

Meewasin Valley Explorer



John Lake came to the Saskatoon area from Toronto in 1882. He was looking for a site for a temperance colony. He sought the wisdom of Chief Whitecap from the nearby Whitecap Dakota First Nations. Chief Whitecap suggested the best area for settlement was on the east bank of the river near what is now Victoria Avenue.

September 21, 2007 the communities of Saskatoon and the Whitecap Dakota First Nation came together to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the relationship of the two communities.

The afternoon of September 21, the amphitheatre at River Landing hosted 1000 students from Saskatoon and the Whitecap Dakota First Nation. They quite enjoyed the theatrical re-enactment of the historic meeting of Chief Whitecap and John Lake which was written and produced by Darlene Speidel and Buffalo Boy Productions.



The City of Saskatoon has commissioned Artist Hans Holtkamp to create a bronze statue of Chief Whitecap and John Lake to commemorate the events of 1882. It will become part of the Traffic Circle at the base of the Traffic Bridge in the spring of 2008. As part of the Bridging 125 celebrations Chief Darcy Bear of the Whitecap Dakota First Nation (who arrived by horseback) and City of Saskatoon Mayor Don Atchison and City Council (who arrived by Meewasin canoes) dedicated the site with the unveiling of an interpretive plaque. The day continued with further cultural entertainment at the amphitheatre until dusk, and then a pyrotechnical musical light show from a barge on the South Saskatchewan River. It was a great day for Saskatoon.



The Meewasin Valley Centre Holiday Schedule

December 24 to 26 - the Centre is closed

December 27, 28 - the Centre is open from 9 am to 5 pm

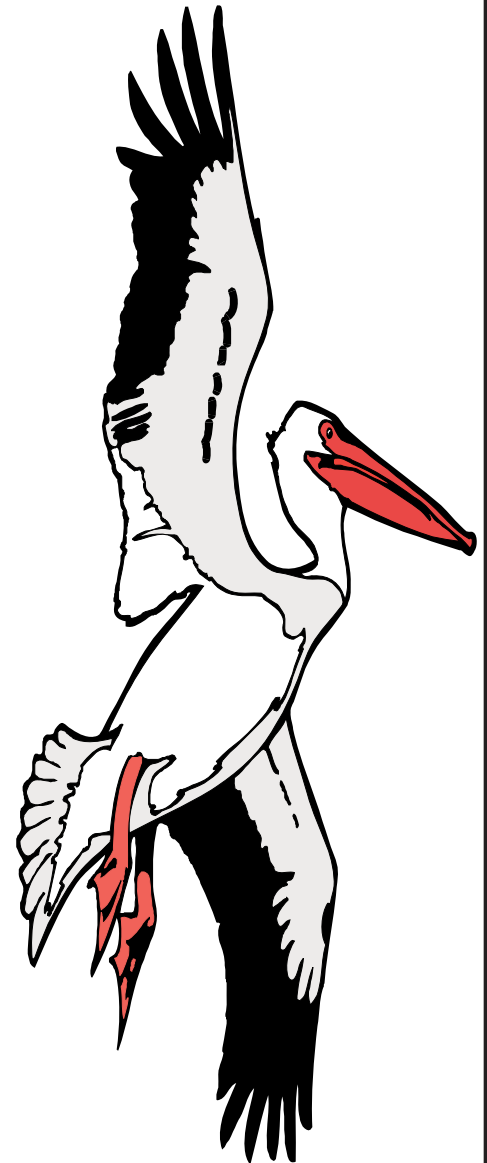
December 29, 30 - the Centre is open from 12 pm to 5 pm

December 31 is open 9 am to 12 pm

January 1- the Centre is closed

January 2 - the Centre is open from 9am to 5 pm

Happy Holidays!



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Saskatoon Community Foundation Plaza

Dr. Donald Somers, Chair of the Cameco Riverfront Campaign for Meewasin, announced a partnership with the Saskatoon Community Foundation to name the plaza next to the Riverfront Pavilion the "Saskatoon Community Foundation Plaza" in recognition of the Foundation's \$50,000 donation to the Cameco Riverfront Campaign. The plaza is a general meeting place at the west end of Riverfront Phase 1 – and will serve as an important landmark on the site. Made up of concrete paving stones, the Plaza will also be the main location for sponsor and donor recognition.

The public can support the Cameco Riverfront Campaign by purchasing a brick in the Saskatoon Community Foundation Plaza for \$250 – limited to 250 bricks. These bricks will be made from Laurentien green granite and will replace the paving stones in the floor of the plaza. Bricks can be engraved with the donor's name or the name of a loved one (maximum 25 characters) as permanent recognition of their support of the most exciting public river project in our city's history.

The Saskatoon Community Foundation's donation of \$50,000 kicks off the program with the first public brick purchased by local businesswoman and Meewasin supporter Karen Turner.

Meewasin and the Cameco Riverfront Campaign thank the Board and staff of the Saskatoon Community Foundation and encourages you to consider putting a "Saskatoon Community Foundation Plaza" brick on your Christmas list this year.

If you are interested in purchasing a brick, contact Celeen at 665-6887.

Click on Climate Kits Available for Free

Click on Climate is an outdoor field day program for teachers, group leaders or parents who are looking for a fun educational activity to do with their kids. Each kit contains the leadership materials and field trip supplies for 1 adult and 5 kids.

Through fun activities, kids learn about climate change and how it can influence the ecosystems in their own backyard, school or park. The program is very versatile and will work if you are looking to fill a half an hour or an entire day.

