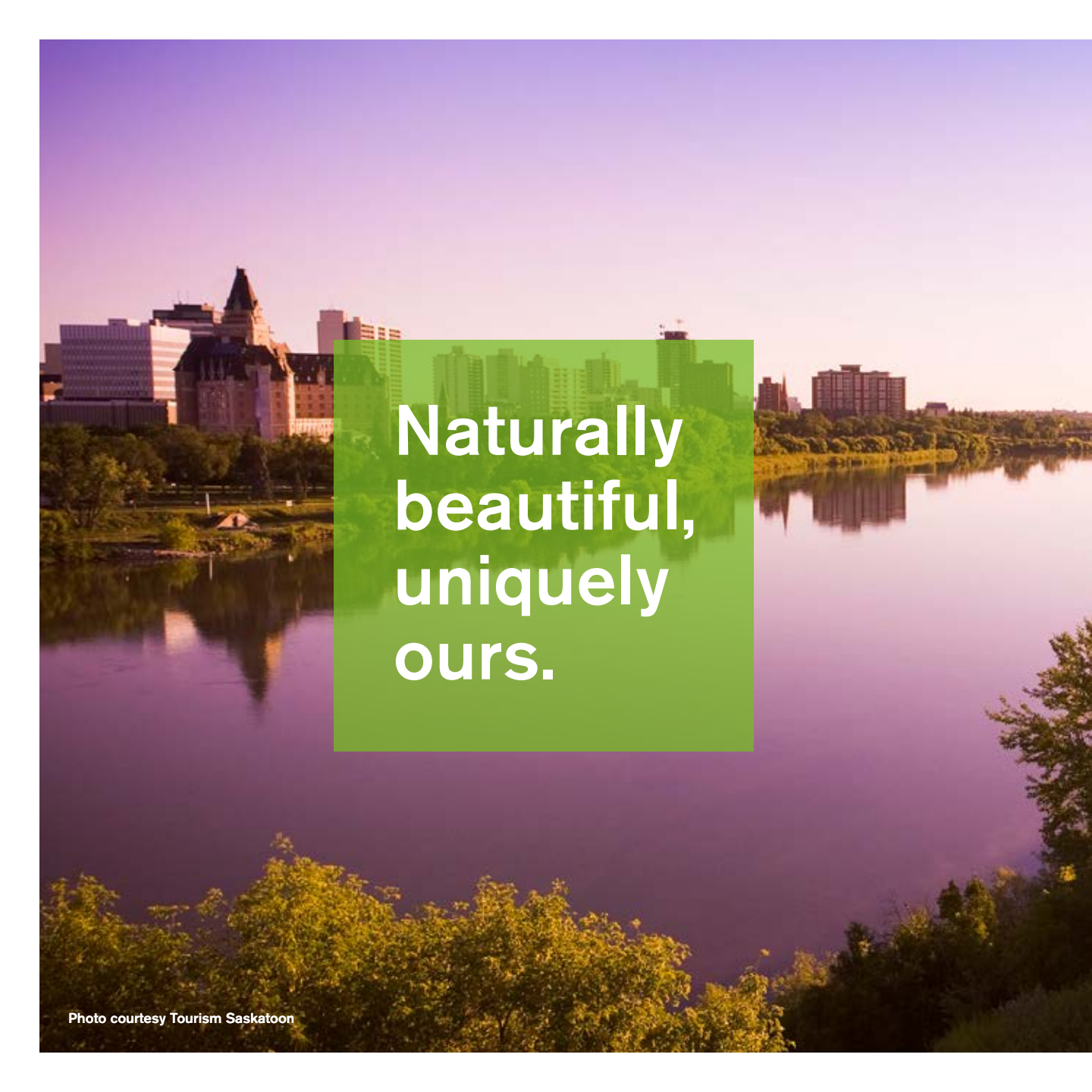



A WORLD-CLASS CORRIDOR

**Naturally
beautiful,
uniquely
ours.**

A scenic view of a city skyline across a river at sunset. The sky is a mix of purple and orange. The city skyline includes a prominent building with a dark, pointed roof. The river reflects the sky and the city. In the foreground, there are green trees. A green semi-transparent box is overlaid on the image, containing the text "Naturally beautiful, uniquely ours." in white.

