



NEWS RELEASE

for immediate release

Meewasin Brings Sheep Grazing Back to the Northeast Swale and Beaver Creek

September 7, 2021

Throughout the months of September and October, Meewasin will be bringing back the annual sheep grazing demonstrations, which are free and open to the public.

The Meewasin Valley spans 67 square km, which is the equivalent of 13,400 football fields. An area like that requires a lot of maintenance, with grazing being one of many management tools used to maintain the health of the grasslands under Meewasin's care.

From September 3rd to October 14th, there will be ongoing sheep grazing demonstrations taking place at both Beaver Creek Conservation Area and at the Northeast Swale. These demonstrations are open to the public with details and registration available at www.meewasin.com.

With the funding support of the RBC Tech for Nature Fund, this program is well into its second decade of success. Shepherd Jared Epp continues to be an important ally in maintaining the varied environments in and around the Meewasin Valley.

Andrea Lafond, CEO of Meewasin spoke to the importance of this practice and why she believes people are interested in it, "The plains bison were removed from the prairies over 150 years ago, but grazing is still important, and we are excited to see the bison back at Wanuskewin. Without healthy grazing practices, we'll continue to lose the natural grasslands and prairies to invasive species of plants. These demonstrations are effective for resource management as well as informative and interactive for the public. The demonstrations help to gain an appreciation for grazing and are a ton of fun!"

For more information, please contact

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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