



### WSRA News

#### President's Report

*Rob Phillips, WSRA President*

As another season at the lake approaches, I would like to bring a number of topics to your attention.

#### SaskTel High Speed Update

2018 saw the installation of High Speed Internet access within the Waskesiu townsite, and it is now available to all cabin, cottage, business and Parks Canada properties.

The agreement at the time of installation with SaskTel was that there would be a minimum connection period of four months and an available seasonal disconnect period of eight months for Waskesiu residents. With this agreement in place with representatives of SaskTel, community support was received and the hardware was installed.

As people began to close down their cabins for the season and disconnect their service, they became aware in a change in this agreement. SaskTel Marketing changed their allowed seasonal disconnect time from eight to six months.

Your options are:

- Pay for the months that you require at your desired service rate and then downgrade your service for when you are no longer at Waskesiu for the remainder of the six-month required connect time and then seasonally disconnect.
- Disconnect your service when you are done with it for one, two or three months and return the modem to the Prince Albert SaskTel office as you leave for the season. Then call SaskTel in the spring for a

free connection and SaskTel can dispatch a technician to put the modem back in place.

#### The Main Beach Wooden Dock

The old wooden dock at the main beach was in a state of disrepair for several years. In early 2019 the Park was presented with the opportunity to undertake a project to remove the dock in its entirety. It has now been removed.

Our concern is that the wooden dock provided much needed access to the lake for persons of all ages and was of great value to the seniors and physically challenged in our community. We have communicated our concerns to Parks Canada and the Waskesiu Community Council. It is our hope that a replacement for the dock system will be devised and budgeted for Parks Canada in the near future or be part of the upcoming community planning process.

If you believe that the wooden dock should be replaced, the Park needs to know of your concerns. Please contact Mr. David Britton at Parks Canada in writing and please copy our association at [waskesiusra@gmail.com](mailto:waskesiusra@gmail.com)

#### East Park Entrance

The WSRA wishes to work with Parks Canada to identify ways to improve the primary entrance to the park at the East Gate on highway 264.

We would like Parks Canada to consider modifying the entrance to allow for an additional lane of traffic north of the current building to allow permit holders to pass through more easily on weekends, thereby reducing gate wait times. The new space would also allow for large vehicles moving buildings through the entry area. (Currently when cabins are built outside of the park and brought in with building moving equipment, the east gate entrance must be modified for the equipment to pass through.)

### Plumbing in Parcel X (the Cabin area)

It has come to our attention that Parks Canada maintenance staff use a vac truck to pressurize the sewer lines to break free plugs in the lines. Since the fluid capacity of the pumper unit is 1500 litres, this practice could cause a flow of water into adjacent cabins. Therefore, I recommend all cabin owners consider the installation of a back-flow valve into their cabin's sewer line system. Parks Canada intends to request that this requirement be added to the Cabin Construction Guidelines during the next review. This will be considered by both the WSRA and the Waskesiu Community Council.

### Parking with Parcel X

Parking within the townsite has seen some changes over the last two seasons with signs being placed to limit parking time in certain areas. I believe that most people have responded positively to the new signage and that parking has improved.

Discussions have started with Parks Canada to explore opportunities to free up space within at least Parcel X by providing opportunities for the cabin owners to park boats elsewhere and thus free up the streets currently being used for parking.

### One Day of Meetings

The Waskesiu Community Council and the Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association have decided to have their Annual General meetings on the same day. This year the AGM for both the Community Council and the WSRA will be held on July 28<sup>th</sup> at the Terrace Gardens, time to be announced.

### Cottage Regulations Consultations

*Herb Pinder, WSRA Chair*

For many years the WSRA has been advocating Parks Canada Agency (PCA) to revise and modernize Cottage Regulations. We are pleased to report that that process began in 2018 when PCA retained a high calibre outside person, Daniel Mercer, to lead this process. Early in the endeavour he visited most of the Parks and the many other entities that will be impacted by the new regulations. One of the challenges, in WSRA's view, is that combining a variety of regulations including for cottages, signage, and other commercial matters over an even broader range of

entities (parks with cottages, parks without, locks, heritage parks, etc.) is at best difficult.

The Waskesiu Community Council organized a collaborative community meeting that included the Chamber, WCC, WSRA, and other interested parties. Jennifer Wood and I represented WSRA with Jennifer also wearing her second hat as an elected Council member. Superintendent David Britton and Townsite Manager Gregg Rutten were also in attendance.

**“IT IS HEARTENING TO SEE PCA SINCERELY EMBRACE A PROCESS THAT INCLUDES EARLY AND CONTINUED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.”**

There was an excellent exchange whereby Daniel Mercer and his colleague explained the process and elicited our feedback. There was lots of feedback and Jennifer and I were proactive in espousing a set of principles that may well serve as a foundation for the new regulatory framework. A summary of that process acknowledged most of the issues which the group raised.

It is our understanding that Daniel Mercer will return to Waskesiu for further consultation. It is heartening to see PCA sincerely embrace a process that includes early and continued community involvement. While the process is still ongoing, WSRA will continue to be an active participant representing our community and the needs of seasonal residents at Waskesiu.

