

# Meewasin Valley Explorer

## Moriyama Awarded Order of Canada

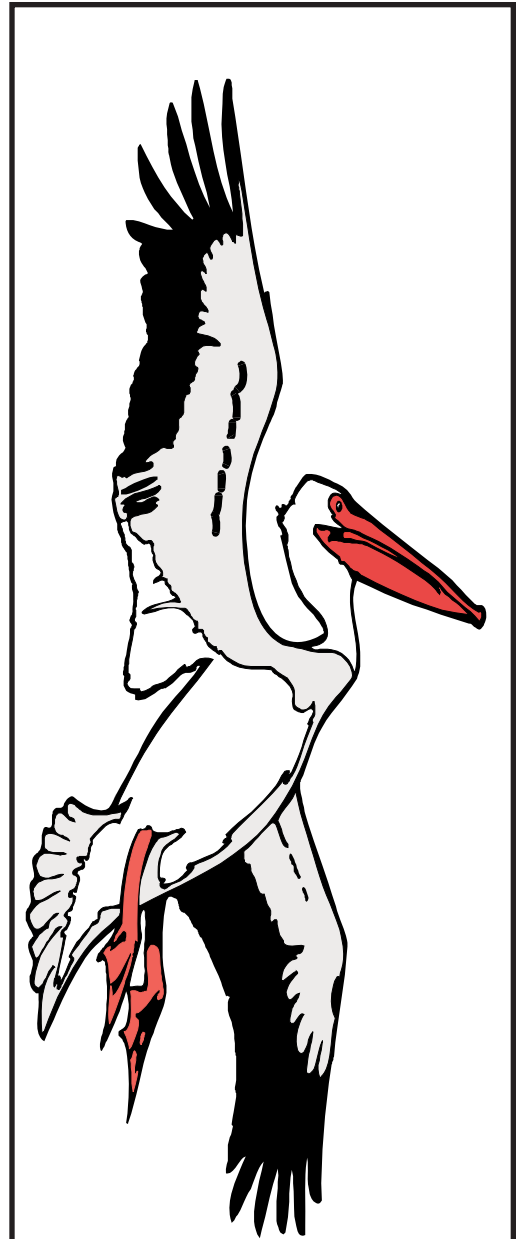
In the rush of heavy news stories these past weeks one went unnoticed that has significance for Saskatoon. Governor-General Michaëlle Jean named architect Raymond Moriyama a companion of the Order of Canada. He was one of only five people to receive Canada's top honour and his nomination has special significance for Saskatoon.

Moriyama and his team with Moriyama and Teshima Architects set out 30 years ago to develop the "100 Year Conceptual Master Plan" for our river valley. The plan looked at the 60 or more riparian kilometres in and around Saskatoon. Among others, visionaries Cliff Wright, Roy Romanow and Leo Kristjanson representing the city, province and the university respectively gave Moriyama and his team, including planner George Stockton, a mandate to develop a direction for Saskatoon's most precious natural resource. Saskatoon icon Peggy McKercher became the chair of the new organization that resulted, and top administrator Wes Bolstad its first CEO.

Moriyama drew attention to many of the natural areas like Cranberry Flats, Beaver Creek and Yorath Island. But he is perhaps best known for his visionary ideas about Tipperary Creek (now Wanuskewin Heritage Park), the south downtown (now River Landing) and a major interpretation centre. On the latter, Meewasin has recently hired Moriyama and Teshima architects to develop a new interpretive centre on the riverbank.

Moriyama is known internationally and nationally for his work, but it is in Saskatoon that he has probably left the most lasting impact. As a young architect starting out he said he always wanted to build a school, a city hall and a cathedral. In looking back, he said Meewasin was his cathedral, a spiritual place right in the middle of the city.

Meewasin means 'beautiful' in Cree and Moriyama's work has changed the face of Saskatoon and its most precious natural resource forever.



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## The Meewasin Valley Centre Holiday Schedule

December 24	The Centre is open from 9 am to Noon
December 25 & 26	The Centre is closed
December 31	The Centre is open from 9 am to Noon
January 1	The Centre is closed

## Kinsmen Fishing Platform



The concept of an “accessible to all” fishing platform near the weir has always been a part of the Meewasin 100 Year Plan. The donation by the Kinsmen Club of Saskatoon to the Cameco Trails Campaign in 2001 allowed that dream to become a reality. The project was near completion in June 2005 when unprecedented flooding in the river valley had the fishing platform underwater for a period of time. Since then Meewasin has undertaken geotechnical and engineering studies on the area to determine what damage was done by the flooding to the riverbank and the best way to complete the project.

Work began Monday September 22. Meewasin excavated to provide a stable path base and will ultimately install pre-cast concrete slabs in accordance with accessibility standards, allowing for a choice of three fishing locations depending on water levels. Work should be completed in the near future.

Thank you to the latest supporter of the Riverfront Water Play! Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation contributed \$40,000 so children can have fun while they learn about the Saskatchewan River Basin!

### Gifts for that hard-to-please person? Think Meewasin!

Sponsor a seating block, bench or commemorative brick to honour the memory of a loved one, pay tribute to a friend or relative, or mark a special occasion. A limited number are still available at the Riverfront.

Bricks are made of granite and installed in the Saskatoon Community Foundation Plaza. They can be inscribed with a printed name or message. Benches are made of "Ipe wood", a forest stewardship product, and seating blocks are fashioned from concrete.

