



November 29, 2023

Lynne Lacroix
City of Saskatoon
222 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK; S7K 0J5

RE: Support requested to host 2027 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference and Trade Show

Dear Ms. Lacroix,

I am writing on behalf of Discover Saskatoon to express our shared enthusiasm and commitment towards hosting the 2027 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference and Trade Show in Saskatoon.

Our ongoing dialogue and collaboration have brought us closer to realizing this prestigious event in our city. To further this aim, I am formally requesting the City of Saskatoon's support, specifically through a report to the City Council. This report should advocate for the endorsement of Discover Saskatoon's bid submission, an essential step as per FCM requirements.

Discover Saskatoon is not just committed but passionately invested in bringing this significant event to our city. Our efforts began in earnest in the summer of 2023, marked by proactive engagement with the FCM head office in Ottawa. We have established meaningful relationships with key FCM contacts, including Husvini Poolay and Andrea Boyd, who are aware of our dedication to hosting the conference.

Our approach has been one of true partnership. Collaborating with Saskatoon Destination Marketing Hotel Partners, venue partners, and the City of Saskatoon, we have meticulously strategized our bid. The submission made on November 14, 2023, was met with positive feedback, prompting us to refine our proposal to showcase Saskatoon's best.

As part of our comprehensive bid, we were excited to include a series of "study tours," developed in collaboration with the City Administration. These tours are not only a bid requirement but a proud representation of our city's initiatives and achievements. We believe these tours will offer valuable insights and memorable experiences to the conference delegates, further highlighting Saskatoon's innovative spirit.

With the final step of submitting a Council resolution, we will then await the selection by the Standing Committee on Conference Planning in November 2023 and the subsequent decision by the FCM Board of Directors in December 2023.

Enclosed is the estimated event budget for 2027, and proposed Study Tours. Should you need any further details or clarification, we are at your disposal.

We are ready to demonstrate the excellence of our city and the strength of our partnership. Your support in this endeavor is not just crucial but deeply valued. Together, we can make the 2027 FCM

Annual Conference and Trade Show a landmark event, showcasing Saskatoon's hospitality and innovation to nearly 4,000 delegates from across Canada.

Thank you for your time, support, and consideration. We are excited about the prospect of hosting this event and are confident that with your backing and partnership, it will be a resounding success.

Sincerely,



Steph Clovechok
CEO, Discover Saskatoon

We have calculated an approximate 3.4% increase YOY for the FCM contribution via delegate registrations.

2017 – 152.00 per delegate X 1800 = \$273,600
2018 – 157.17 per delegate X 1800 = \$282,906
2019 – 162.51 per delegate X 1800 = \$292,518
2020 – 168.04 per delegate X 1800 = \$302,472
2021 – 173.75 per delegate X 1800 = \$312,750
2022 – 179.66 per delegate X 1800 = \$323,388
2023 – 185.77 per delegate X 1800 = \$334,379
2024 – 192.08 per delegate X 1800 = \$345,748
2025 – 198.61 per delegate X 1800 = \$357,504
2026 – 205.37 per delegate X 1800 = \$369,659
2027 – 212.35 per delegate X 1800 = \$382,227
2028 – 219.57 per delegate X 1800 = \$395,223

Budget outline continued on the following pages...

2027 FCM Conference – Saskatoon

Proposed Budget

Host Municipality Expenses

Revenue:

Registration:

FCM Contribution	\$382,227
<i>2027 – 212.35 per delegate X 1800 = \$382,227</i>	
<i>2028 – 291.57 per delegate x 1800 = \$395,223</i>	
Companion	\$10,000

Estimated Partnership Funding:

City of Saskatoon	\$300,000
Government of Saskatchewan	\$150,000
DMP Room Rebate Contribution	\$97,000
<i>\$15 x 6500 room nights</i>	
Corporate Sponsorship	\$85,000
Civic Hospitality Fund	\$7,500

