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**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Julia Adamson - Heritage Designation of St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area - File CK 710-1

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**From:** Web NoReply  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 8:03 PM  
**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Julia Adamson - Heritage Designation of St Barbe Baker Afforestation Area - File CK 710-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [friendsafforestation@gmail.com](mailto:friendsafforestation@gmail.com) ---

Submitted on Thursday, August 27, 2020 - 20:02

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Date Thursday, August 27, 2020  
To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council  
First Name Julia  
Last Name Adamson  
Phone Number (306) [REDACTED]  
Email [friendsafforestation@gmail.com](mailto:friendsafforestation@gmail.com)  
Address [REDACTED] Appleby Court  
City Saskatoon  
Province Saskatchewan  
Postal Code [REDACTED]  
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc.  
Subject implications of heritage designation of St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area is going forward to the Municipal Heritage Advisory Meeting (if known) Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee Sept 2  
Comments  
Request the opportunity to speak to implications of heritage designation of St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area is going forward to the Municipal Heritage Advisory at Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee Sept 2. Thank you kindly. Will also try to forward a report/power point before this date.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Chairman Lenore Swystun, members of the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee. Saskatoon's afforestation areas, **George Genereux Urban Regional Park a large 147.9 acre park and Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area including 326 acres of woodlands and wetlands**, This story about the afforestation areas is one which resonates with the city's strategic goals of environmental leadership and increases our quality of life.

The City of Saskatoon Heritage Policy and Program Review, August 2012, states that "Heritage initiatives provide many tangible and intangible benefits, and have strong positive impact on the development of a complete community and innovation. The benefits of a well-managed heritage conservation program include:

- Encouraging retention of the community's unique physical heritage;
- Celebrating and/or commemorating historical events
- Continuing to practice traditional activities;
- Identifying ways that partnership opportunities can be fostered with senior levels of government;
- Engagement of the broader community including the private and volunteer sectors;
- Conservation of a broad range of historic sites that supports other public objectives such as tourism development and education;
- Investment in heritage sites through community partnerships;
- Support for sustainability initiatives; and
- Generation of employment opportunities and other economic benefits" (CoS, 2012)

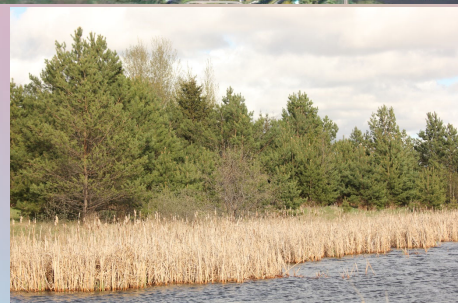
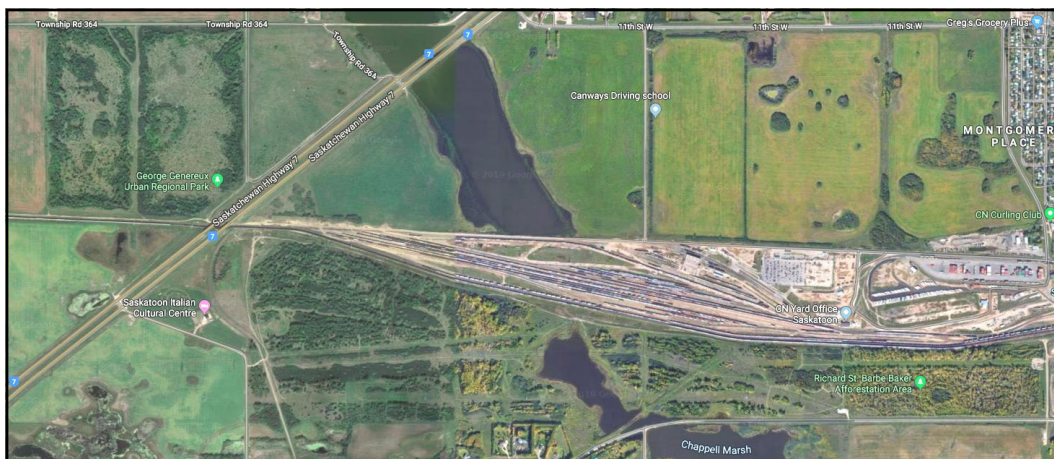
The afforestation areas may not be a road nor a bridge for the "city of bridges" to be proud of, but the afforestation areas are a natural capital asset with enormous value to the city in this era of climate change. The areas are prime places to study regeneration, ecological succession, geology, First Nations history and ethnobotany. The West Swale is a remnant of a glacial spillway known as the Yorath Island Spillway, and this influenced its flora and fauna and paleo-Indian activity in the area. In this time of Truth and Reconciliation the potential is there to study spiritual, medicinal, and nutritional uses of the area from a First Nations historical perspective plus assessing post-contact historic (Old Bone Trail) resources. The two afforestation areas are heritage greenspaces because of their natural (flora and fauna), historical (Green Survival Program), geological (West Swale and the Yorath Island Glacial Spillway), cultural (Old Bone Trail), spiritual (sacredness of water honouring First Nations traditions) and community values. During these unprecedented times perhaps restoration and regeneration in the form of permaculture community gardens, xeriscaped pollinator ribbons, and native food forests may indeed provide food security and may perhaps be what is needed in preparation for the next waves of COVID-19. Heritage is a story instilling pride, respect, trust, safety and integrity ~ all it takes is courage. Courage to want to share the values of Saskatoon's heritage, memory, culture, history, diversity, greenspace, and identity. We can move forward towards a future of who we want to be as a city, and recognize where we come from. What story do you want told about the City of Saskatoon?

