

# Wascana *Centre*

A place for you!

2014-15 ANNUAL REPORT  
APRIL 1, 2014 - MARCH 31, 2015

# Wascana Centre Authority

## Board of Directors 2014-15

Appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council  
(Five Directors)

Wayne Clifton  
Bill Hutchison – Vice-Chair  
Richard Murray  
Al Nicholson  
Rodney Sieffert

Appointed by the resolution of the City of Regina  
(Three Directors)

Mayor Michael Fougere – Chair  
Councilor Mike O'Donnell  
Councilor Barbara Young

Appointed by the Governors of the University of Regina  
(Three Directors)

Dale Schoffer  
Dr. Vianne Timmons  
Nelson Wagner

Your guidance and leadership are valued and appreciated.

## Management and Staff

Chief Executive Office:  
Bernadette McIntyre

Chief Operations Officer:  
Mike Mamona

Chief Financial Officer:  
Michelle Paetsch\*  
Rachelle Ratch\*

Manager of Communications & Events:  
Ryan Whipple\*  
Carissa Robb\*

Manager of Human Resources:  
Ranae McKenzie

Manager of Infrastructure:  
Patrick Coulthard

Manager of Safety:  
Jim Morgan

Manager of Maintenance:  
Nelson Quevillon

Acting Manager of Forestry & Horticulture:  
Ron McEwen\*  
Darcy Schenk\*

Executive Assistant:  
Elizabeth Hill

\* Partial year



**Vision ...** To be a place of recreation and beauty for all to enjoy throughout the seasons – the pride of Saskatchewan.

**Values ...** Caring, Integrity, Teamwork, Innovation



# Chair's Message



The chance to be a part of Wascana Centre Authority Board of Directors is one of the lesser-known honours of serving on City Council. As Mayor, it has been my distinct privilege to serve as Chair for this past year, which has seen one of our city's most unique and beloved assets continue to flourish.

My first year as Chair saw several initiatives that have already made a big splash in the Centre in a short time. Perhaps the most visible is the completion of the Pine Island finishing line facility, unveiled to the public last summer. This eye-catching \$450,000 structure, built with the assistance of several private-sector partners, was immediately put into use for the North American Indigenous Games and the National Canoe Kayak Championships. It's an addition that has launched Wascana Centre into the top tier of racing venues.

Our everyday users have also benefited from the expansion of our paving efforts, with more of our gravel pathways paved over to improve the public's experience. A new maintenance facility and an upgrade of the heating system at Wascana Place also ensure that our operations continue at a high level, helping to make it possible for everyone to enjoy Wascana Centre at its best.

Of course, there would be no operations without the dedicated Wascana Centre staff. At WCA's annual service awards luncheon in December, I was honoured to be able to recognize and thank a group of new retirees who worked tirelessly to ensure the jewel of our city shone as brightly as possible during their tenure.

Wascana Centre is a huge source of pride for Regina and I am extremely appreciative of our Centre employees and the volunteers involved with the Board of Directors for all the hard work and dedication they give to making the Centre all that it can be.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Fougere'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Fougere  
Chair, Wascana Centre Board of Directors

# CEO Message



# W

ascana Centre's origins date back to 1905 when our first Premier, Walter Scott set aside the land for the Legislative Building and grounds. The next year the City of Regina created Wascana Park between College Avenue and Wascana Creek. Wascana Centre Authority was formally constituted in 1962 by an Act of the Saskatchewan Legislature which formed a unique partnership amongst the Province of Saskatchewan, the City of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan (now University of Regina). The Authority provides oversight and stewardship of these precious lands in a cooperative and collaborative manner to fulfil the vision of being a place of recreation and beauty for all to enjoy throughout the seasons – the pride of Saskatchewan.

Over the past year, the true Saskatchewan spirit of working together to build and improve the community has shone at Wascana Centre. Under the leadership of Wascana Centre Management, the business and recreational community came together to build the Finishing Line Facility on Pine Island. The Wascana Racing Canoe Club and the Regina Rowing Club had the vision, the Regina Hotel Association, PCL Construction and Midgard Project Management led the way with support, with many others assisting and the result is a world class venue.