TOTAL REVENUE

\$1,031,727

	2027 Budget High	2027 Budget Mid-Range
Expenses:		
Expenses - FCM		
Year Prior Booth	\$6,250.00	\$6,000.00
Opening Reception; Saskatoon's Portion	\$90,000.00	\$86,400.00
Continental Breakfasts	\$168,750.00	\$162,000.00
Gala Dinner	\$200,000.00	\$192,000.00
Coffee Service	\$67,500.00	\$64,800.00
Event Signage	\$6,250.00	\$6,000.00
Study Tours	\$12,500.00	\$12,000.00
Transportation	\$187,500.00	\$180,000.00
Conference Administration	\$12,500.00	\$12,000.00
Conference Administrator	\$81,250.00	\$78,000.00
Translation	\$37,500.00	\$36,000.00
Speaker's Gifts	\$6,250.00	\$6,000.00
Volunteer T-Shirts	\$5,000.00	\$4,800.00

Photographer	\$12,500.00	\$12,000.00
Conference Kits	\$50,000.00	\$48,000.00
Companion Lounge	\$9,375.00	\$9,000.00
Companion Program	\$31,250.00	\$30,000.00
Hospitality Suite	\$9,375.00	\$9,000.00
Contingency	\$37,500.00	\$36,000.00
Total FCM Expenses	\$1,031,250.00	\$990,000.00

FCM – PROPOSED STUDY TOURS

Executive Summary

The proposed study tours for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference in 2028 in Saskatoon are designed to showcase the city's innovative urban development, commitment to cultural heritage, environmental stewardship, and its pivotal role in food security. These tours will offer municipal officials a unique opportunity to witness firsthand the local talent, leadership, and community partnerships that drive Saskatoon's growth and sustainability.

Proposed Study Tours

Walking Tours – "The Rise of River Landing"

Stops: Nassar Plaza, Remail Modern, Persephone Theatre, Meewasin Trails.

Focus: This tour highlights the transformative development in Saskatoon's downtown area, showcasing how contemporary urban planning and cultural investments can rejuvenate city centers. Participants will see how local artists and architects have contributed to these iconic locations.

Tour Highlights

1. Start at Nassar Plaza

Visual Appeal: Witness the stunning architecture and landscaping of Nassar Plaza, a symbol of Saskatoon's urban renewal.

Interactive Element: Engage with local street performers and artists who bring this space to life.

Learning Opportunity: Understand the design philosophy behind the Plaza, emphasizing community gathering and urban aesthetics.

2. Explore Remail Modern

Artistic Showcase: Delve into world-class modern and contemporary art exhibitions, highlighting both Canadian and international artists.

Architecture Insights: Admire the award-winning architectural design of the building, a marvel that blends functionality with artistic expression.

Cultural Engagement: Participate in a guided tour by a local artist or curator, offering insights into the museum's collection and its impact on the local art scene.

3. Persephone Theatre Experience

Behind-the-Scenes Tour: Get an exclusive look at the inner workings of one of Saskatoon's premier theatres.

Artistic Dialogue: Engage in a Q&A session with local actors, directors, or playwrights, discussing the role of theatre in community development.

Performance Preview: Enjoy snippets of upcoming productions, showcasing the rich talent of Saskatoon's performing arts community.

4. Meewasin Trails Adventure

Nature Meets Urban: Stroll through the beautifully maintained Meewasin Trails, a perfect example of integrating nature within an urban setting.

Historical Insights: Learn about the history and significance of the Saskatchewan River as you walk along its banks.

Interactive Wildlife Experience: Engage with local naturalists or biologists for a brief wildlife and flora interpretation session, highlighting the importance of urban biodiversity.

5. Special Features

Local Expert Talks: At each stop, hear from local experts, urban planners, and artists, providing in-depth knowledge and personal anecdotes.