# Saskatoon's Afforestation Areas

Presented by the non profit charity the Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc.

Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area  
George Genereux Urban Regional Park

<https://stbarbebaker.wordpress.com/>



## Richard St. Barbe Baker L.L.D, O.B.E.

” We forget that we owe our existence to the presence of Trees. As far as forest cover goes, we have never been in such a vulnerable position as we are today. The only answer is to plant more Trees – to Plant Trees for Our Lives.”

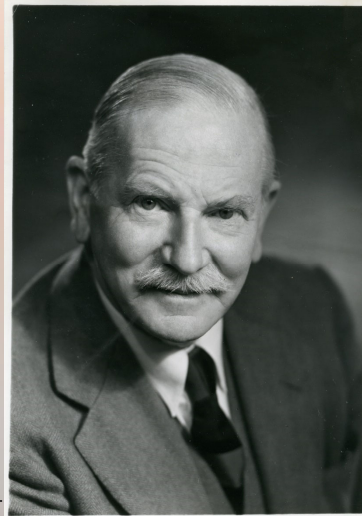


photo credit University of Saskatchewan.

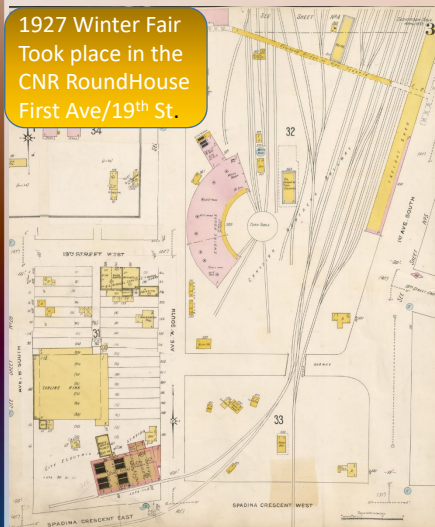
University Archives and Special Collections.

Richard St. Barbe Baker Fonds MG71.



Chappell Marsh in Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area and Chappell Marsh Conservation Area, and was named in honour of the CNR general superintendent of the Saskatchewan district, Benjamin Thomas Chappell as was Chappell Drive and the CNR Chappell Rail Yards.

1927 Winter Fair  
Took place in the  
CNR RoundHouse  
First Ave/19<sup>th</sup> St.



Did you know?

Saskatoon Exhibition Grounds and Prairieland Park was in part a great success due to city builder B.T. Chappell and his insight on how the CNR could accommodate and facilitate the early Agricultural Exhibition entries, visitors and animals from the greater rural area to Saskatoon's exhibition.



*Eight chiefs commemorated B.T. Chappell as "Chief Iron Horse" in the old ceremonial function*  
His farewell banquet in Saskatoon was the largest affair of its kind in the history of the city, for Ben Chappell played a big part in community efforts.