Due to funding through many different agencies including the Saskatoon Community Foundation and EcoAction Canada, the kits are available free of charge. To pick up your kit please call Lis at 665-6887 or email partners@saskriverbasin.ca.



Traffic Bridge Centenary

Saskatoon's beloved Traffic Bridge turned 100 on October 10, 2007! The Meewasin Valley Centre marked this important event by offering a special walking tour. Visitors learned about the opportunities and challenges the river presented to pioneers, the history of the bridge, and a narrative of Saskatoon's "boom time".



The Twelve Days of Christmas at The Marr Residence 326 11th Street East

Music, stories and old-time hospitality abound when the Marr Residence welcomes visitors December 1 - 12. Each day offers a different theme, based on the traditional Christmas carol. Call the Marr at **652-1201**, for each day's events or to register for a program.

Outdoor Skating at its Finest

Read the Star Phoenix and listen to the radio for the opening day of **Meewasin's Outdoor Skating Rink**, located in Kiwanis Memorial Park. If you don't have a pair of skates you can always borrow a pair at the rink. There is a warm-up shelter and a skate sharpening service available. Donations of used skates are greatly appreciated. Call **665-6887** for details.



Santa's Sack Sale at Meewasin Gift Shop

The fifth annual Santa's Sack Sale is a must-visit event! Make your selections in Meewasin's Gift Shop and then choose your discount from Santa's Sack. You will receive from 10 - 50% off your purchases of nature and heritage items! The sale runs during the **Twelve Days of Christmas** (Dec.1-12) so make sure the Gift Shop is one of your stops.



Meewasin Valley Centre *and Gift Shop*

402 Third Avenue South ~ 665-6888

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

November is a Month of Memories

On Display in November & December - "Patterns of Nature" by Linda Regehr.

This collection of landscape oil paintings and giclee prints on canvas features predominantly central and northern Saskatchewan scenes, inspired in part by the artist's childhood in North Central Saskatchewan.

November 4 - Gallery Opening - "Patterns of Nature" - For Everyone (12 - 2 pm)

The Meewasin Valley Centre is hosting an Open House today to showcase the art of Linda Regehr. Come visit the Centre, view our displays, and the artwork. Refreshments will be served.

November 11 - "Remember Me" - For Everyone (Every Half-Hour)

We don't realize how many war memorials we have in Saskatoon until they are shown in this 15 minute presentation. Take some time to remember Canadian soldiers who fought for our freedom.



November 18 - Santa Claus Parade Warm-up Station - For Everyone (All day)

The Centre will be open today only from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The 17th Annual Santa Claus parade kicks off the winter season for Saskatoon. Visit the Meewasin Valley Centre after the parade to warm up your noses as you explore our exhibits.



November 25 - "Deck the Halls" - For Kids ages 6-12 (2 pm)

Join a Meewasin Interpreter and help get our Centre ready for the holidays! We'll paint windows, decorate the walls and hang the lights as we prepare the Centre for the holiday season.

Call 665-6888 to register.

It's a Timeless Season at the Meewasin Valley Centre



December 9 - Clay Ornament Workshop - For Everyone (2 pm)

Save a spot on your Christmas tree for these ornaments! We'll have all the supplies you need to make a special ornament for your own tree or to give away. Call 665-6888 to register. Cost is \$2.00/craft.

December 16 - A Multicultural Winter Celebration - For Everyone (2 pm)

December is a celebratory month the world over. Participants will learn more about how other cultures mark this time of year and make a craft to take home. Cran will visit with us afterwards.

Please call 665-6888 to register. Cost is \$2.00/craft.

December 28 to 30 - New Year's Noisemakers - For Everyone (All day)

Welcome the year 2008 with a bang! We'll have all the materials here for you to make some crackers to use on Dec. 31. There will be a \$1.00 fee for each cracker. Call 665-6888 for details.



***Programs are for the general public. If your group wishes to participate, please call 665-6888 to book a separate time. A nominal fee may be charged.

Beaver Creek Conservation Area

November & December



Beaver Creek Conservation Area is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and closed on weekends. Weekday daytime group bookings are available throughout November and December by arrangement. Interpretive programs are \$35.00/hour/interpreter. **Call Beaver Creek Conservation Area at 374-2474 for information on fees and program details.**

Christmas Holiday Week - December 26 to January 1

Beaver Creek Conservation Area is open from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily during this time for you to bring family and friends out to enjoy a winter walk. Fun for the whole family with nature trail and Interpretive Centre activities, nature movies and popcorn.

On **Boxing Day - December 26** help us keep track of our feathered friends at our **Boxing Day Bird Count.**



Did you know?

Different people's cultures hold interesting legends, symbols and folklore regarding birds. Large raptors like hawks and eagles are symbols of power and strength. Owls are symbols of mystery and wisdom. A raven's burbling and croaking call means that the bird is carrying a message to the gods. Other species of birds present in people's folklore include the loon for madness, the dove for peace, the swan for pride, the goose for confusion, and the swallow for travel. As with the crow, a single magpie meant sorrow and two signified joy. If you witness a woodpecker flying to the right this is a sign of good luck. According to legend the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker received its many hues as consolatory gifts from other birds because it had been too tipsy on birch juice to attend the official distribution of colors.

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



November & December
9 am - 5 pm Weekdays
Closed Weekends & Holidays
Open Christmas Holiday Week
Dec. 26, 2006 to Jan.1, 2007
Noon to 5 pm Daily

Chip's Hotline: 374-2474

Meewasin 