Photography Opportunities: Enjoy numerous photo stops, capturing the essence of Saskatoon's urban transformation.

Networking Breaks: Mingle with fellow delegates and local leaders during coffee breaks at strategically chosen scenic spots.

6. End-of-Tour Reception

Local Cuisine Sampling: Conclude the tour with a taste of local delicacies, offering an experience of Saskatoon's diverse culinary scene and local terroir at The Alt Hotel. Joined by award-winning author and television host Jenn Sharpe, delegates will be immersed in the taste of place that only Saskatchewan can produce.

Reflection and Networking: Use this time for reflection on the day's experiences and network with other attendees in a relaxed, informal setting.

This tour is not just a walk through Saskatoon's downtown; it's an immersive experience into the heart of the city's cultural and urban evolution, designed to inspire and enlighten delegates on the transformative power of urban planning and cultural investment.

"Partnerships for Community Programs and Amenities"

Stops: Gordie Howe Sports Complex, Optimist Hill at Diefenbaker Park, Jumpstart Basketball Courts, Reconciliation Park.

Focus: Emphasizing the role of community partnerships in creating recreational and cultural amenities, this tour demonstrates successful collaboration models between the municipality and community organizations.

Tour Highlights

1. Gordie Howe Sports Complex Visit

Athletic Showcase: Explore this state-of-the-art sports facility, hosting a range of sports and events, and learn about its impact on local athletics.

Community Impact Discussion: Engage with facility managers and local sports teams to understand how this complex has benefited the community.

Interactive Experience: Participate in a mini-sporting event or clinic, experiencing the facility's amenities first-hand.

2. Adventures at Optimist Hill in Diefenbaker Park

Recreational Diversity: Discover how this area provides year-round recreational activities, from skiing in winter to biking in summer.

Community Engagement: Hear from volunteers and staff about the development and maintenance of this multi-use recreational space.

Environmental Integration: Understand the integration of recreational spaces within the natural landscape, emphasizing sustainability.

3. Jumpstart Basketball Courts Interaction

Youth Involvement: Witness a live youth basketball session, showcasing the importance of sports in youth development.

Community Building: Learn about the Jumpstart program's role in providing accessible sports facilities to the community along with the Indigenous cultural partnerships that have enabled this one of a kind space.

Networking with Local Athletes: Meet with local athletes and coaches who have played a key role in the courts' success and popularity.

4. Reflective Visit to Reconciliation Park

Cultural Significance: Understand the park's role in promoting reconciliation, showcasing artworks and installations that reflect Indigenous culture and history.

Guided Tour: Take a guided tour with a local Indigenous leader, offering insights into the park's significance and the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Interactive Workshops: Participate in cultural workshops or storytelling sessions, deepening the understanding of Indigenous heritage and its role in community building.

5. Special Features

Expert Panels: At each stop, panels of local experts, community leaders, and project managers will provide insights into the development and impact of these amenities.

Networking Opportunities: Engage in structured networking sessions with key stakeholders, fostering connections and collaborations.

6. Closing Reception

Community Showcase: Enjoy performances or exhibitions by local artists and community groups, celebrating the vibrant cultural scene of Saskatoon.

Reflection and Discussion: Utilize this opportunity for group discussions and reflections on the insights gained during the tour.

This tour aims to highlight the critical role of partnerships in creating and maintaining community programs and amenities. It will showcase successful collaboration models between the municipality and community organizations, serving as an inspiration and practical guide for delegates on fostering community development through partnerships.

"Storm Water Management Systems"

Stops: WW Ashley Park, Weaver Park.

Focus: This tour will highlight innovative stormwater management strategies, including the use of super pipes, demonstrating Saskatoon's commitment to sustainable urban development.

Tour Highlights

1. WW Ashley Park Exploration

Innovative Infrastructure: Discover the advanced stormwater management systems in place, including the use of super pipes and retention basins.