### Parks Canada

*David Britton, Superintendent and Gregg Rutten, Townsite Manager, PANP*

Greetings from Parks Canada! We spent a busy winter planning for summer 2019 while also continuing to move projects ahead that improve park ecosystems, infrastructure and visitor facilities. Below are some of the highlights related to Waskesiu.

## Management Plan Approved

In 2018, Parks Canada was pleased to see the *Prince Albert National Park Management Plan* approved and tabled in Parliament. The document, drafted after consultation with Indigenous partners, community stakeholders and other key partners, resulted in a plan that we are confident will guide sound management decision making over the next 10 years.

## Townsite News

### *Spring Water Service*

As many of you will be aware, we experienced some unusually early cold temperatures in the fall of 2018 which resulted in a number of water line breaks in the seasonal water system in Waskesiu. Repairing these breaks as soon as possible once the system thaws out is a priority for the park but, nevertheless, we do expect that there will be delays in restoration of the water service for the cottages and cabins. The repairs will begin in May (exact date depending on weather). Two plumbers will be dedicated to this work; additional staff are available, if needed, to provide support and the required parts are on hand. In the cabin area, restoration of services will begin at Pelican Street and work towards Bluebird. In the meantime shower facilities will be available at the small beach house and at the Seasonal Staff Trailer Park, Montreal Drive, also known as the Spruce Ridge Campground. Water is also available via the outside tap at the Visitor Centre. We thank everyone in advance for their patience as we resolve this problem.



### *Improving Safety and Enjoyment on Waskesiu Waterfront*

The dock located adjacent to the breakwater at the south end of the main beach reached the end of its useful lifespan and had become a safety hazard. It was

built to accommodate the paddlewheeler, which has not operated from this location for many years. Removal of the dock, including the cribbing, took place in March 2019 and shore rehabilitation is scheduled for spring 2019. While Parks Canada does not plan to replace the

**Construction waste** from small projects (e.g., replacing a window or a deck board) can be disposed of in the 40-foot roll-off bin located at recycle depot area.

#### *What is accepted?*

Small project construction waste such as:

- Windows and frames, deck boards, dry wall, carpet
- Bed mattresses, household furniture, sofas, chairs
- Treated and non-treated scrap wood

#### *What is not accepted?*

- Small or larger propane tanks, gas, fuel, solvent products, fluorescent tubes, paint containers (empty or otherwise), oil, batteries
- Household appliances: e.g., washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, stoves, microwaves, water heaters
- Brush – must be taken to the staging area
- Refundable cans and bottles, cardboard boxes, office paper and newspapers, clean plastic containers, milk jugs, sheet plastic, metal – deposit these items in the appropriate recycle bins
- Electronic equipment, electric wire, concrete, rocks, leaves, and dead animals
- Household garbage – this should be bagged and placed in garbage bins
- DDT (a pesticide) or other questionable hazardous materials

If you are issued a building permit, this may constitute a large amount of construction waste. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to haul or make arrangements to have the contractor haul the construction waste to a certified landfill site as specified on the permit.

dock, the breakwater will continue to be maintained with refurbishments planned for 2020 and will continue to allow the public access out onto Waskesiu Lake. Going forward, the intent is to expand the short-term mooring area between the breakwater and the buoyed swim area to provide continued access to townsite amenities for boaters. More details on this will be provided in June 2019.

### *Beach House*

Plans to reconstruct the big beach house at the Waskesiu main beach are scheduled to begin in September 2019. The facility is reaching the end of its lifespan and requires upgrades and modernization to meet current standards and visitor needs. It is anticipated that the new facility will be open to greet the public in the summer or 2020.

### **Cannabis**

This will be the first summer season since cannabis was legalised in Canada. Parks Canada follows provincial laws governing use so, as in the rest of Saskatchewan, the use of cannabis is prohibited in public places in Prince Albert National Park. In the park, use of cannabis is only permitted on a visitor's campsite (except during long weekend bans) or on private leasehold property, including cottages and cabins.

### **Rabbit Creek Wildfire Review**



*The Rabbit Creek Fire was visible from the lake during the height of concern*

Rabbit Creek wildfire was a prominent event in 2018. While the event was not without its stresses for both seasonal residents and Parks Canada, it provided some significant benefits as well. Fire is a natural part of the boreal ecosystem and is required by plant species such

as jack pine, trembling aspen, and fireweed to help rejuvenate forest diversity. The fire perimeter encompasses an area of 36,665 hectares in the south end of the park and the interior of this area is now a mosaic that includes large swaths of untouched, mainly aspen forest mixed with areas that burned at various intensities where new growth is now occurring. This mixed wood, new multi-age forest improves the ecosystem, creates an increase in wildflower species, and provides habitat for a range of birds and wildlife.

A review by Parks Canada following Rabbit Creek wildfire resulted in several actions:

- Lessons learned from last year will help improve the approach to the prescribed fire program in the park.
- Key partners were flown over the burned area to see the mosaic pattern created by the fire that has improved ecosystem health.
- A FireSmart workshop in Waskesiu townsite engaged community members on how to reduce the risk of fire to their cabins, cottages and businesses.
- In collaboration with SaskPower and the Waskesiu Golf Course, a FireSmart demonstration area was created between the golf course and water treatment plant this winter. It enables the community in see how FireSmart principles can be applied to the townsite without impairing the aesthetics of the park.
- The updated *Townsite Vegetation Strategy* is currently in the consultation phase and will guide decisions on maintaining aesthetics while implementing fuel reduction activities for FireSmart priorities to make Waskesiu a more fire-resistant community.

