



Meewasin Valley Authority
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NEWS RELEASE

for immediate release

Meewasin Trail Enhancements in Kiwanis Memorial Park Begin this summer

June 8, 2023

With approvals met, enhancements will begin the week of June 12th, 2023. This project is on Treaty 6 Territory and the homeland of the Métis.

We are enthusiastic about the pending start of enhancements to the Meewasin Trail in the south portion of Kiwanis Memorial Park. Thank you to the many supporters of this project including the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, the City of Saskatoon, Trans Canada Trail, and many individual donors, we could not do this without their support.

This project includes enhancements to 300m of existing primary trail through Kiwanis Memorial Park between the Broadway Bridge and Bessborough Hotel including:

- Replacement of the existing asphalt trail to more than double its current width
- Site furniture replacements throughout the park
- Retention and protection of existing mature trees
- New tree plantings
- Two new river viewpoint nodes
- Upgraded trail lighting
- Replacement of the existing drinking fountain

The Trail had **2.32 million visits in 2022**, a year-over-year increase of 75,000 from 2.24 million visits in 2021. The Kiwanis South Trail is one of the busiest and used sections of the Meewasin Trail.

The goal of Meewasin is to enhance the trail network to improve user experience and access, accommodate user volumes, and mitigate safety risks while enhancing natural features as much as possible. Andrea Lafond, CEO of Meewasin says, “Meewasin would not be able to implement these enhancements without the ongoing support and donations from the community and organizations in the Saskatoon region. Meewasin continues to plan for improvements to the Meewasin Trail, these are not possible without financial contributions from many grants, sponsorships and donations from generous partners.”

Construction is planned to start the week of June 12th, 2023. Trail users will be detoured along Spadina Crescent, around the work zone. The boat launch area will remain open and functional. Site users are asked to respect the construction activity and use designated detours outside of the work zone. Be sure to check www.meewasin.com for any updates on these expected closures and detours. This is the first phase of planned enhancements to the entire Meewasin trail in Kiwanis Memorial Park. Future phases will be completed over multiple years as funding becomes available.



For more information, contact Andrea Lafond at 306-665-6887 or at alafond@meewasin.com

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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 +105km of established 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 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