# Afforestation



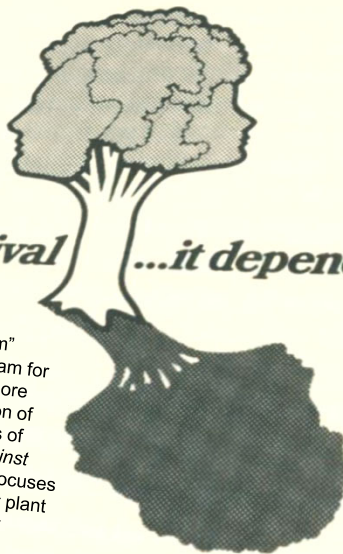
## 'Green Survival - It Begins With You'

In 1972, A. L. Ligtemoet, Assistant Parks Superintendent sets before council that these first 660 acres of afforestation areas be kept in perpetuity, this was approved

**200,000 trees for local Parks planted under the Green Survival program; the Afforestation area tree Nurseries started in 1972.**

*Green Survival ...it depends on you.*

The Green Survival Program" was an award-winning program for improving the environment, more beauty to see, and conservation of land from erosion with plantings of trees and shrubs in the fight against environmental deterioration and focuses attention on the important role that plant life plays in a healthful environment



The Green Survival program sponsored in North America by the Canadian Nursery Trades Association & the American Association of Nurserymen.



The Heritage resources manual.  
Meewasin Valley Authority

Form completed August/82 by Leslie Clark of Meewasin Valley Authority

**The Old Bone Trail**

**Old Bone Trail**

“By 1888, according to the U.S. government game reports, there were only six known buffalo in Existence...All that remained were the bones bleached in the sun and scattered everywhere, a final gift to man, their exterminator. Millions of these bones were destined for use as fertilizer or in the refining of sugar. On the prairies the bones served as the first cash crop for many settlers as well as the more footloose Metis traders.” ~C. Howard Shillington





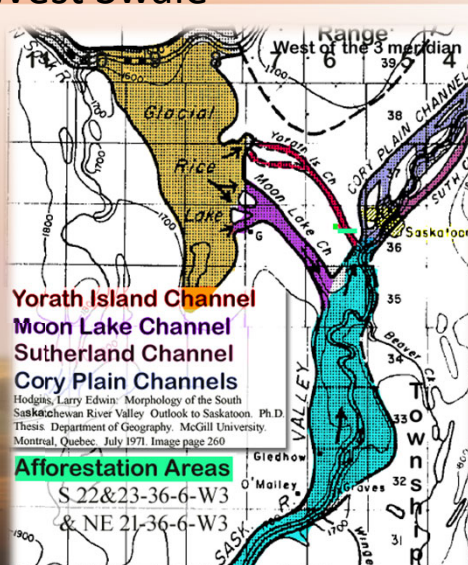
Trees chosen under the advisement from the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration **PFRA** for their drought resistant properties  
 American Elm, Siberian Elm, Manitoba Maple, Green Ash, Balsam Poplar, Willow, Engelmann's Spruce, Scotch Pine, Green Ash, and Caragana



## Formation of the West Swale

The West Swale, an outstanding example representing major stages of Earth's history, of the Pleistocene era. The Yorath Island Spillway is a prime example of a geological process called a glacial spillway shaping the landforms with a history of significant geomorphic and physiographic features. This influenced its flora and fauna and paleo-Indian activity in the area. Thus, the potential is there to study spiritual, medicinal, and nutritional uses of the area from a First Nations historical perspective !

Geology



**Pleistocene Era Channels of the Cory Plain and Sk River Valley**  
 2,588,000 to 11,700 years ago

Scale: Each square is one township  
 6 miles by 6 miles in size.







Saskatchewan Data Conservation Centre states Red-berried Elder (*Sambucus racemose*) has an S2 ranking





1978 Oct 19 The names  
"Richard St. Barbe Baker  
Afforestation Area"  
"George Genereux Urban  
Regional Park"  
brought forward to city council;  
Dec 28, 1978 proposed that  
the areas become a park;  
Jan 2, 1979, this is  
recommended by council.



