
Subject: Communication - Candace Savage - Wild about Saskatoon - Request for support for Urban Wildlife Information Network Saskatoon - CK 150-1
Attachments: Request to SEAC.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 11:33 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Candace Savage - Wild about Saskatoon - Request for support for Urban Wildlife Information Network Saskatoon - CK 150-1

--- Replies to this email will go to hello@wildaboutsaskatoon.org ---

Submitted on Monday, January 27, 2025 - 11:33

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.: No

I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.: No

Date: Monday, January 27, 2025

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Candace

Last Name: Savage

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: 306 [REDACTED]

Phone Number : [306](tel:306) [REDACTED]

Email: hello@wildaboutsaskatoon.org

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Albert Avenue

Ward: Ward 6

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Wild about Saskatoon

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee, February 21

Comments:

January 27, 2025

To: Angela Spence, Chair, Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee
From: Chet Neufeld, Executive Director, Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan
Renny Grilz, Resource Management Officer, Meewasin Valley Authority
Candace Savage, Chair, Wild about Saskatoon

Request for support for UWIN Saskatoon

According to the City's 2025 Advisory Committee Manual, SEAC is tasked with providing "education and awareness programs on all matters within its mandate," including "wildlife or habitat conservation" and "ecological systems and greenspaces." We believe that partnering with Saskatoon's Urban Wildlife Information Network [UWIN Saskatoon] would provide you with an interesting opportunity to fulfill this requirement. At the same time, you would be helping the City advance toward several of its strategic goals: Environmental Leadership, Sustainable Growth, Quality of Life, and a Culture of Continuous Improvement.

A bit of background: The Urban Wildlife Information Network, or UWIN, is an international research alliance created by the Urban Wildlife Institute at Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, with the aim of "making cities better for humans and wildlife." Saskatoon is only the second Canadian city to join this important international research project and the only one that is actively collecting data at present. Our work is putting Saskatoon on the map as a center for wildlife research, urban conservation and knowledge dissemination.

As the UWIN website explains, the overall goal of this project is "to conduct the science needed to ensure that humans and wildlife can co-exist in urban areas, and that cities can contribute to biodiversity conservation around the world." UWIN provides a standardized methodology for the deployment of wildlife cameras, a platform for sharing data, and a framework for researchers from different cities to compare their findings. This research is of ever-increasing importance in our rapidly urbanizing region.

Originally housed at the University of Saskatchewan, UWIN Saskatoon is currently transforming into a remarkable collaborative effort that brings together in-kind contributions from the Meewasin Valley Authority, City of Saskatoon Naturalized Parks, the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan, Wild About Saskatoon and community volunteers. Together, we intend to maintain and expand our existing network of 30 wildlife cameras to generate high-quality information about wildlife occurrences in peri-urban and urban habitats, with the intention of informing planning decisions, enhancing wildlife survival and reducing human-wildlife conflict. Information generated by UWIN Saskatoon has already been sought after by the City's urban planners and decision-makers.

In addition to creating valuable data about wildlife presence and trends, UWIN Saskatoon will also foster education and awareness about urban habitats, greenspaces and conservation. Hundreds, and potentially thousands, of Saskatoon residents will be engaged, whether by helping monitor the cameras, assisting with photo identification or "liking" and learning from wildlife pictures shared on social media.

The labour involved in this project is all being provided free of charge, either as volunteer hours donated by individuals or as in-kind contributions from the partner agencies. However, the operational costs of replacing damaged-and-stolen cameras, flat batteries and other equipment is not funded. (The original equipment was donated by the Forestry Farm Park and Zoo as a one-time, never-to-be-repeated gift.) Given that UWIN Saskatoon is an excellent fit with SEAC's mandate, we hope you will consider helping to meet this need.

UWIN Saskatoon Equipment Budget April 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026

INCOME

\$4000 This request

\$1250 Private donations (secured)

\$5250 Total income

EXPENSES

\$1250 5 cameras at about \$250 each

350 10 security boxes

350 10 cable locks

3300 30 x 24 pack batteries at about \$110 each

\$5250 Total expenses

Attachments:

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?: No



Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan

P.O. BOX 21099 SASKATOON, SK S7H 5N9

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WWW.NPSS.SK.CA

January 27, 2025

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