**Naturally
beautiful,
uniquely
ours.**

Photo courtesy Tourism Saskatoon

A scenic landscape featuring a river, a bridge, and a forested hill under a clear sky. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden glow and long shadows across the trees and water. A bridge is visible in the distance on the left side of the river.

A WORLD-CLASS CORRIDOR

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A Message from the Chair and CEO

The vision for Meewasin speaks to the importance of health, community and legacy in the valley. It provides an exciting opportunity to reflect, to look to the future and to consider how Meewasin can nurture the highest quality of life for all. Developed in consultation with stakeholders, this vision reflects the aspirations of a community.



Jack Vicq, Chair



Lloyd Isaak, CEO

Meewasin is working to bring a new strategic plan to life. As a conservation organization, Meewasin is facing new and increasing challenges. Population growth is changing demographics and sustainability issues continue to emerge.

Conservation of the Meewasin Valley is a shared responsibility of the City of Saskatoon, Province of Saskatchewan, University of Saskatchewan and the community in which they serve. Continuous collaboration of these three participating parties and the community and a renewed commitment are needed to successfully achieve the goals outlined in this plan.

The Meewasin Strategic Plan 2014-2024 is a call to action. Its purpose is to take us another ten years into the Moriyama 100-Year Plan.

A Message from Raymond Moriyama

35 years the South Saskatchewan River has flowed by the banks of Saskatoon since the Meewasin Valley Authority was created. To bring birth to the 100-Year Plan of Meewasin Valley there were many battles until its virtues, benefits and its true long-term values were recognized by local, regional and worldwide citizens and organizations.

Much has been accomplished by the foresight, invaluable decisions and actions taken by the Meewasin Valley Authority in those 35 years. Meewasin Valley has come a long way. However, with the growth of population, climate change and the

limited natural resources, even greater challenges face the Meewasin Valley Authority in the next decade and more.

Thus, I truly welcome Meewasin Valley Authority's Plan 2014-2024.



Raymond Moriyama, Architect

I also believe that, today, the original concept of 'Health, Balance and Fit' holds even truer. Issues related to environmental infrastructure, urban sustainability and regional growth, especially in arid Saskatchewan, are becoming even more crucial requiring the attention and coordinated actions of many authorities and parties.

I pray the greater understanding of citizens today will assist you in your leadership and your success. Please continue to grow the Legacy of Meewasin Valley in the next decade as the Meewasin Valley Authority aspires higher and becomes a World Leader.

An aerial photograph of a park path. Two people are riding bicycles on the path, and a man is walking on the right side. The path is surrounded by green grass and young trees with yellowing leaves. Two tall, dark brown light poles are visible on the path. A large, semi-transparent green square is centered over the image, containing the word "Mission" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Mission

Photo courtesy Tourism Saskatoon

Conserve. Develop. Educate.

The Meewasin Valley Authority exists to ensure a healthy and vibrant river valley, with balance between human use and conservation for the benefit of present and future generations.

Planning Principles

- Valley's resources are accessible to everyone
- Conserve natural and heritage resources
- Recreation and development balanced with conservation
- Diverse activities for a varied and changing demographic
- Public participation in decision making

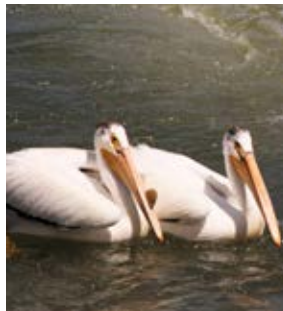


Photo courtesy Tourism Saskatoon



Photo courtesy Gary Houlder

An aerial photograph showing a brick church steeple with a cross on top in the foreground. In the background, a wide river flows under a large, multi-arched stone bridge. The area is surrounded by lush green trees. A semi-transparent green rectangle is overlaid in the center of the image, containing the word "Vision" in white text.

Vision

Photo courtesy Gary Houlder

Introduction

In developing this vision for the Meewasin Valley, we reached out to our board, staff, partners, stakeholders and the public for input.

We heard a clear consensus that the Meewasin Valley is an icon that should be protected for future generations. This informed and inspired our vision for the Meewasin Valley:

A World-Class Corridor

Action is needed to respond to the opportunities of growth and to maintain the high quality of the Meewasin Valley experience.

This document describes our vision for a world-class corridor and identifies key directions towards achieving that goal.