## Horned Grebe

Special Concern  
Saskatchewan Data Conservation Centre  
A federally Listed Species



According to Chet Neufeld, B.Sc., P.Ag. Executive Director Native Plant Society mentions that “the provincial rare species database, there have been occurrences of endangered Whooping Cranes observed near the area in 2017” *Grus americana*



## West Swale wetlands





***Bobolink*** –listed as threatened by Saskatchewan Data Conservation Centre  
Also threatened nationally under federal Species at Risk Act SARA





Ranking S2: very rare in  
Saskatchewan by the  
Saskatchewan Conservation  
Data Centre



*Cypripedium parviflorum*  
Small yellow Lady's Slipper



"The provincial rare species database records an occurrence of Small Yellow Lady's-slipper (date unknown)," submitted by Chet Neufeld, B.Sc., P.Ag. Executive Director Native Plant Society

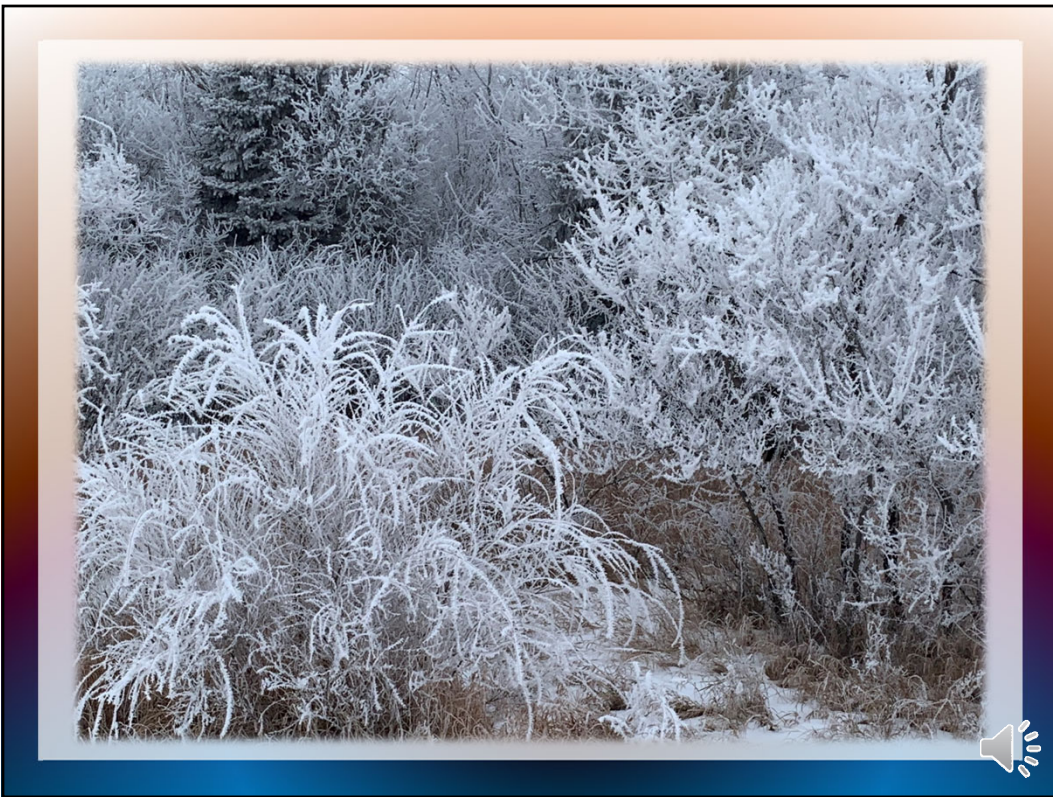




George Genereux was the youngest Olympic Games Gold Medal for trap-shooting at Helsinki, Finland ~ an international honour~ and Genereux was bestowed the national Lou Marsh Trophy as Canada's outstanding amateur athlete of the year  
Dr. George Genereux went on to become head of radiology, a distinguished writer for scientific journals, author, an illustrator, a featured speaker, and professor