**“LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE THIS SPRING AND SUMMER FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR IN WASKESIU!”**

**PARKS CANADA**

### ***Help protect Waskesiu from Wildfire - FireSmart***

*FireSmart is a nationwide program designed by firefighting agencies including Parks Canada to help protect people, infrastructure and surrounding lands from wildfire. Individual homeowners and wider communities can take simple steps to reduce the impact of wildfire. The time to take action is now, not when a fire is at your doorstep. Be proactive, be practical, and be FireSmart!*

- *Clear fuel concentrations like dry leaves, twigs, and branches from around your home.*
- *Clear gutters, eaves and vents of collected materials.*
- *Keep windows clear.*
- *Trim trees.*
- *Keep your porch/deck clear or screened.*
- *Screen or seal all soffits.*
- *Take care of your lawn. Keep sprinklers handy.*
- *Visit [firesmartcanada.ca](http://firesmartcanada.ca) to learn how to assess your property.*

## Waskesiu Community Council - Greetings from the Chair

*Jim Kerby, Waskesiu Community Council Chair*

Greetings from the Waskesiu Community Council to the members of the WSRA. Thank you for letting us be part of your annual spring Newsletter again this year.

The Community Council is currently comprised of seven Councillors - Jim Kerby (Chair), Nancy Wood Archer (Vice-Chair), Jennifer Wood (Secretary-Treasurer), Bryan Matheson, Darryl Fox, Rob Phillips and Bentley Crozier. Our talented Administrator,

Noreen Matthews, continues to be a valuable member of our team as well. From its inception in 2002, the Community Council has been formally recognized by Parks Canada as the "voice of the Waskesiu community".

### **"Waskesiu Vision 2028" – Your Ideas Enhancing our Community**

Back in 2013, the Community Council initiated an important strategic planning process for Waskesiu called "**Vision 2020 & Beyond**". The goal was to develop a "shared vision" for our community – in an effort to articulate how Waskesiu should "look and feel" by the year 2020. As part of that visioning process, the Community Council sought input from, and encouraged increased communication among, all of the key stakeholder groups in Waskesiu.

That strategic planning process resulted in a "Community Action Plan" for Waskesiu. Over the last 6 years, many groups have collaborated to help make the vision outlined in that "Community Action Plan" a reality. By all accounts, the process has been a great success.



But "time flies", as they say, and now 2020 is virtually upon us. As such, the Community Council has renewed the strategic planning process - re-branded as "**Waskesiu Vision 2028**". (The year 2028 has been chosen because August 10, 2028 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the official opening of Prince Albert National Park by Prime Minister Mackenzie King.)

To date, two very successful "**Waskesiu Vision 2028**" planning meetings have already taken place between the Community Council and representatives of Parks Canada. Council will move next to hosting a Community Leaders Roundtable during the late spring of 2019. At that event all of the key stakeholder groups will be asked to review the draft "**Waskesiu Vision 2028**" plan, and provide their input and ideas. Later in 2019, or perhaps in July of 2020, a community open house will be arranged to obtain input from the entire community before finishing the new plan.

Community Council is very pleased to again work in conjunction with Parks Canada, the WSRA, the Waskesiu Foundation, the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce, the Waskesiu Recreation Association, the

Waskesiu Heritage Museum, Friends of the Park, the Lobstick Golf Course, and other key stakeholder groups – as we collectively continue to enhance the Waskesiu experience.

We urge **you** to learn more about this important initiative. Please provide your ideas to make Waskesiu an even better place for you, your family, and the generations that follow. Visit [www.waskesiu.org](http://www.waskesiu.org) (and look for “**Waskesiu Vision 2028**”) for more details.

### What a “Community Working Together” Accomplishes

2018 was an incredible year for Waskesiu. Positive results to celebrate because so many groups, individuals and businesses in our community not only had great ideas for Waskesiu, but they were willing to work together to get them done. Many are detailed in the respective organizations’ reports to be found elsewhere in this newsletter. However some of 2018’s highlights included: the introduction of Sask Tel high speed internet, the opening of Little Al’s Mini Golf, the opening of the Gordie Howe Memorial Fitness Park, the replica shack tent display at the Waskesiu Heritage Museum, the celebration of PANP’s 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary last August, the Waskesiu Foundation’s first Sipping Social fundraising event, as well as its introduction of a family friendly Treasure Hunt and the marking of Gordie Howe Day and Mr. Hockey’s love for this place, his “favourite place on earth.”

### 2019 Community Council Annual General Meeting – Mark Your Calendars!

You are invited to join us for the Waskesiu Community Council’s 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will be jointly held with the WSRA’s AGM on Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at Terrace Gardens in Waskesiu. Watch [www.waskesiu.org](http://www.waskesiu.org) for the starting time of the meeting – and we look forward to seeing you there!

### Waskesiu.org – Waskesiu’s #1 Website

Our [waskesiu.org](http://waskesiu.org) website, hosted by the Community Council, continues to be the most widely used online site for those seeking information about Waskesiu. Please visit [waskesiu.org](http://waskesiu.org) regularly to find out what is happening in your community. Our website is mobile friendly – making it easy for you to take a bit of Waskesiu with you wherever you go.