Change is constant at Wascana Centre and the staff both experienced and new work continually to ensure the Centre is a beautiful, safe and accessible place for everyone to enjoy year round. We work closely with our partners the Province of Saskatchewan, the City of Regina and the University of Regina and could not accomplish as much as that we do, without their support and cooperation.

Mayor Michael Fougere commenced his term as Chair of the Board of Directors, on April 1, 2014 and has provided excellent leadership, guidance, support and compassion for the Authority's Board and staff. Thank you to all the volunteer Board members and advisors who dedicate so much of their time and expertise. Your guidance and vision are key elements in the continuing success of Wascana Centre and our ability to meet future challenges.

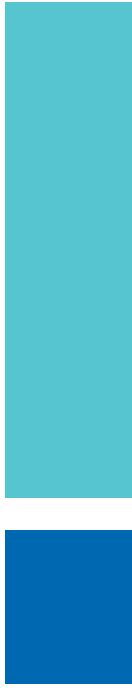
Community support is essential; we thank all individual and organizational donors and encourage you to further support Wascana Centre. You can provide support through donations, sponsorship, rental of facilities and volunteer contributions. There are diverse opportunities ranging from contributing to our many ecology programs, hosting events, planting trees and fundraising for improvements.

Wascana Centre is truly a place for you, please enjoy it and support it, so the legacy lives on for generations to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "M. Bernadette McIntyre". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

M. Bernadette McIntyre  
Chief Executive Officer





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# Operations Report

# F

rom an operational point of view the 2014/2015 year was very good! The snow storms were on weekends and snow fall was in small amounts giving WCA the chance to provide very good snow clearing service within Wascana Centre.

There were minimal issues with frozen storm drains and icing conditions providing some relief for WCA staff and patrons of the Centre. However, the one last snow day on the first day of spring was a fitting end to winter.

Spring cleaning of turf and street sweeping has happened and newly painted lines has made our streets look somewhat refreshed. Our spring maintenance program has made the Centre's transformation of a grey, dull park to a brilliant, green and colourful centre.

The greenhouse provided all the flowers and plants that enhance the Centre throughout the summer months.

With the change in work practices and the reduction in snow clearing duties, our forestry and construction departments have had a dramatic increase in productivity. Forestry has had the opportunity for a winter elm tree pruning program within Wascana Centre with little interruption this year. We have seen the benefit of this program as the trees have a new fresh look as they leaf out, creating a healthy forestry environment for many years to come.

Over the winter months, the construction department also completed many outstanding small projects that were "just not getting done" in the past. Providing time for our construction department to complete the repair and updating of maintenance projects will not only prolong the life of our infrastructure but will enhance the image of Wascana Centre.





Our maintenance department has done an outstanding job in preparing the Centre for each season that arrives and leaves every year, which is appreciated by all who visit and use the Centre.

Managers of Operations continue to provide an upscale level of customer service to patrons of the Centre by personally handling their requests. This personalized service extends to attending meetings with those patrons who reside in the Centre that are looking for solutions for their landscape needs.

WCA is working closely with the University of Regina to help complete all their projects and have been supportive of the new Residence Building. Parking lot redesign has been reviewed for the new residence and WCA is reviewing and providing support to make the most use of space for above ground parking without taking away too much green space.

The City of Regina has designed and planned for a new four-season washroom and storage facility located at Douglas Park. This facility will eventually replace the existing washroom that is beyond repair and does not meet the needs of the area. The City has also stepped up and refurbished McDonald Street by installing new street lights and capping the street with new pavement. This has made a dramatic improvement for safety for all who use that area.

The Ministry of Central Services has provided new street lights along their streets which have made a significant improvement of the area with the new LED lighting and a new design of the street light standards. This has improved safety and esthetics within the Legislative area.

The Master Plan review and renew process has been approved to proceed in 2015. Project scheduling for consultations with the participating partners, user groups, and those who work and use Wascana Centre along with a public open house session has been planned. The goal is to have the board approve the new master plan by early 2016 and before WCA fiscal year end.

