



Meewasin Valley Authority  
402 Third Avenue South  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K3G5  
Phone (306) 665-6887 Fax (306) 665-6117

**NEWS RELEASE**

**for immediate release**

## **Meewasin's Kinsmen Riverfront Enhancements Begin** February 17, 2021

**With approvals met and construction contract awarded, enhancements to the Parking Lot at the Kinsmen riverfront site will begin in early 2021. This project is on Treaty 6 Territory and the homeland of the Métis.**

Meewasin is enthusiastic about the pending start of enhancements to the parking lot at the Kinsmen Riverfront. Meewasin is working closely with the City of Saskatoon, Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan, Nutrien Wonderhub and The Prairie Lily during construction. Project funding is part of Meewasin's capital budget plus the generous financial support of the City of Saskatoon and the Trans Canada Trail (TCT).

The project site, adjacent to Kinsmen Park and the South Saskatchewan River, spans from the Nutrien Wonderhub to the Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan site. This project focuses on upgrades to the parking lots and associated pedestrian connections. The two existing parking lots will be combined into one lot, resulting in an increase in available parking plus a new drop off zone. Pedestrian and traffic flow through the area will see significant improvements.

Construction will be underway in the next few weeks, beginning with vegetation removals in the parking lot area. Two smaller trees will be relocated on site and close to 100 plants have been previously salvaged and moved to our nursery for future planting at other locations. Most of the harvested wood will be salvaged for projects at other Meewasin sites. New construction includes curb, asphalt, lighting, storm sewer, sidewalk connections, and signage. Replanting will be undertaken as part of this project and subsequent phases of work, resulting in an overall net gain in vegetated areas when the project is complete.

Trail and parking lot closures and detours will be necessary to allow construction to proceed while maintaining public and contractor safety. Site users are asked to respect the construction activity and use designated detours outside of the work zone. Be sure to check [www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com) for any updates on these expected closures and detours.

Subsequent phases of work include enhancements to the adjacent existing primary trail through the site (on a new alignment), an upgraded riverfront stair and ramp connection down to the Prairie Lily dock, and enhancements to the lower trail from the dock heading north. The timeline for subsequent phases has not been determined and is contingent on funding.

**For more information, contact Andrea Lafond at 306-665-6887 or at [alafond@meewasin.com](mailto:alafond@meewasin.com)**

**About Meewasin Valley Authority**

The Meewasin Valley Authority exists to ensure a healthy and vibrant river valley, with a balance between human use and conservation by:

- Providing leadership in the management of its resources;
- Promoting understanding, conservation and beneficial use of the Valley; and
- Undertaking programs and projects in river valley development and conservation,

for the benefit of present and future generations.

There are 67 square kilometers of land and over 90km of established trail, which has seen up to 1.65 million trail visits per year, in the Meewasin Valley. The area also features sites that help people to connect to nature through experiences such as Beaver Creek Conservation Area, the Northeast Swale, Saskatoon Natural Grasslands, the River Landing Spray Area, and the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink @Nutrien Plaza. Meewasin is a non-profit organization that relies on donations and volunteers for sustainability. To get involved or learn more visit [www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com)