Environmental Impact Discussion: Learn about the environmental benefits of these systems, including flood prevention and water quality improvement.

Interactive Demonstrations: Participate in demonstrations showcasing how the park's design integrates stormwater management with public recreational space.

2. Weaver Park Visit

Urban Ecology Emphasis: Explore how Weaver Park incorporates stormwater management into its urban ecological design.

Community Integration: Understand the park's role in the local community, serving both as a recreational area and a functional piece of stormwater infrastructure.

Expert Talks: Engage with city engineers and environmental planners who will explain the technical aspects and long-term benefits of the park's design.

3. Special Features

On-site Learning Sessions: Participate in educational sessions at each park, providing deeper insights into the engineering and environmental science behind stormwater management.

Photography Opportunities: Capture the unique integration of urban design and environmental functionality, highlighting Saskatoon's innovative approach.

Discussions with Local Stakeholder: Interact with local residents, officials, and environmental activists to understand the community's perspective on these projects.

4. Technical Demonstrations

Model Displays: View detailed models and technical displays explaining the workings of the stormwater systems.

Real-Time Data Analysis: Observe how real-time monitoring and data analysis play a crucial role in managing these systems effectively.

5. Networking and Idea Exchange

Expert Panels: Sit in on panel discussions with urban planners, environmental scientists, and municipal leaders discussing challenges and successes in stormwater management.

Interactive Workshops: Engage in workshops focused on planning and implementing sustainable stormwater systems in urban settings.

6. End-of-Tour Reflections

Group Discussion: Conclude the tour with a group discussion, allowing delegates to share insights and ideas inspired by the tour.

Sustainable Development Focus: Reflect on how these systems contribute to Saskatoon's overall sustainable urban development goals.

This tour is designed to provide delegates with a comprehensive understanding of Saskatoon's advanced stormwater management strategies. It will showcase the city's commitment to combining sustainability with urban development, offering practical insights into the challenges and solutions in managing urban water systems.

"Wanuskewin Heritage Park – UNESCO World Heritage Bid"

Stops: Wanuskewin Heritage Park

Focus: Showcasing the efforts towards UNESCO World Heritage designation, this tour emphasizes the importance of preserving and celebrating Indigenous heritage and culture.

Tour Highlights

The Story of the Northern Plains

Cultural Immersion: Experience the profound history of Wanuskewin, a site of immense cultural significance for over 6,400 years.

Educational Journey: Learn about the evolution of Northern Plains Indigenous cultures, with a focus on the Plains Cree traditions and values.

Interactive Storytelling: Engage with stories that offer insights into the ancient practices and spiritual beliefs of the Indigenous peoples of the region.

Step Back in Time Walk

Historical Exploration: Participate in a guided walk that transports you back in time, showcasing the daily life of the Plains Indigenous peoples.

Environmental Connection: Understand the deep relationship between the Indigenous peoples and the natural landscape of the Northern Plains.

Sensory Experience: Feel the ancient connection to the land, observing traditional practices and the natural environment.

Tipi Teachings

Cultural Significance: Learn about the Plains Cree style tipi, its construction, and the important life lessons associated with each of its fifteen poles.

Holistic Understanding: Gain insights into the Plains Cree worldview, including aspects of well-being, health, social roles, and women's teachings.

Hands-on Experience: Participate in the construction or exploration of a tipi, experiencing its practicality and symbolic importance.

Exhibits Tour

Guided Exploration: Enjoy a curated tour of the exhibit spaces, rich with artifacts and interactive displays.

Educational Insight: Delve into the history, art, and culture of the Northern Plains Indigenous peoples through engaging and informative exhibits.

Personal Reflection: Spend time interacting with the displays, allowing for a deeper personal connection with the history and culture presented.

Dance Presentation

Artistic Expression: Witness a vibrant exploration of Indigenous dance, understanding its role as both an art form and a vital cultural practice.