### The Last Word

In closing, the Community Council extends its sincere thanks to the WSRA for all of your great work on behalf of Waskesiu, and for your past and ongoing support. Have a great summer everyone, as you enjoy “Saskatchewan’s playground”.

## A Message from the Waskesiu Foundation

*Derwin Arnstead, Waskesiu Foundation Chair*

### We turn 20 in 2019!

This milestone is as much about you, our supporters, as it is about us. The Waskesiu Foundation started out in 1999 as the Waskesiu Townsite Enhancement Society. Our first project was to refinish the tennis courts. The name changed to Waskesiu Foundation a couple years later when our charitable purposes were expanded to support recreational, social, cultural, and environmental activities in Waskesiu. You have given nearly **three million dollars** to make Waskesiu a better place. Your contributions and our community partners have made features possible, such as Little AL’s Mini Golf, Bears on the Beach playground, memorial benches, camp kitchens in and around Waskesiu, golf course improvements, firefighting equipment, refurbishing the bandstand, and sponsoring events like the Lakeside Festival and Reel Rave Film Festival. There’s too much to list here, but you can see it all under the Projects tab on [waskesiufoundation.ca](http://waskesiufoundation.ca) and clicking on “Completed Projects”. You own the success of them all!



### Thank you Myrna!

It is with great appreciation we thank Myrna, Nagy, our longest-serving Board member, who now retires after serving on our Board almost continuously over the last 20 years, in addition to serving as President of the Waskesiu Townsite Enhancement Committee. We are thrilled that her volunteerism was recognized with the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal. She is truly remarkable!

## New multi-season camp kitchen

In September, we are looking forward to partnering with Parks Canada to build a new multi-season camp kitchen on the site of the former warden's cabin near the entrance to Crean Lake. This is a beautiful setting for picnics and accessible by boating, walking, or winter skiing/snow shoeing. Parks Canada signage will recognize the history of the warden service. We are looking for a Crean Lake camp kitchen sponsor. Sponsoring this camp kitchen is a great way to memorialize a family member or to greet visitors with a message and the sponsor's name on a plaque installed inside the camp kitchen. If you are interested in making a donation to become the sponsor, please let us know by using the Contact Form on our website.

## New Recreation

Much has been done, and we will be doing more with the Waskesiu Recreation Association to implement the Waskesiu Recreational Master Plan, including a new tennis ball serving machine and tennis ball collector/hopper to pick up balls. This spring, we are putting athletic tile under the Gordie Howe Memorial Fitness Park to give users more solid footing and to protect their joints from impacts. There will be further announcements and fundraising opportunities this summer as we plan to install a multi-sport court, refurbish the lawn bowling green, install new benches, build a picnic shelter, and improve the pathways, beginning in fall 2019.

## Fun! Fun! Fun!

We have two social events this summer that you can't miss. On July 13, our popular Sipping Social takes place at the Community Hall at 5:30 pm. It's the place to be for food, drinks, and visiting old friends or making new friends. It sold out last year, so be sure to check out the details and to buy your tickets from [waskesiufoundation.ca](http://waskesiufoundation.ca) when they go on sale May 1 (\$75, including partial tax receipt).

On August 10, our Family Treasure Hunt takes place, beginning at 10:30 AM in Terrace Gardens. Explore Waskesiu with treasure hunt stops & games throughout the townsite. Additional activities include a pirate ship

photo booth, crafts, and lunch which will delight kids & grandkids. Find out more and buy your tickets from [waskesiufoundation.ca](http://waskesiufoundation.ca) when they go on sale June 1 (\$20/adult and child combo, \$10 for extra person). We are looking for volunteers to help. Use the [Contact Form](#) on our website.

## Our Thanks

We love working with you as a supportive, caring community. Who knows what you can accomplish in the next 20 years? You are the best!

Email [admin@waskesiufoundation.ca](mailto:admin@waskesiufoundation.ca)  
 Facebook @WaskesiuFoundation  
 Twitter @WaskesiuFound  
 Instagram @WaskesiuFoundation

## Message from the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce

Nancy Archer, Chamber of Commerce  
 President

Our locally run Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce has 42 memberships.

Our Chamber Board Members are:

Nancy Archer, The Hawood Inn  
 Gord Bueckert, Lost Creek Resort  
 Randy Kershaw, Kershaw Consulting  
 Debby Klarenbach, Elkridge Resort  
 Darryl Fox, Silver Fox Liquor Store  
 Tyler Baker, Waskesiu Lobstick Golf Course  
 Natalie Matheson, Waskesiu Marina  
 Adventures

The Chamber is well represented around the Waskesiu Community Council table. We have four elected representatives on the Waskesiu Community Council from our membership: Darryl Fox, Silver Fox Liquor

Store, Jennifer Woods, Kapasiwin Bungalows, Bentley Crozier, Grey Owl Center and myself, Nancy Archer, The Hawood Inn.