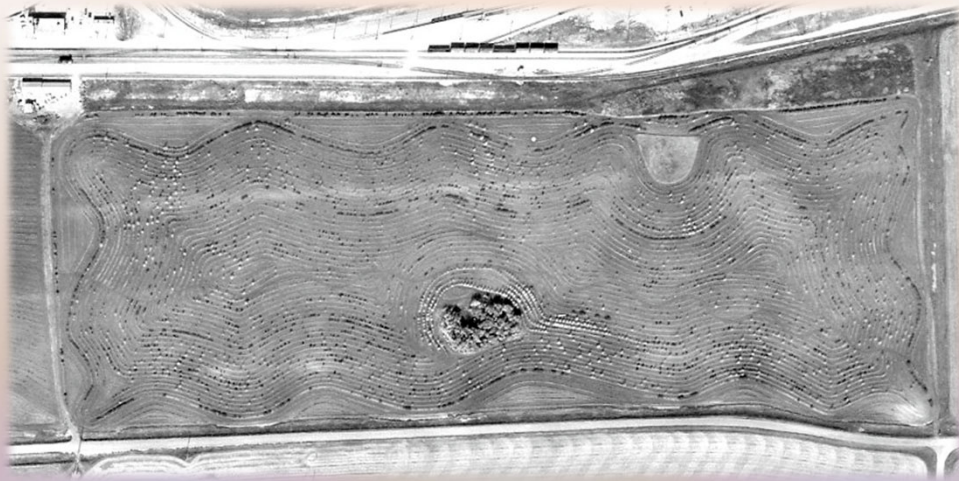


"Despite his own bad health [crippling case of rheumatoid arthritis ankylosing spondylitis], Genereux worked to advance the cause of medical knowledge. 'If you can't help yourself, you should use your God-given talents to help others,'"Dr. George Genereux





City of Saskatoon Archives Aerial Photo 1103-11-007-001 Chappell Yards and south (1975)



**Rows weaving in and out as much as forty feet from the centre line were used. This produces a natural forest effect preserving the native Trembling Aspen bluffs of the area in the afforested man-made mixed woodlands.**



*Barred Tiger Salamander or western tiger salamander (Ambystoma mavortium) Saskatchewan Conservation Data Centre Special Concern*



*The areas are prime places to study regeneration, ecological succession, geology, First Nations history and ethnobotany. Environmental stewardship and guardian programming includes observation and education around ecological succession and regeneration, land use, and compiling a baseline inventory of the flora and fauna*



<https://stbarbebaker.wordpress.com/>

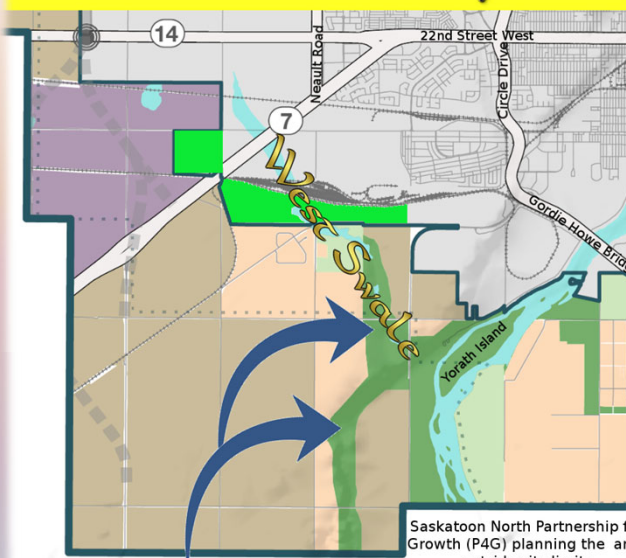
friendsafforestation@gmail.com

**Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth P4G** includes R.M. Of Corman Park 344, Saskatoon, Warman, Martensville and Osler.

Purple area shows Rural commercial/ industrial growth planning trajectory



## Green Network Study Area



Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth (P4G) planning the area outside city limits

■ The Green Network Study Area (additional review required) is dark green  
■ Afforestation Areas  
■ City of Saskatoon  
 Adapted from Saskatoon North Partnership for Growth Regional Plan