Cultural Identity: See how dance serves as a personal expression of the dancer's culture and identity.

Interactive Participation: Engage in a dance workshop, experiencing the physical and spiritual aspects of Indigenous dance.

wâhkôhtowin: Bison Kinship

Part I – Ecological Importance: Discover the critical role of bison in the ecosystem and understand the environmental impact of their near-extinction.

Part II – Cultural Relationship: Learn about the longstanding, multifaceted relationship between bison and the Indigenous Peoples, encompassing cultural, spiritual, and physical dimensions.

Integrated Learning: Explore the concept of wâhkôhtowin, understanding the interconnectedness of all life forms, and the importance of bison in the Northern Plains.

This tour at Wanuskewin Heritage Park is not just a visit; it's a comprehensive cultural immersion. It offers a unique opportunity to gain a profound understanding of the Indigenous heritage of the Northern Plains, emphasizing the importance of this site in the bid for UNESCO World Heritage designation. Participants will leave with a deeper appreciation of the Indigenous cultures, their resilience, and their ongoing relationship with the natural world.

"Recovery Park – Sustainability in Action"

Stops: Civic Operations Center, Recovery Park, Landfill Gas facilities.

Focus: Exploring the city's approach to waste management and sustainability, illustrating innovative practices in recycling and energy recovery.

Tour Highlights

Civic Operations Center Visit

Operational Insights: Dive into the operations of Saskatoon's core services at the Civic Operations Center, the hub of city's environmental management.

Sustainable Practices Overview: Learn about the city's initiatives in sustainable practices, including waste management and energy efficiency.

Interactive Experiences: Engage in hands-on demonstrations showcasing the city's latest innovations in urban sustainability and resource management.

Exploration of Recovery Park

Innovative Recycling Solutions: Discover Recovery Park's state-of-the-art facilities for recycling and waste diversion, demonstrating Saskatoon's commitment to reducing landfill usage.

Educational Tour: Receive an in-depth explanation of the recycling process, from collection to processing and re-use.

Sustainability in Action: Witness first-hand the transformation of waste materials into valuable resources, highlighting the circular economy in practice.

Landfill Gas Facilities Inspection

Energy Recovery Exploration: Learn about the conversion of landfill gas to energy, a critical component of the city's sustainability strategy.

Environmental Impact: Understand the environmental benefits of capturing and utilizing landfill gas, including reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

Technical Demonstration: View the technology and infrastructure used to capture, process, and convert landfill gas into usable energy.

Special Features

Expert-Led Discussions: Engage with city officials and environmental experts discussing the challenges and successes in sustainable waste management.

Interactive Workshops: Participate in workshops designed to provide practical insights into implementing similar sustainability projects in other municipalities.

Networking Opportunities: Connect with professionals and leaders in the field of environmental sustainability, fostering collaborative opportunities.

End-of-Tour Reflections

Group Discussion: Conclude the tour with a group discussion, encouraging delegates to share insights and ideas inspired by the visit.

Future of Sustainability: Reflect on the potential for similar sustainable initiatives in participants' own municipalities, and the impact such practices can have on urban environments.

This tour offers a comprehensive look at Saskatoon's forward-thinking approach to waste management and sustainability. It will not only showcase innovative practices in recycling and energy recovery but also inspire delegates with actionable ideas that they can take back to their own communities. The focus on practical, sustainable solutions demonstrates Saskatoon's leadership in environmental stewardship and urban sustainability.

"Urban Reserves: Indigenous Innovation in Saskatoon"

Focus: This tour focuses on the development and integration of urban reserves in Saskatoon, demonstrating successful models of indigenous economic development within urban settings.

Tour Highlights

Introduction to Urban Reserves

Definition and Purpose: Start with an overview of what urban reserves are, their creation through specific claim and Treaty Land Entitlement settlements, and their role in providing First Nations with opportunities to purchase and develop urban land.

