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**NEWS RELEASE**

**for immediate release**

## **Meewasin Celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day with New Land-Based Education Resources**

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Meewasin recognizes and acknowledges that the land and the water in the Meewasin Valley is part of Treaty Six Territory and the original homeland of the Métis and traditional trade and hunting territories of the Dakota. Meewasin honors this as part of our reconciliation efforts and recognizes the immense knowledge that is held by the traditional caretakers of this land as we do our best to steward it alongside them.

Through thoughtful and planned work, Meewasin Valley Authority as an organization is integrating First Nation and Métis perspectives into conservation and education in the Meewasin Valley. Over the past year, Meewasin has worked with Saskatoon Public Schools and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools to develop a set of resources for secondary-level educators that encourage a higher level of thinking under the umbrella of Indigenous Ways of Knowing and societal impact.

These new digital 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.

CEO of Meewasin, Andrea Lafond, spoke of the project, “Meewasin is honored to have learned from the Elders and Knowledge Keepers who shared teachings for the Meewasin App and which, in turn, laid the groundwork for the development of these new digital education resources. Connecting to the past, understanding the present, building relationships, and setting goals for the future are essential outcomes of the activities and lessons.”

Meewasin would like to acknowledge the partners that contributed to this project, the Saskatoon Public and Greater Saskatoon Catholic School divisions. Meewasin’s team worked in partnership with very skilled and knowledgeable educators from each school division to develop and create this new series of individual curricular-linked lessons for Grade 9 through 12.

These resources can be requested by teachers or any other parents or educators through Meewasin’s website at [www.meewasin.com/resources-for-educators](http://www.meewasin.com/resources-for-educators)



For more information, contact Meewasin at (306) 665-6887 or [meewasin@meewasin.com](mailto:meewasin@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 105km of established trail, which has seen up to 2.24 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 Meewasin 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)