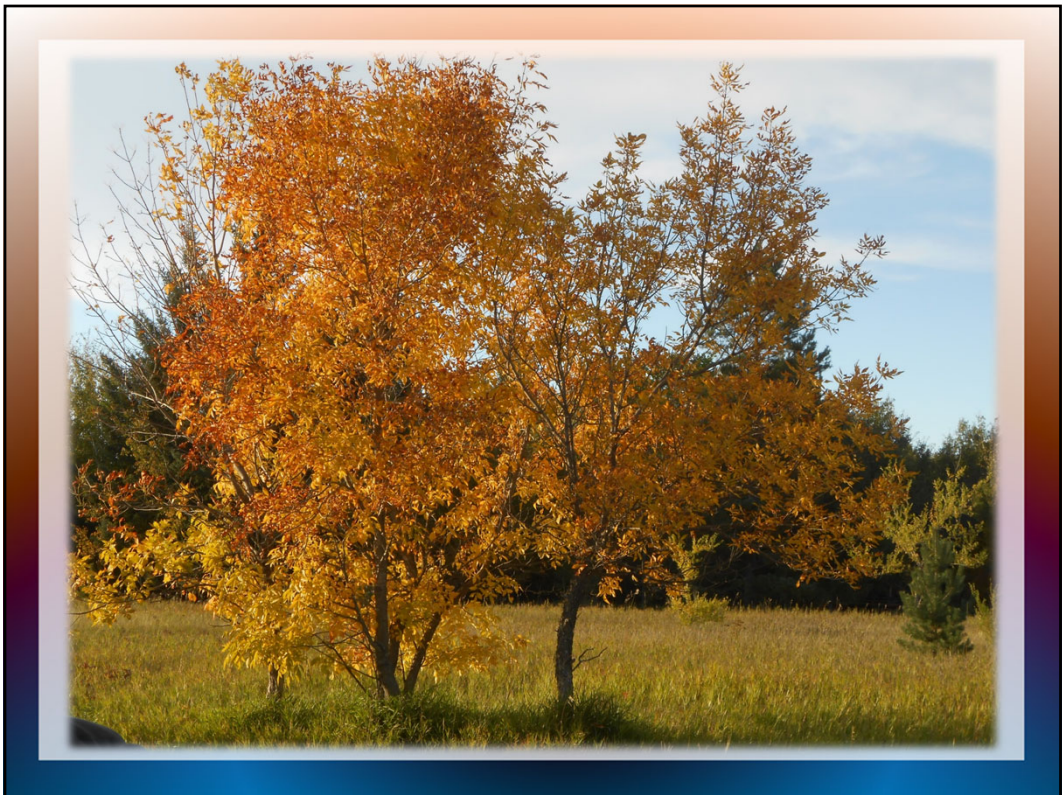


After ecological assessment & master plan  
Projects on climate action start a native food forest,  
engaging youth guardians, a place for learning

