



Meewasin Valley Authority

402 Third Avenue South

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K3G5

Phone (306) 665-6887 Fax (306) 665-6117

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Meewasin Trail Opening/Funding Milestone Event**

June 2, 2023

Over the last 44 years, Meewasin has been the steward of the South Saskatchewan River valley in the Saskatoon region. This includes the development of the Meewasin Trail, which is more than 105 km of multi-use pathways through the heart of the region. Meewasin is excited to announce that numerous trail-enhancing projects have been completed and others are underway as Meewasin received generous contributions from many partners. We are so grateful for the support from the Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan, the Trans Canada Trail (TCT), the City of Saskatoon and many individual donors who have made this completion possible.

This event marks the completion of the Kinsmen Riverfront section of the Meewasin Trail, celebrates the recent improvements to Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan and the Southwest Trail, and provides important updates on the Kiwanis Trail enhancements and downtown Meewasin Trail upgrades that are coming soon.

A section of the Meewasin Trail has also been added to the TCT network in the Southwest.

Meewasin's goal is to enhance the Meewasin Trail to improve user experience and access, accommodate user volumes, and mitigate safety risks while enhancing natural features as much as possible.

"Residents and visitors of Saskatoon have long enjoyed the Meewasin Trail and its beautiful views of the South Saskatchewan River," said the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities. "Our government is proud to have been a partner in this project alongside the government of Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon. This investment is an investment in the quality of life all Saskatoon residents, and in one of Canada's most iconic rivers."

"Our government is proud to play a role to improve the Meewasin Trail system by investing more than \$1.8 million in provincial funding toward its infrastructure," said Mr. Marv Friesen, MLA for Saskatoon Riversdale and Legislative Secretary for Parks, Culture and Sport, on behalf of the Honourable Don McMorris, Saskatchewan's Minister of Government Relations. "Thanks to the ongoing efforts of the Meewasin Valley Authority and its partners, residents and visitors of Saskatoon and area have even better recreation opportunities and quality of life."

“Congratulations to our friends at Meewasin Trail for the recent upgrade to the Kinsmen Riverfront section of the trail, which we were pleased to support. We truly value our strong relationship with Meewasin Trail, and we look forward to continuing to grow our relationship through further collaboration, as, together, we enhance this trail and its ecosystem, part of our national network,” said the President & CEO, Trans Canada Trail, Eleanor McMahon.

“Meewasin continues to plan for improvements to the Meewasin Trail and we are excited to showcase the upcoming projects,” said Andrea Lafond, CEO of Meewasin. “Meewasin would not be able to implement these enhancements without the ongoing support and donations from the community and organizations in the Saskatoon region. These contributions from the Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan are greatly appreciated to support the trail enhancements for the community.”

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



-30-

#### **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 more than 105km of established Meewasin Trail, which has seen up to 2.32 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)*