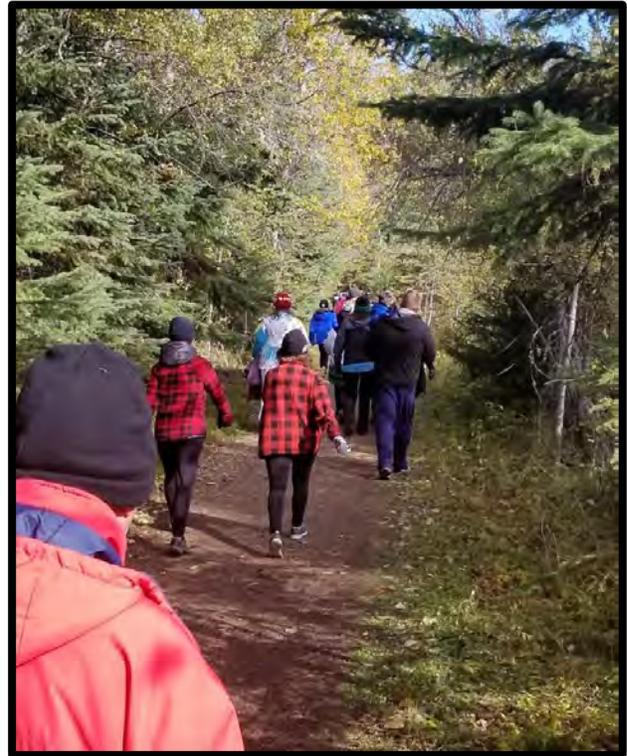
In recent months the Chamber has been working on a few projects with Parks Canada and stakeholders to:

1. Communicate and educate Waskesiu visitors and residents on the Aquatic Invasive Species issues.
2. Understanding and participating in the Vegetation Management Projects.
3. Submitting the Chamber's concerns regarding the Waskesiu Specific planning and development issues.
4. Understanding the FireSmart Program going forward.
5. Working with the Park Housing Committee to ensure proper staff housing, leasing and fair pricing.
6. Involved in ongoing discussion regarding the fragility of our commercial sector in the Waskesiu townsite.

The community of Waskesiu and the Chamber understand the importance of the three halls in town - the Community Hall, Terrace Gardens and the Rec Hall. These halls are not only an important source of income for the Chamber, but they bring strength to the businesses in town by hosting weddings, reunions and conferences for our locals and our visitors. We are upgrading equipment and repairs yearly. Our goal in 2019 is to bring Wi-Fi to at least one of our halls, and ideally all three in time. We have also started the process to have new signs created for our halls. For information regarding the rental process, please contact our office at: [waskesiuchamber@sasktel.net](mailto:waskesiuchamber@sasktel.net), Lisa Rowe, Administrator.

Our 2018 season started out in a blaze. I am sure that all in our community were concerned and aware of the potential dangers we were facing. Thank you to Parks Canada's fire crews from across Canada, local fire crews and the provinces indigenous communities that came to fight the fires. The Beaver Glen Campground housed upwards of 250 fire fighters and support staff during this time and the Terrace Gardens Hall was made into a "Mess Hall" to feed the hungry crews.

From this experience, I ask that we all educate ourselves on Fire Smarting our townsite, cabins &



*Waskesiu businesses facilitate great experiences for visitors in every season, such as the Outter Limits Fun Walk/Run in September.*

businesses. There will be information and workshops available to the Waskesiu community throughout 2019 and future years.

The cooler and wetter than usual summer and fall was a stressful situation for the business community in 2018. To all of the die-hard cottage and cabin owners – thank you for staying around and supporting the businesses. We all appreciate your patronage. Buying “local” is very important in this small town. 2019's consistent snow fall has given Waskesiu Lake the best ski trails in Saskatchewan. Remember to visit the Park throughout the entire year. There are hotels and cabins open for rent and Parks provides free ski and snow shoe equipment for your use. You have all paid for a year-round pass. . .why not use it?

Going into 2019, we are all optimistic for a fun, warm and successful tourism season. Our landscape will have a new change to it as you arrive this spring. The Waskesiu Trading Post has built itself a new venue but still will provide the small town and nostalgic warmth

we all await . . . and of course, the smell of baking cinnamon buns.

Lastly, I would like to take a moment to pay tribute to our board member, Mr. Dwayne Andreen, Waskesiu Lake Lodge, whom sadly passed away in August 2018. A long-time cabin owner, golf enthusiast and business man, Dwayne was and is in many of our hearts. Waskesiu will always remember this pillar of our community.

In closing, hurry home to Waskesiu everyone. We are awaiting your arrival!

## Waskesiu Recreation Association

The Waskesiu Recreation Association Inc. (the “WRA”) is a volunteer led, Saskatchewan non-profit association. Our mandate is to provide – in collaboration with our community partners – quality recreational and cultural activities, social events, and recreational facilities that benefit the Waskesiu Lake visitors and residents.

Welcome back to Waskesiu, and another fantastic summer of great recreational activities and events.

### Celebrating Little AL’s Mini Golf

Our new mini golf course has received rave reviews since its opening day on July 1, 2018. Who knew that mini golf could be fun, challenging, and educational?

The design of the course is unique to Waskesiu. Each of the 18 holes and the starter shack reflects natural historic and cultural themes from Waskesiu and Prince Albert National Park – iconic treasures we know and love. Visit the Waskesiu Foundation website ([www.waskesiufoundation.ca](http://www.waskesiufoundation.ca)) and check out our photo gallery.