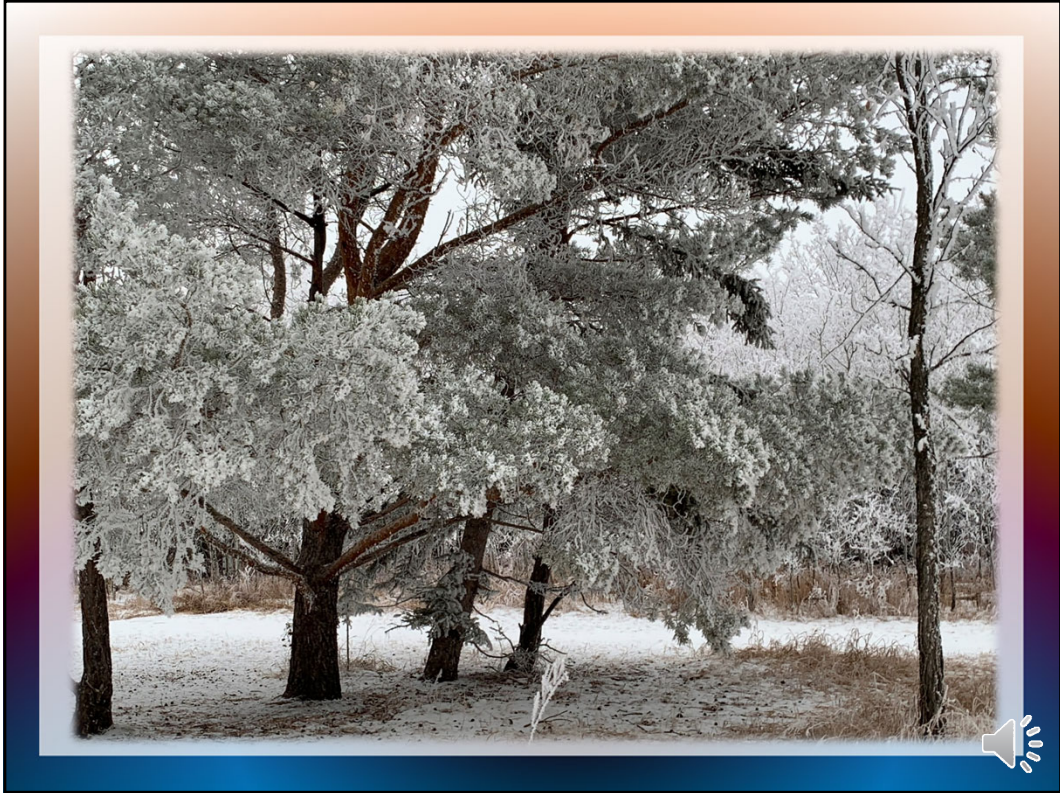


- Food Forest
  - Community Gardens
  - Pollinator Ribbons
- In the transmission  
Right-of-ways









<https://stbarbebaker.wordpress.com/> friendsafforestation@gmail.com

**Blairmore Sector Plan**  
 bringing in 8 new future  
 neighbourhoods with  
 50,000 to 70,000  
 residents in the  
 grey shaded area at  
 And around the West  
 Swale and the  
 Afforestation Areas.

PROJECT NO.: 20154611.000  
 DATE: 04Aug2017  
 DRAWN BY: D. TOTH

**FIGURE 6-1  
 LAND USE**  
 Ministry of Highways  
 Saskatoon Freeway-Environmental  
 Desktop Screening





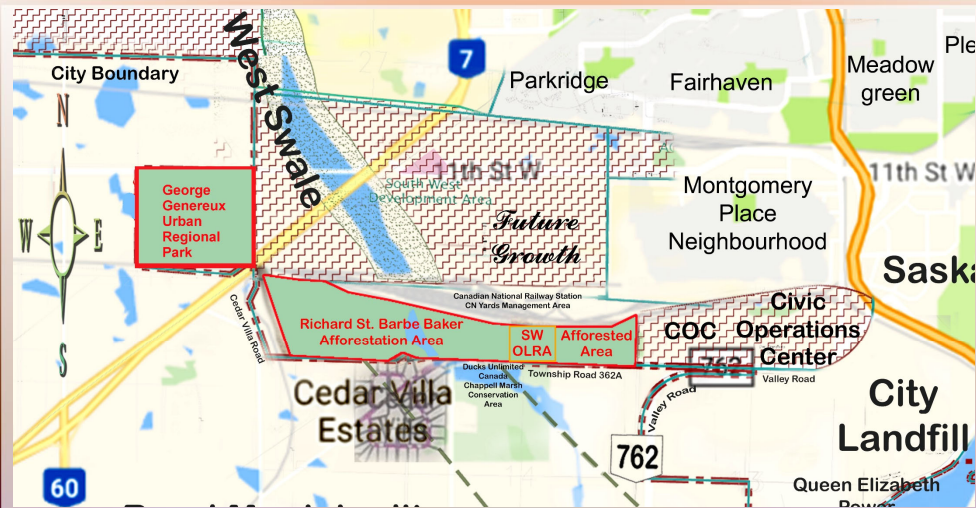
Many hands make light work  
Saskatchewan provincial motto  
*Multis e Gentibus Vires*  
"Strength from Many Peoples"



Richard St. Barbe  
Baker founded the  
International  
"Men of the Trees"  
Foundation who  
adopted as their  
motto the African  
word *Twahamwe*,  
meaning  
"pull together".



The Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc formed to protect and preserve these significant heritage sites by ensuring safety, restoring, developing, and maintaining these sites with a view to commemorate them for the benefit of the residents of the Greater Saskatoon Area.



George Generoux Urban Regional Park a large 147.9 acre park  
Richard St. Barbe Baker Afforestation Area 326 acres woodlands and wetlands.  
Saskatoon's best kept secrets OR municipal heritage and natural treasures.  
"Do we recognized that thousands of these things are lost because of failure on our part  
to develop an asset that can readily be made the equal of the best in this country?"  
~Dr. E.E. Shepley (Shepley, 1930)

The Friends of the Saskatoon Afforestation Areas Inc. Non profit Charity