This vision consists of **3 themes**:

Healthy and vibrant

Sense of community

Protecting the legacy

Healthy and vibrant

A healthy, natural river corridor supporting the wellbeing of present and future generations

The Meewasin Trail is a destination trail that showcases and animates Saskatoon's iconic river valley

Vibrant promotion, programs and events attract local visitors, tourism and business year round

What we are proposing is a concept of enriching life and human values...

Moriyama 100-Year Plan

Key Directions:

- Update Meewasin Valley boundaries to secure riverbank and significant natural and heritage areas
- Extend the Meewasin Trail and amenities to better serve a community that is growing quickly
- Promote participation and appreciation by planning for and supporting activities and programs in all seasons



Healthy and vibrant

Update Meewasin Valley boundaries to secure riverbank and significant natural and heritage areas

Projects:

- Develop land policy to guide amendments to jurisdiction
- Formalize jurisdiction amendment and documentation process
- Acquire and release lands consistent with land policy

Deliverable:

Alter Meewasin jurisdictional boundary to include all appropriate lands currently within city limits

Extend the Meewasin Trail and amenities to better serve a community that is growing quickly

Projects:

- Planning, design and construction of Destination Trail and nodes – Wanuskewin to Whitecap
- Design and construction of Southwest Corridor Trail and nodes –Sanatorium to Circle Drive
- Improvement of trail connection to neighborhoods with backshore links

Deliverable:

Trail extensions to Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Chief Whitecap Park and from the Sanatorium site to the Circle Drive South Bridge (SW) are planned and constructed

Promote participation and appreciation in all seasons by planning and supporting activities and programs

Projects:

- Enhanced communication and promotion of programs and events in all seasons
- Evaluation of cross-country skiing pilot programming and improvement of groomed trails
- Design and construction of facilities to support cold weather activities and programs

Deliverable:

Each quarter hosts at least 2 unique programs and 2 events.
10 social media posts are created each month



Sense of community

Residents are stewards, communicating the value of conserving natural and heritage features

Multiple uses exist in harmony and are supported by a culture that reinforces the concept of shared spaces

The Meewasin Valley is a vibrant space with something for everyone and reflects our diversity

The spine is the river

Moriyama 100-Year Plan

Key Directions:

- Foster community participation and meaningful contribution to conservation and development projects
- Conduct planning to improve the safety and coordination of river access for all users
- Formalize approaches to serve the interests and values of changing demographics in our community



Photo courtesy Tourism Saskatoon

Sense of community

Foster community participation and meaningful contribution to conservation and development projects

Projects:

- Formalize partnerships for research and stewardship in the Northeast Swale
- Identify initiatives to increase capacity for community involvement in conservation
- Continue partnerships for stewardship with Partners for the Saskatchewan River Basin, Marr Residence, South Saskatchewan River Watershed Stewards Incorporated, Wanuskewin Heritage Park

Deliverable:

All Meewasin committees meet at least 2 times a year. Annually, Meewasin hosts 5 unique opportunities to volunteer in conservation, stewardship or development activities

Conduct planning to improve the safety and coordination of river access for all users

Projects:

- Conduct a review to determine recreation needs in the river valley
- Conduct a review to determine river access needs for all user types

Deliverable:

A review of valley wide recreation, including on-water access, is completed

Formalize approaches to serve the interests and values of changing demographics in our community

Projects:

- Build on existing partnerships to improve program delivery for specific demographic groups
- Ongoing evaluation and identification of gaps and barriers for public participation
- Continued public communications using both traditional and social media approaches

Deliverable:

Partner organizations are identified. Meewasin has met with each to explore and determine opportunities



Photo courtesy Tourism Saskatoon

Protecting the legacy

Innovative and holistic resource management approaches conserve natural and heritage resources

Amenities, natural areas and trails within the Meewasin Valley are able to accommodate increased use

The Meewasin Valley is an outdoor classroom, engaging audiences of all ages in active learning

If the scales are to be tipped at all, let them tip on the side of listening to the whispers of the land and the wisdom of the forefathers...