Many people, non-profit groups, and businesses worked very hard to bring this unique recreation activity to Waskesiu. Their names are all proudly listed on our Donor Kiosk. Special thanks to the Waskesiu Foundation, Parks Canada, and our Lead Donor - the Alan Vincent Hadley Logue Memorial Golf Tournament.

And remember, all of the profits are invested right back into Waskesiu’s recreation activities and facilities. So, if you haven’t played Little AL’s Mini Golf yet – bring your friends and family. You will have a great time, and help to support your community. If you have already played the course, you *know* that you want to play it again!

This year, Little AL’s Mini Golf will open on the long weekend in May. Watch [www.waskesiu.org](http://www.waskesiu.org) for updates, and be sure to follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WCC.WRA/>

### Gordie Howe Memorial Fitness Park



The Waskesiu Foundation partnered with the Waskesiu Recreation Association to construct a wonderful outdoor fitness park in 2018, named in honor of Saskatchewan hockey legend Gordie Howe, “Mr. Hockey”, who described Waskesiu as his “favorite place on earth”.

New matting will be installed on the ground around and below the fitness park in time for summer use in 2019 – so come and see the improvements. Our new fitness park is complemented by a set of fitness accessories, including kettle balls, battle ropes, climbing ropes gymnastic rings, and athletic bands. Whether you like box jumps, med ball throws, ab crunches, pull-ups, skinning the cat, or pistol squats, you can do it all right here.

## Renewing Waskesiu's Recreation Facilities

Recreation facilities are one of the cornerstones that enhance the “Waskesiu experience”. The Waskesiu Recreation Association remains committed to ensuring that the balance of the Waskesiu “Recreation Area Renewal Project” continues to move forward. With the resurfacing of the tennis courts a few years ago, and the opening in 2018 of Little AL's Mini Golf and the Gordie Howe Memorial Fitness Park, Waskesiu is already well on its way to a beautifully designed recreation area for “kids of all ages” to enjoy.

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*“We're still not done, and we need your help.”*

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There's a lot more to do, including adding a new multi-use sport court, a picnic shelter, refurbished pathways, new benches, tree carvings, and improving the lawn bowling green. To learn more about the Recreation Area Master Plan or to donate to the Recreation Area Renewal Project, please go to: [www.waskesiufoundation.ca](http://www.waskesiufoundation.ca).

### Volunteers Needed!

As you can see, the Waskesiu Recreation Association is already accomplishing great things in our community, but we need more volunteers to participate. Help is needed on our Committees, and from volunteers willing to play a leadership role on our Board of Directors. We also require volunteers at community events to help with everything from pancake breakfasts, beer gardens, ticket sales, and the like.

If you are interested in helping out a dynamic organization in Waskesiu, please contact Janice Fagnou (at [jfagnou@sasktel.net](mailto:jfagnou@sasktel.net)) or Simone Kerby (at [jim.simone@shaw.ca](mailto:jim.simone@shaw.ca)) to discuss your areas of interest. We will be thrilled to hear from you!

### WRA Memberships – Join Us & Support Waskesiu

Individual and family memberships are not only a great deal, they also help to support the ongoing work of the Waskesiu Recreation Association. Memberships will be available for the 2019 season, so please stop by the Recreation Centre office for more details.

## Quick Facts – Activities & Events

- **Tennis & tennis lessons...** we have 6 beautiful tennis courts. Our drop-in tennis is for all skill levels to come together and enjoy the sport of tennis. Talk to us about tennis lessons in July and August.
- **Pickleball...** a sport on the rise going and fun for all ages! Our annual pickleball tournament will run again this year. Come by the Recreation Office to learn the details and sign up.
- **Lawn bowling...** a great activity to do with the whole family, or to socialize with your friends and neighbors – you choose.
- **Bootcamp...** this half hour can be as intense or as casual as you make it. If you are looking for a workout buddy or a group to push you, this is a great opportunity to come try it out. All ages are welcome.
- **Kids Duathlon...** takes place **August 10** at 2:00 pm (the Saturday before the Frank Dunn Triathlon). Contact us for more details.
- **Beach volleyball...** will be organized throughout the summer. Sign up by contacting the Recreation Office. Teams of six. All ages welcome.
- Other activities such as **slow pitch, ultimate frisbee, and spike ball** will be organized throughout the summer for the young adults of the community.
- **Canada Day Parade...** we welcome anyone who would like to participate. Get your neighbours and creative minds together to enter your street float, or show off your sweet ride in Waskesiu's Canada Day Parade. This is your town, so come be a part of the big celebration! Just email us, or drop by the Recreation Association to sign the Parade registration form.
- **Questions?** If you have any inquiries or want to stop by for a visit, you are more than welcome to do so. We hope to see everyone out - and keeping active - this summer!

Waskesiu Recreation office number: 306-663-5410  
 Cell number: 306-941-9725  
 Email: [waskesiurecreation@gmail.com](mailto:waskesiurecreation@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WCC.WRA/>  
 Instagram: waskesiurecreation  
 Snapchat: waskesiurec

## Waskesiu Volunteer Myrna Nagy Recognized by Province



On April 9<sup>th</sup>, Waskesiu exemplar volunteer Myrna Nagy was awarded the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal by the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan.

