

Getting Started: *Indigenous Connections to the Northeast Swale*

“Teach children the gifts they have and how to use them. Whatever they have been given is good to help themselves and their families, and to lead the way for them. What did Creator bless you with? He gave us all something to use on our life’s journey, not just for ourselves but to help one another.”

-William Ratfoot, nêhiyaw Elder



MIYWÂSIN IS NÊHIYAWÊWIN/CREE FOR ‘IT IS BEAUTIFUL’

Meewasin is located on Treaty Six Territory and the traditional lands of the nêhiyawak, Anihşināpē, Dakota, Nakoda, Lakota and the homeland of the Métis people. We honour the ancestors of this land and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

The Meewasin Valley Authority is a non-profit organization that exists to ensure a healthy and vibrant river valley, with a balance between human use and conservation, for the benefit of present and future generations, in Saskatoon & area.

Meewasin has been the steward of the river valley corridor since 1979 – a short period of time compared to those that came before us. We humbly acknowledge the Indigenous peoples who are the original caretakers of this land.

VIDEO: [GET TO KNOW MEEWASIN](#)

ABOUT THESE RESOURCES

This project was created in partnership with Saskatoon Public Schools and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools to encourage a higher level of thinking under the umbrella of Indigenous Ways of Knowing and societal impact. The accompanying activities/lessons will give teachers and students the opportunity to explore and reflect on the impact of land and learning.

Teachers and students will address and resolve personal, local and national issues that define who they are. Through discovering and understanding of Indigenous worldviews, communities and self, they will better understand the world, communities and themselves. Connecting to the past, understanding the present and building relationships and setting goals for the future are essential outcomes of the activities and lessons.

HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

These resources create curriculum connections to a section of content in the Meewasin App called “Indigenous Connections to the Northeast Swale” as well as physical interpretive panels located at this site. They also include links to a variety of other content and have been designed to encourage teachers and students to take part in land-based activities throughout the Meewasin Valley.

DOWNLOAD THE APP:

[MEEWASIN APP](#) (APPLE)

[MEEWASIN APP](#) (GOOGLE)

You can also view this content on our [WEB-BASED PLATFORM](#)

ABOUT THE MEEWASIN NORTHEAST SWALE

The Northeast Swale is an ancient river channel located in the northeast part of Saskatoon that begins at Peturrson's Ravine and carves a 26 km long path adjacent to the South Saskatchewan River. It provides significant ecological services as a diverse, connected network of rare native prairie, riparian areas and wetlands, all existing in an urban landscape.

MAP: [MEEWASIN NORTHEAST SWALE](#)

VIDEO: ["WAYS OF SEEING THE WORLD"](#), MEEWASIN APP

VIDEO: ["PRESERVING URBAN PRAIRIE LANDSCAPES"](#), CANADIAN PARKS & WILDERNESS SOCIETY (CPAWS) SASKATCHEWAN CHAPTER

ABOUT THE MEEWASIN APP PROJECT

Meewasin is honored to have learned from the Elders and Knowledge Keepers who shared teachings for the Meewasin App. This knowledge was gifted by the individual Elders and Knowledge Keepers who participated in the project. We acknowledge that there is not one Indigenous worldview, there are many, and that every Nation has their own teachings that are passed down from generation to generation.

Thank you to the Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Steering Committee who helped to guide the Meewasin App project:

- Vivian Anderson – Elder, Whitecap Dakota First Nation
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- Cheryl Troupe – University of Saskatchewan

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DID YOU KNOW?

Meewasin works in partnership with Saskatoon Public Schools and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools to develop resources that help teachers engage their students in outdoor learning. Please share your feedback on these resources by completing a [short survey](#) and let us know what you'd like to see developed in the future!

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