

February 6, 2026

**The Honourable Julie Aviva Dabrusin
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada
K1A 0A6**

Re: Support for Meewasin Valley's National Urban Park Designation

Dear Minister Dabrusin,

On behalf of the NSBA - Saskatoon's Business Association, I am writing to express our strong support for the designation of the Meewasin Valley as a National Urban Park under the Government of Canada's National Urban Parks Policy.

The Meewasin Valley, stewarded by the Meewasin Valley Authority (MVA) for over four decades, is one of Saskatoon's most cherished natural assets. It encompasses approximately 67 km² of river valley landscape, including extensive trails, natural grasslands, conservation areas, and culturally significant sites that contribute to the social, ecological, and recreational fabric of our region.

Designation as a national urban park would:

- Enhance conservation and stewardship of this ecologically and culturally important landscape, complementing provincial and municipal efforts to protect biodiversity and natural heritage.
- Strengthen Saskatoon's identity as a destination for residents, visitors, and nature-based tourism, boosting regional economic activity through increased visitation, educational programming, and partnerships.
- Advance reconciliation by recognizing Indigenous connections to the land and facilitating deeper collaboration in stewardship, interpretation, and engagement.
- Support community health, well-being, and quality of life by protecting accessible natural spaces for outdoor recreation, education, and cultural events.

We understand that meaningful progress has been made on the planning and due diligence required for federal consideration, including feasibility planning, engagement with local partners, and the development of future public and Indigenous engagement strategies. We urge the Government to consider this work favorably and to move forward with a designation decision that reflects the broad community and stakeholder support for this initiative.

Thank you for your leadership on conservation, collaboration with communities across Canada, and consideration of this important opportunity to designate Meewasin as a National Urban Park.

Sincerely,



Keith Moen
Executive Director, NSBA