Economic and Social Benefits: Understand the significant economic, social, and cultural development opportunities urban reserves bring to both Indigenous communities and the host city.

Asimakaniseekan Askiy: A Model of Success

Historical Significance: Visit Asimakaniseekan Askiy, the first urban reserve in Canada built on land designated for city development, and learn about its transformation from a former railway site to a thriving commercial hub.

Community Impact: Explore the diverse range of Indigenous and non-Indigenous businesses established here, showcasing the economic revitalization achieved through urban reserves.

Municipal Collaboration and Services

Partnership Agreements: Gain insights into the agreements negotiated between First Nations and municipalities, which include provisions for essential services and tax arrangements, crucial for the smooth operation of urban reserves.

Cultural Integration: Discuss the importance of these agreements in fostering strong relationships and mutual respect between Indigenous communities and urban centers.

Exploring Other Urban Reserves in Saskatoon

Diverse Developments: Tour other urban reserves in Saskatoon, observing the variety of developments like commercial centers, office buildings, and community spaces.

Economic Integration: Witness how these reserves integrate into the city's economy, providing employment opportunities and enhancing the local business landscape.

Interactive Learning and Discussions

First Nations Entrepreneurs: Meet with Indigenous business owners and community leaders to discuss their experiences and challenges in establishing businesses on urban reserves.

Workshops on Economic Development: Participate in workshops focusing on Indigenous economic development strategies and their impact on urban settings.

Reflection and Future Prospects

Group Discussion: Conclude the tour with a discussion on the potential of urban reserves as a model for economic development and cultural preservation in other urban settings.

Visionary Outlook: Reflect on the future of urban reserves in contributing to a more inclusive and prosperous urban landscape.

This tour offers an insightful look into the innovative approach of integrating urban reserves into Saskatoon's fabric. It highlights successful models of Indigenous economic development and the collaborative spirit between First Nations and the city, providing a unique perspective on urban planning and cultural diversity.

"Forward Together: P4G's Vision for a Thriving, Sustainable Future"

Focus: Focused on regional planning, this tour will explore the strategies used to accommodate growth while preserving green spaces and promoting sustainable development.

Tour Highlights

Introduction to P4G Collaboration

Overview of Partnership: Participants begin with an overview of the P4G (Partnership for Growth), explaining the collaboration between the municipalities of Corman Park, Martensville, Osler, Saskatoon, and Warman.

Vision and Goals: Understand P4G's vision for a vibrant, prosperous region, known for its high quality of life, thriving economy, and sustainable growth over a morning culinary experience in Saskatoon.

Exploring the P4G Regional Plan

Growth and Development Strategy: Dive into the P4G regional plan, focusing on land use, transportation, utilities, services, and finances to accommodate the projected population growth.

Sustainable Infrastructure: Learn about the coordinated approach to development, ensuring efficient infrastructure that supports the region's sustainability goals.

Committees and Decision-Making

Committee Insights: Gain insights into the roles of various P4G committees, such as the Regional Oversight Committee, Planning & Administration Committee, and others, in implementing the regional vision.

Integrated Approaches: Understand how these committees work together to achieve the overarching principles and annual objectives of the P4G plan.

Tour of Participating Municipalities

Diverse Municipal Perspectives: Visit each partnering municipality, observing how they individually and collectively contribute to the regional plan's goals.

Community Engagement: Meet with local officials and community members to discuss how the P4G plan impacts their lives and future prospects.

Highlighting Green Spaces and River Landscapes

Environmental Preservation: Explore how the plan preserves the ecological values of the South Saskatchewan River and prairie landscapes, balancing development with nature conservation.

Recreational and Cultural Amenities: See firsthand the recreational areas and cultural spaces that enhance the quality of life in the region.

Interactive Workshops and Discussions

Planning and Development Workshops: Participate in workshops led by urban planners and regional developers, discussing the challenges and strategies of regional growth planning.

