Beaver Creek Conservation Area. Environmentally based programs offer a variety of guided hikes and can be tailored to meet the specific needs of your group.

Guided canoe tours allow you to experience the beautiful South Saskatchewan River in Meewasin's ten-passenger voyageur canoe. Canoe tours leave from Beaver Creek Conservation Area to the South Saskatchewan River returning two hours later to Beaver Creek. Cost is \$20.00 / person.

Canoe tour charters for nine (one canoe) or eighteen (two canoes) are available for special events, birthday parties, reunions and conventions. Cost is \$150.00 / canoe.



Charters sponsored by the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority and Vince Carter Foundation are available at no cost for non-profit groups who program for disadvantaged youth. Call Beaver Creek Conservation Area at 374-2474 for program costs and bookings.

Moonlight Mysteries - May 1 & June 5 (7:30 to 9:30 pm)

Mystery surrounds the full moon and the activities of nocturnal animals. Bring friends and family on **Saturday, May 1** for 'Hare Moon' and **Saturday, June 5** for 'Plant Moon' from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm to unravel some moonlight mysteries. A moon craft and snack included. **Cost is \$5.00 per person. Call 374-2474 to pre-register.** Max. 20 people.



Beaver Creek Conservation Area
follow Lorne Avenue South
13km on Highway #219
Email: meewasin@meewasin.com
Website: <http://www.meewasin.com>



Open May 1 to June 25
9am to 5 pm Daily
June 26 to September 1
9 am to 9 pm Daily

Chip's Hotline: 374-2474



Meewasin 