Moriyama 100-Year Plan

Key Directions:

- Develop a framework for conservation planning aimed at maintaining biodiversity and heritage valley-wide
- Improve and refresh infrastructure to optimize the carrying capacity of the existing park and trail network
- Renew the Meewasin Valley Interpretive Plan with an aim to enhance experiential learning opportunities

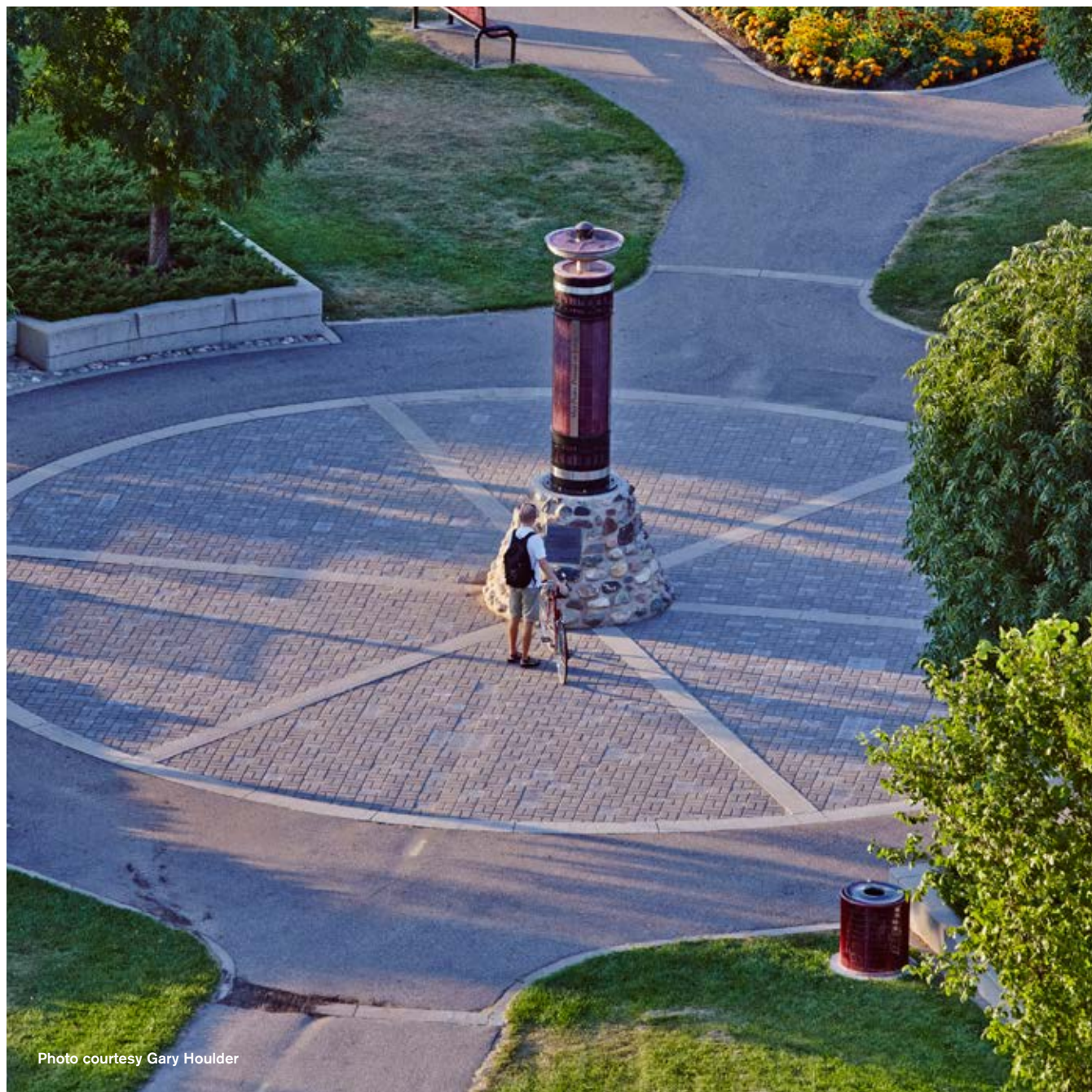


Photo courtesy Gary Houlder

Protecting the legacy

Develop a framework for conservation planning aimed at maintaining biodiversity and heritage valley-wide

Projects:

- Renew the Meewasin Development Plan and policies
- Develop a valley wide framework for conservation of heritage and natural areas
- Establish resource management plans as identified by the conservation framework

Deliverable:

A policy review is completed and required resource management plans are determined