Networking Opportunities: Engage with professionals and leaders in urban planning and regional development for knowledge exchange and collaboration.

Reflective Conclusion and Future Outlook

Group Discussion: Conclude with a discussion on the lessons learned and how the P4G model can be applied or adapted in other regions.

Visionary Perspective: Reflect on how the P4G's integrated and collaborative approach paves the way for sustainable urban and regional development.

This tour is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of the P4G's innovative approach to regional growth and planning. It will highlight the collaborative efforts of multiple municipalities to create a sustainable, thriving future, offering valuable insights into the complexities and opportunities of regional development.

"Meewasin Mosaic: Exploring Saskatoon's Urban Nature Harmony"

Stops: Meewasin Valley Parkway, Beaver Creek, Northeast Swale

Focus: This tour emphasizes environmental preservation within urban settings, showcasing the balance between development and nature conservation.

Tour Highlights

Downtown Saskatoon

Urban Nature Integration: Begin the tour in downtown Saskatoon, where the South Saskatchewan River plays a central role in city life. This area exemplifies how urban environments can coexist harmoniously with nature.

Cultural and Historical Context: Understand the history of the river valley and its importance to the Assiniboine and Plains Cree First Nations, as well as the Métis, the original inhabitants of this region.

Future Vision: Learn about the vision for the Meewasin Valley as a potential National Urban Park, emphasizing conservation, nature connection, and Indigenous reconciliation.

Beaver Creek Conservation Area

Wildlife Interaction: Engage in unique activities like hand-feeding chickadees, a fan-favorite experience that connects visitors with the area's wildlife.

Conservation Significance: Discover the importance of conservation areas like Beaver Creek in protecting natural ecosystems and species at risk.

Naughty By Nature Experience: Participate in this adults-only tour focusing on the mating behaviors of local wildlife, combined with local food and drinks for an entertaining and educational evening.

Northeast Swale

Biodiversity and Preservation: Explore the Northeast Swale, an ancient river channel known for its native prairie grasslands and high biodiversity. This area serves as a natural filter for air and water and helps with flood control.

Historical Significance: Delve into the swale's history, which includes remnants of the Moose Woods – Batoche Trail and other significant archaeological sites.

Special Features

Update on National Urban Park Status: Receive an update on Meewasin's journey towards achieving National Urban Park status, a significant step in protecting and enhancing this unique urban green space.

Interactive Learning: Participate in educational sessions focusing on the ecological and cultural importance of these areas.

Photography and Networking: Capture stunning natural landscapes and network with fellow delegates and local experts.

This tour is designed to showcase the delicate balance between urban development and nature conservation in Saskatoon. It highlights the critical role of areas like the Northeast Swale and Beaver Creek in preserving biodiversity and cultural heritage. The potential designation of Meewasin Valley as a National Urban Park further emphasizes the commitment to sustainable urban planning, nature conservation, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Participants will gain valuable insights into how urban areas can effectively integrate and preserve natural environments.

"Food Security in the "Breadbasket of the World"

Stops: Food Innovation Center, Community Gardens, Global Institute for Food Security.

Focus: Demonstrating Saskatoon's role in global food security, this tour will explore agricultural innovations and community-based food initiatives.

Tour Highlights

Food Innovation Centre

Innovative Food Solutions: Discover how the Food Innovation Center contributes to food security through its development and processing expertise, particularly in plant-based food innovations.

Technological Advances: Explore the Center's facilities, learning about their capabilities in fermentation, bioengineering, and protein fractionation, which are key to developing nutritious and sustainable food products.

Industry Impact: Understand the Center's role in supporting businesses from startups to large corporations, enhancing the food industry's efficiency and sustainability.

Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) Global

Global Collaboration for Food Security: Learn about GIFS' work with diverse partners to develop and deliver solutions for sustainable global food production.

Saskatchewan's Agricultural Strength: Understand Saskatchewan's pivotal role in addressing global food insecurity, with its vast arable land and strong agricultural exports.