Myrna is a highly committed volunteer who for decades has selflessly made, and continues to make, a remarkable contribution to the quality of life in the community of Waskesiu and our Province. She represents what is best about Saskatchewan because, whether she is assuming a formal role, or just helping out wherever she is needed, Myrna has donated countless hours of her time. In fact, her dedication goes well beyond what many would consider a “volunteer role”, as she gives freely of her time wherever it is needed in Waskesiu.

While Myrna has held a number of official titles over

“MYRNA’S CHARACTER IS CONVEYED THROUGH HER DEDICATION, HARD WORK, AND A DEEP AND ABIDING COMMITMENT TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS AS SHE PLANS AND HELPS COORDINATE MANY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN OUR TOWNSITE.”

the years, she primarily works at the grassroots level with existing Waskesiu-based organizations. She has, however, also been prepared to be part of new organizations and events, and has a track record of linking groups to accomplish even more for our community.

Myrna’s accomplishments and awards in relation to our community include, among others, the following:

- Longest serving member of the Board of the Waskesiu Foundation, a highly successful registered charity, having served as a Director from 2005 - 2018.
- Board Member of the recently created Waskesiu Recreation Association (2016 – 2018).
- Past President, Director, and Treasurer, of the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce (where she actively served our community for many, many years).
- Planning, overseeing, volunteering for and/or coordinating numerous fundraisers, activities, and events for non-profit groups in our community including, in recent years:
  - The Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival 50/50 fundraiser, beer gardens, pancake breakfast, and other related events (for the Waskesiu Recreation Association).
  - Canada Day Celebrations in the Waskesiu townsite (including the annual pancake breakfast, the Canada Day parade, and the beer gardens) for the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce, and more recently the Waskesiu Recreation Association, for over a decade.
  - The annual Waskesiu “Artfest” fundraising event.
  - The Waskesiu Children’s Festival.
  - Co-Chairing the Waskesiu Foundation Donor Recognition and Fundraising Dinner on at least two occasions, and volunteering in support of the event every year since 2005.
  - Volunteering, and assisting with arranging volunteer staffing, for the Waskesiu Library each summer.
  - Committee Member and active volunteer for the annual “Reel Rave International Film Festival” in Waskesiu.

- Coordinating the Waskesiu townsite beautification initiative (flower box program) from its inception until 2017.
  - Planning and overseeing the “Little Al’s Mini Golf” grand opening and the volunteer appreciation event for the Waskesiu Recreation Association in 2018.
- 2015 Recipient of the Friends of the Park – Prince Albert National Park “Waskesiu Volunteer of the Year Award”.

Myna Nagy is a truly committed community builder and volunteer worthy of this honour, and we applaud her for having earned – deservedly - the Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal.

## News from the Waskesiu Heritage Museum

*Betty Falk, President*

Join us at the Waskesiu Heritage Museum on Waskesiu Drive for fun-filled Museum and community events:

**A new exhibit** focuses on Waskesiu hockey connections. Personal items belonging to Gordie Howe, donated by the Howe family, and a limited edition print of Gordie, donated by Jake Burlet will be featured. Other changes at the Museum include the landscaping of the grounds done last fall.

**Our Community Bingos** will be held at Terrace Gardens, beginning July 3, on Wednesday nights, with the exception of August 7<sup>th</sup> bingo, which will be held Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>). Our new time is 7 pm for a full evening or 8:30 for the second half. The last bingo of the season will be held Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. We always need volunteer callers and runners to help out with this event.

**A Kayak Raffle** raises funds to support our projects and activities. Take a look at our beautiful custom kayak on display at the Museum site. Tickets are available at the shack tent.

**The Museum Yard Sale** will be held on Saturday, July 6 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Museum site. Hot dogs and drinks will be sold starting at 11:00. Donations for the sale may be dropped off at the

Museum by 2:00 p.m. daily. For more information or for table rentals contact Jill at [jillflk@yahoo.ca](mailto:jillflk@yahoo.ca).

**Heritage Day at the Museum** on Saturday, August 10 will feature special activities for all and a glimpse of shack tent life in the early days of Waskesiu.

In addition to our events at the museum, you will find us at several other community events. We will be offering special children’s activities at the Children’s Festival beginning at 10 am. We will once again offer a concession for breakfast and lunch beginning at 9 am at the Three Island Paddle and Music Festival at the Heart Lakes Marina on Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup>. We also invite you to join us under our canopy at the Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival on Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Volunteers:** We’d love to have you join our Heritage team. Be a volunteer yourself or volunteer as a family! Volunteer for an event, for a bingo, or share your knowledge and experiences in the shack tent. It’s a great opportunity to meet visitors from around the world! No experience is necessary and training will be provided. Contact our president, Betty Falk at [bettyf7728@gmail.com](mailto:bettyf7728@gmail.com), any Museum Board member or our manager, Gary Provencher at the Museum.

We hope to see you all at the Museum this summer. Open daily 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. **FREE ADMISSION!**

For more information about events and other news from the Museum, visit our website at [waskesiuheritagemuseum.org](http://waskesiuheritagemuseum.org)

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Lakeside Music Festival



Grab your dancing shoes, or just kick back and enjoy the great musical performances at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual **Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival on August 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>**. The main stage will again be located near the Community Hall, not far from Waskesiu’s main beach.