Improve and refresh infrastructure to optimize the carrying capacity of the existing park and trail network

Projects:

- Complete a Trail Study to assess and recommend upgrades to existing trail network
- Renew the Valley Wide Master Trail Plan based on result of Trail Study
- Estimate costs to optimize trail capacity and address the infrastructure deficit

Deliverable:

Based on the assessment of current and projected usage and current trail conditions, initiate and complete a trail upgrade at the highest priority location

IMPLEMENTATION

Renew the Meewasin Valley Interpretive Plan with an aim to enhance experiential learning opportunities

Projects:

- Renew Meewasin Interpretive Concept to guide valley wide programming
- Develop Northeast Swale interpretive plan, coordinated with trail planning
- Renewal of Meewasin Valley Centre based on concept of “History Comes to Life”

Deliverable:

An updated interpretive plan with intended outcomes is in place, supporting budget allocation for development



Photo courtesy John Gertsmar

Meewasin's role

The following elements describe why Meewasin is uniquely situated to bring this vision to life.

Experience and Knowledge

- Meewasin is a community leader in collaborative and integrated approaches
- Meewasin has specialized knowledge in local natural resources and cultural history

Leveraging Support

- Meewasin generates funds through sponsorship, grants and donations
- Meewasin leverages in-kind donations of land and volunteer hours

Partnerships

- Meewasin champions the goals of organizations who share common values
- Collaborating with Meewasin should be easy and bring added value