Innovative Partnerships: Hear from founding partners like Nutrien on how GIFS is contributing to global food security and supporting the agricultural ecosystem in Saskatchewan.

Saskatoon's Community Gardens

Local Food Production: Visit several community gardens in Saskatoon, where residents actively participate in growing their own food, fostering local food security and community engagement.

Educational Experience: Engage with garden coordinators and volunteers to learn about urban agriculture, organic gardening, and the social benefits of community gardening.

Sustainability Practices: Explore the innovative practices used in these gardens, such as composting and water conservation, contributing to a sustainable urban food system.

Interactive and Educational Aspects

Hands-On Activities: Participate in food processing demonstrations at the Food Innovation Center and gardening activities in community gardens.

Discussions with Experts: Engage in talks with food scientists, agricultural experts, and community leaders about the challenges and advancements in food security.

Reflective Conclusion

Group Discussion: Conclude the tour with a discussion on Saskatoon's contributions to global food security and the role of local initiatives in supporting this goal.

"Savour Saskatoon: A Culinary Journey Through Local Flavours"

Focus: Connecting local produce with community gardens and restaurants, this tour offers a taste of Saskatoon's vibrant local food scene, emphasizing the importance of supporting local growers and businesses.

Guided by Jenn Sharp

Expert Insights: Led by local food expert Jenn Sharp, known for her deep knowledge of Saskatchewan's food scene and passionate advocacy for local food systems.

Storytelling: Jenn brings the tour to life with stories about local producers, chefs, and the journey of Saskatoon's culinary evolution.

Exploring Vibrant Neighborhoods

Downtown Saskatoon: Start in the bustling heart of the city, exploring restaurants that highlight Saskatoon's urban culinary delights.

Broadway District: Wander through this vibrant area known for its eclectic mix of eateries, from trendy cafes to upscale dining.

Riversdale: Discover this up-and-coming neighborhood's unique food offerings, blending traditional flavors with modern culinary techniques.

Top 100 North American Restaurants

Exclusive Experiences: Visit some of the top 100 restaurants in North America, showcasing Saskatoon's place on the culinary map.

Award-Winning Chefs: Dine in establishments led by two of Canada's top chefs, experiencing first-hand their culinary mastery and innovation.

Farm-to-Table Connections

Local Produce Focus: Explore restaurants that source their ingredients directly from partner farms, ensuring fresh, locally grown produce.

Whole Animal Approach: Learn about sustainable practices like the 'whole animal' approach, where chefs utilize every part of the animal to reduce waste and honor the ingredient.

Immersive Culinary Experiences

Tasting Sessions: Enjoy a variety of tasting sessions, from artisan cheeses to locally crafted beers and wines.

Interactive Demonstrations: Participate in cooking demonstrations or talks with chefs about their approach to food and sustainability.

Transformative Food Journey

Cultural Deep Dive: Understand how Saskatoon's food scene reflects the city's culture and community spirit.

Sustainable Practices: Learn about the restaurants' commitments to sustainability, from sourcing to preparation.

Conclusion with Reflections

Reflective Discussions: End the tour with a discussion on how the culinary scene in Saskatoon is an integral part of the city's identity.

Lasting Impressions: Leave with a deeper appreciation of the interconnectedness of local food systems, community, and culinary excellence.

This tour not only offers a taste of Saskatoon's dynamic local food scene but also provides insights into how community gardens, local producers, and innovative chefs contribute to a sustainable and vibrant culinary culture. Participants will be immersed in a transformative experience that celebrates the city's commitment to supporting local businesses and sustainable practices.

Conclusion

Each tour is designed to offer insightful, practical examples of Saskatoon's leadership in urban planning, cultural preservation, environmental sustainability, and community collaboration, aligning with FCM's goals of innovative, inclusive, and sustainable municipal governance.