For more information, contact:  
Celeen at 306-665-6887

### Christmas at The Marr Residence 326 11th Street East



Music, stories and old-time hospitality abound when the Marr Residence welcomes visitors the weekend of December 5 - 7. Each day offers a different theme. Call the Marr at **652-1201**, for each day's events or to register for a program.

### St. Joseph Interpretive Walking Tours

In September Meewasin Staff toured approximately 70 grade nine and ten students around St. Joseph High School grounds. Meewasin staff explained to the students, their



relationship to Meewasin via Partners in Education as well through the watershed. Meewasin staff also had a chance to discuss biodiversity and the benefits to the environment, the conservation easement and why their school ground looks the way it does.

There are different types of management practices used in the ecosystem around the high school. Some of these practices include minimal irrigation, plant establishment, eradicating noxious weeds, and minimal mowing which takes place twice a year after the ground nesting season.

### 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 sixth 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

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

402 3rd Avenue South  
Phone: 665-6888

## November "A Month of Memories"

### On Display in November and December – "Challenge Your Imagination"

Delve into the creative world of Paul Bedford Mitchell (1906-1986); a diverse, mysterious and sometimes strange collection. Submerge yourself in the mystical blues and purples of stormy seascapes, the essence of human fragility in earthy heartbreak and light cast in the fiery oranges of lust. Be moved by themes of solitude, community, reverence and rapture. Witness the passionate play of hot and cold on canvas.



### November 2 - Gallery Opening - "Challenge Your Imagination" - (12 - 2 pm)

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

### Nov 9 - Walking Tour (The Path of Remembrance) - For Everyone (2pm)

### November 11 - "Remember Me" Presentation and Craft - For Everyone (Video 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 23 - Animal Adaptations - For Kids 6-12 (2pm)

Come and learn how animals in and around Saskatoon get ready for the winter season, and make your own 'adapter' to take home! Call 665-6888 to register. Cost \$2.00/ craft

### November 30 - "Deck the Halls" - For All Ages (2 pm)

Join a Meewasin Interpreter for some crafts and treats, and help get our Centre ready for the holidays! We'll paint windows, and decorate the galleries as we prepare the Centre for the holiday season.

## December "A Timeless Season"

### December 7 - Sustainable Christmas Decorations - For All Ages (2 pm)

Save a spot on your Christmas Trees for these ornaments! We'll have all the supplies you need to make a neat ornament from recycled materials, like cd's and lightbulbs. Call 665-6888 to register. \$2.00/Craft

### December 14 – Candle Making – Youth/Adults 12 Years and Over (2 pm)

Have you ever wondered how Pioneers made candles 100 years ago? Join us for an historic afternoon of candle making and make your own unique candle to take home. Call 665-6888 for more information and to register. \$2 Per Person.

### December 20- 23 – Christmas Matinee Classics

Come join us for a Christmas Classic daily at 2pm. Popcorn and drinks will be available for a small charge. Call in ahead of time for the list of videos we will be showing.

### December 21 – Christmas Crackers - For Everyone (All Day)

Christmas is around the corner. Let's make some noise. We'll have all the materials here for you to make some crackers to use for Christmas. \$1.00 Per cracker. Call 665-6888 for details.

### 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.

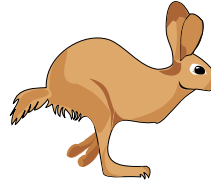
*Programs are for the general public. If your group wishes to participate, please call 665-6888 to book a separate time. A nominal fee may be charged.*

# Beaver Creek Conservation Area

Open 9:00 to 5:00 Weekdays

Follow Lorne Avenue South  
13Km on Highway #219  
Phone: 374-2474

## November & December



**B**eaver 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

**B**eaver 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?

**A** penny weighs 2.5 grams and a Black-capped Chickadee weighs 11 grams. That means the Black-capped Chickadee weighs the same as 4 pennies and is able to survive our Saskatchewan winter - wow! Other animals active at Beaver Creek Conservation Area on top of and below the snow and some swimming under the creek ice are:

Deer Mouse 28 grams = 11 pennies  
Female Long-tailed Weasel  
80-250 grams = 32-100 pennies  
Male Long-tailed Weasel  
160-450 grams = 64-180 pennies  
Snowshoe Hare 1.4 kilograms = 560 pennies  
Red Fox 3.5-7.0 kilograms = 1,400-2,800 pennies  
Coyote 9-22 kilograms = 3,600-8,800 pennies

Muskrat 1.5 kilograms = 600 pennies  
Beaver 14-29 kilograms = 5,600-11,600 pennies  
Female Mule Deer 50-80 kilograms = 20,000-32,000 pennies  
Male Mule Deer 100-175 kilograms = 40,000-70,000 pennies  
Downy Woodpecker 27 grams = 11 pennies  
Hairy Woodpecker 66 grams = 26 pennies  
Great Horned Owl 1.4 kilograms = 560 pennies  
Common Raven 1.2 kilograms = 480 pennies

## Beaver Creek Conservation Area

Follow Lorne Avenue South  
13km on Highway #219  
Email: [meewasin@meewasin.com](mailto:meewasin@meewasin.com)  
Website: [www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com)

Chip's Hotline: 374-2474



## November & December

9 am - 5 pm Weekdays  
Closed Weekends & Holidays  
Open Christmas Holiday Week  
Dec. 26, 2008 to Jan.4, 2009  
Noon to 5 pm Daily

Meewasin