Legal

- Meewasin Valley Authority Act
- Public participation in decision making

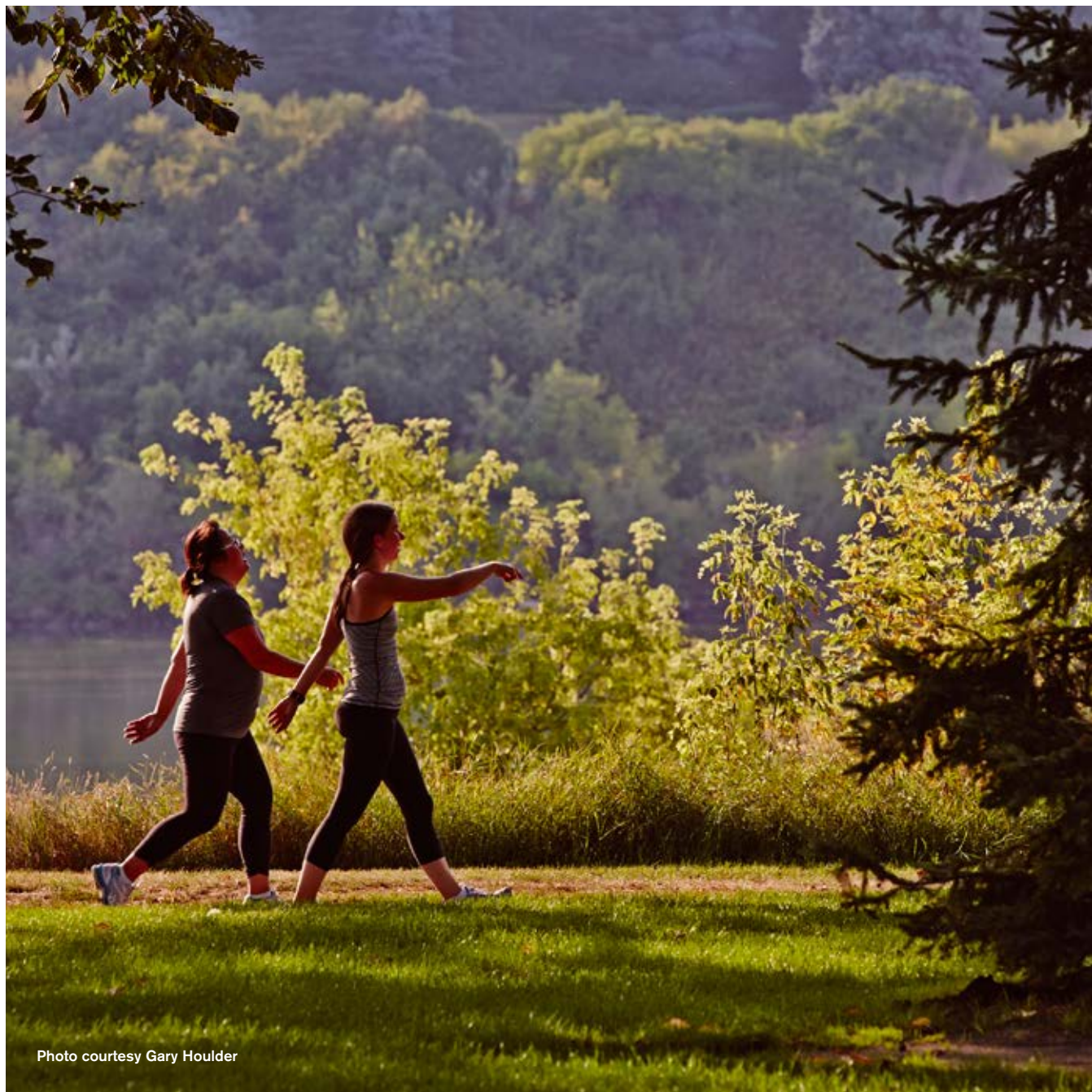


Photo courtesy Gary Houlder

Awards

To date Meewasin has won over 30 awards, here's the last 10 years:

2004

- Canadian Society of Landscape Architects confers Regional Honour upon Crosby Hanna & Associates for outstanding achievement in the profession of Landscape Architecture for Riverworks

2005

- Premier's Awards of Excellence in Design, Category: Landscape Architecture, Awarded to: Crosby Hanna & Associates, Project: Riverworks Weir Redevelopment
- Excellence on the Waterfront, Waterfront Center Annual Award – Honor Award, Meewasin Riverworks Weir and Crosby Hanna & Associates for a quality waterfront project selected in a juried competition.

2006

- Thiess Riverprize International Finalist
- Best Outdoor Skating Spot in Canada – Readers Digest

2007

- Premier's Awards of Excellence in Design, Category: Landscape Architecture, Awarded to: Crosby Hanna & Associates, Project: River Landing – Riverfront Master Plan
- Canadian Society of Landscape Architects confers National Merit upon John Gerstmar for the outstanding achievement in the profession of Landscape Architecture for Landscape Management: Biodiversity through Sheep Grazing

2008

- Royal Architectural Institute of Canada National Awards Program: Urban Design Award – Certificate of Merit for approved or adopted urban design plans awarded to Crosby Hanna & Associates in recognition of River Landing Riverfront Master Plan

- Canadian Society of Landscape Architects confers Regional Merit upon Crosby Hanna & Associates for the outstanding achievement in the profession of Landscape Architecture for the River Landing Riverfront Master Plan
- Member of the Year Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association for outstanding achievement in the improvement of parks and recreation in Saskatchewan
- Finalist, The Green Award NSBA Business Awards

2009

- Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development – Recognition Program acknowledges Meewasin – Riverfront at River Landing as an innovative project that has helped to increase the capacity for sustainable development in the Saskatchewan region and contributed to the advancement of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).

2010

- City of Saskatoon Heritage Award for Heritage Space, Kedge Anchor, River Landing Riverfront (at Traffic Bridge), presented to Lloyd Isaak, Meewasin Valley Authority in recognition of outstanding commitment in preserving Saskatoon's heritage resources.

2011

- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association – Cecil Nobes Facility Award of Excellence for Meewasin's Kinsmen Fishing Platform for construction of a new facility that has improved parks and recreation in Saskatchewan.

2012

- Top 10 Greatest Hikes in Canada – Readers Digest
- Saskatchewan Masonry Design Awards – Honourable Mention Architectural-Commercial: Small Footprint – Meewasin Rink Development
- Star Phoenix 52 Reasons to Love Saskatoon – Meewasin Valley totaled 23 of them

2013

- City of Saskatoon Heritage Award – Honourable Mention for the Restoration Exterior for the A.L. Cole Pumphouse
- National Geographic Travel's 50 Places of a Lifetime

2014

- Premier's Awards of Excellence in Design Award of Merit for Integrated Design of the Kinsmen Park & Area Master Plan
- Saskatchewan Tourism – Land of Living Skies Award, honors a tourism business that respects the three pillars of sustainable tourism development – economic viability, environmental sustainability and cultural appropriateness



Photo courtesy Gary Houlder





Photo courtesy Tourism Saskatoon



Photo courtesy City of Saskatoon

meewasin.com

