



Meewasin Valley Authority  
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**NEWS RELEASE**

**for immediate release**

## **Meewasin Welcomes Two New Board Members**

February 5, 2021

**Meewasin Board of Directors welcomes two new board members, David Kirton, City of Saskatoon Council appointee and Marv Friesen, Government of Saskatchewan appointee, who both bring unique expertise to Meewasin and its mandate to conserve, develop and educate in our beloved river valley.**

### **David Kirton**

David was born and raised on Saskatoon's west side, just one block from the South Saskatchewan River. For many years while he grew up, the river valley was his playground. David has lived all but four years of his life in this great city. For 43 years, he was involved in media and communications.

David has served on various boards and committees in Saskatoon, including the Saskatoon Native Ministry, the Wîcihitowin Indigenous Engagement Conference, the Reconciliation and The Media Conference as well as the Remembrance Day Citizens Committee, and as a porter and chapel service leader at City Hospital.

David has produced fundraising events to raise awareness for charities such as the Saskatoon United Way. He worked for close to 30 years with the Saskatoon Stock Car Racing Association as a promoter and announcer. David was also on the organizing committee that built the current Wyant Group Raceway just north of Saskatoon.

David describes his excitement of the new position, "I have been a huge fan of the Meewasin Valley Authority since its creation. I have walked countless kilometers along the river valley for years with my Newshound Phil. I am passionate about the river valley and I look forward to helping to keep this beautiful area naturally vibrant for all to enjoy."

### **Marv Friesen**

Marv Friesen, MLA for Saskatoon Riversdale, is proud to have been appointed to the Meewasin Valley Authority's Board of Directors.

Marv grew up in Riversdale and worked in the community for many years as a small business owner. As a Journeyman Automotive Technician, Marv likes to build custom cars in his spare time. He has been helping kids for over 30 years through various community organizations.

"After many years of enjoying the Meewasin Valley Authority's many trails and the life that it brings to the city of Saskatoon and surrounding areas, I'm excited to join other community leaders and contribute to this special landmark within our Province," said Marv of his appointment.

Marv lives in Saskatoon with his fiancée Robyn, who together have six children and five grandkids.

Andrea Lafond, CEO of Meewasin spoke about the new additions to the Meewasin Board, "We are so happy to have both David and Marv join our team of inspiring leaders. Their familiarity, passion, and knowledge will make them both assets to our team, and we can't wait to work together to ensure a healthy and vibrant Meewasin Valley in Saskatoon and area."

The Meewasin Board of Directors is made up of four representatives from the City of Saskatoon, the Government of Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan.

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

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*Marv Friesen*



*David Kirton*

#### **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, 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)*