The weekend is jam-packed with a variety of free family activities, including live on-stage musical entertainment, displays highlighting Prince Albert National Park, food vendors, beer gardens, and

activities for kids. Cabarets (admission charge) are also planned for Friday and Saturday night.

If you support the Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival, we really need financial and volunteer help this year. If you are willing to sign up as a volunteer please contact Sheila Gagne ([lakewoman@shaw.ca](mailto:lakewoman@shaw.ca)).

Please also consider supporting the Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival by becoming a sponsor, or by making a charitable donation (tax receipt provided) via the Waskesiu Foundation. To donate, please visit [www.waskesiufoundation.ca](http://www.waskesiufoundation.ca), look for the “Donate” tab at the top of the page, and scroll down to find “Lakeside Music Festival”. Every dollar makes a difference – so thanks for helping us out!



For more information about the Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival, please check out the Festival Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/waskesiu\\_lakeside\\_festival/?ref=br\\_rs#](https://www.facebook.com/waskesiu_lakeside_festival/?ref=br_rs#), or visit [Waskesiu.org](http://Waskesiu.org).

## About the Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association

The Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association (WSRA) is a not for profit association. We work with Parks Canada, the Waskesiu Community Council and other organizations and officials within Prince Albert National Park (PANP) on matters that concern the cabin and cottage owners who are seasonal residents in the Waskesiu townsite.

Those matters include *the occupancy, use, maintenance, leasing and improvement of cottages and cabins, and the areas in which they are located.*

We also:

- ✓ Promote understanding and co-operation between leaseholders and others using PANP,
- ✓ Work to protect and enhance the environment, infrastructure, and recreational and cultural facilities within the Waskesiu townsite, and
- ✓ Provide a forum to discuss and share information on matters of concern to leaseholders.

Outstanding issues include cottage regulations, land rent, parking, marina trailer storage, townsite status, Park entrance limitations, and greenspaces in the 30’ cabin area.

The elected WSRA Board of Directors is made up of members from diverse backgrounds who represent the cabin and cottage area as equally as possible.

### 2019 Board of Directors

Rob Phillips (President, Governance)  
 Herb Pinder (Chair, Governance)  
 Kelly Prodanuk (Secretary/Treasurer, Finance)  
 Paul Pinder (Membership)  
 Ron Jones (Membership)  
 Sheila Gagne (Communications)  
 Kathy Ponath (Communications)  
 Jennifer Wood (Governance)  
 Kurt Wintermute (Governance)

Our website is housed within Waskesiu.org, at [http://www.waskesiu.org/seasonal\\_residents.html](http://www.waskesiu.org/seasonal_residents.html).  
 Our email address is [waskesiusra@gmail.com](mailto:waskesiusra@gmail.com)



*A seasonal resident?*

## Calendar of Events

Date	Event
July 1	Canada Day breakfast, parade, beer gardens
July 2- Aug 20	Fit Park Group Circuit, 9 am.
July 3- Aug 21	50+ Gentle Exercise, by Community Hall, 9:30 am.
July 3- Aug 23	Fitness on the Beach, 8:15 am.
July 3- Aug 28	Community Bingo (Wed) Terrace Gardens, 7 pm
July 6	Museum Yard Sale, 9 am – 2 pm
July 13	Waskesiu Foundation Sipping Social, Community Hall, 5:30 pm
July 20	Children's Festival
July 27	Three Island Paddle & Music Festival, Heart Lakes Marina
July 28	WCC & WSRA AGMs, Terrace Gardens
Aug 3	Beach Bums Ball
Aug 4	Grey Owl Howl Family Dance
Aug 10	Kids Duathlon
Aug 11	Frank Dunn Triathlon
Aug 16- 18	Art Show
Aug 23- 25	Lakeside Music Festival
Sept 6-8	Reel Rave Film Festival, Twin Pines Cinema
Sept 21	Outter Limits Fun Walk/Run

## Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association Membership

In order to reduce the effort required of volunteer canvassers who go door-to-door each year collecting WSRA memberships, **the membership fee structure is set up so that you save money and add convenience by renewing your membership for 5 years**, as follows:

**Annual Membership Fee: \$30**  
**5-Year Membership Fee: \$100**

Payment can be made through cheque or email transfer. We will provide you with a receipt upon request or provide you with information on your membership standing through email. When your membership expires, we will contact you about membership renewal.

There are **3 ways to renew your membership**.

1. Mail a cheque along with your information to our treasurer, Kelly Prodanuk, 204 – 140 Wall St., Saskatoon, SK, S7K 1N4.
2. Email your information along with an email transfer to [waskesiusra@gmail.com](mailto:waskesiusra@gmail.com).
3. Sign up and pay your dues at our annual meeting (This year it is on July 28<sup>th</sup>, TBA, Terrace Gardens).

Please include the following information:

- Name
- Address
- Lake Address
- Email Address (if you wish to receive correspondence through Canada Post, please indicate so)

Our voice is only as strong as our membership. Make your voice heard through the Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association and our advocacy work with Parks Canada, PANP and our other partners.

... And have a terrific summer!