Overall, operations within Wascana Centre Authority is following the strategy of concentrating on improving core services and keeping the Centre a jewel within the City of Regina, making it a place for everyone to enjoy.



# Safety Message

# A

nother year has come and gone for Wascana Centre Authority and our safety program.

2014 was a banner year for the Authority with a continued reduction in our time-loss and no time-loss claims. Overall we have seen our time-loss Injury Rate fall from 13.34% in 2011 to 6.52% in 2014. Our industry as a whole also continues to improve. The industry average time-loss rate was 6.73% in 2011 and is 5.82% in 2014, leaving Wascana Centre Authority's injury rate just under 1% higher than our peers. This improvement is mainly due to the improved safety awareness of our staff, their use of personal protective equipment, use of knowledge gained through education and their commitment to make Wascana Centre a safer workplace.

This good news does not mean we have sat back. We continue to improve our safe work practices and procedures, fine tune and improve our incident reporting processes, improve our staff orientation, and increase the amount of training for staff.

In 2014 Wascana Centre Authority signed the Saskatchewan Health and Safety Leadership Charter to share our belief that all injuries are preventable. The signing of the charter provided an opportunity for us to show our staff that we are committed to the prevention of injuries in our workplace and at home. The placement of the "Mission Zero" logos on our vehicles shows our park users that we are committed to a safe workplace and by extension a safe urban park. All Wascana Staff are encouraged to work safely at home using the same principals and techniques they use at work.

We have worked on and are near to launching our Traffic Control Plan, to reduce the traffic risks to our staff. This includes some new signage and barricades, as well training for field staff. We continue to introduce and revise our safe work practices and procedures, develop and improve our internal training programs, and improve the skills of our staff to recognize and control hazards in the workplace.

The continued success of our safety program continues to rely on the commitment of staff, and the commitment of our upper management team. As a team, we will continue to make improvements and by doing so reach the goal of zero fatalities, zero injuries, and zero suffering.





# Human Resources

# T

he Human Resources department is responsible for labour relations, human resources policies, and payroll/benefits. It also supports the organization by coordinating and advising on all staffing, dispute resolution and return to work plans. The organization is comprised of year-round, part-time and seasonal staff.

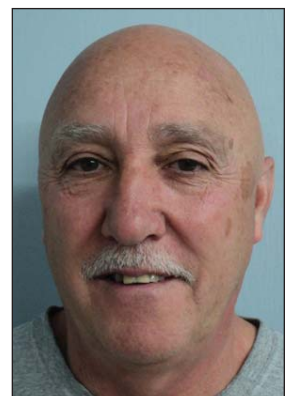
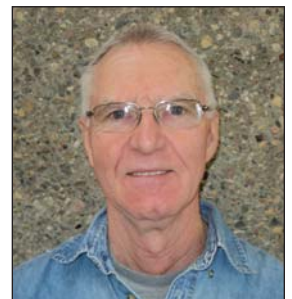
The implementation of our new orientation program had 101 new and returning staff run through the 3-day program. We continue to evaluate and improve the orientation process to ensure our staff are trained and informed of WCA policies and procedures.

During the year we have supported staff by coordinating their attendance at various different sessions ranging from half day training to several day courses. Topics included: First Time Supervisors, Workplace Conflict, Leadership Skills, Enhancing Employee Performance, Tree Climbing and Boat Safety Training.

Attending job fairs the previous year had a positive impact on recruitment and as a result we attended the University of Regina Job Fair in February of 2015.

Wascana Centre Authority wishes to recognize our dedicated employees that retired during the year:

John Luster	42 years
Stan Chamberlin	40 years
Richard Ball	38 years
Robert Ewart	36 years
Ray Wolbaum	7 years



# Events

# T

here is always something to see and do in Wascana Centre. With over 2,300 events in 2014, Wascana Centre continues to be one of the most popular and prestigious areas in the province to hold an event.



Events include many walks, jogs, runs and marathons that support hundreds of causes, festivals that showcase an assortment of cultures and customs, and concerts of all styles. Performers have also been known to make an appearance in the park to entertain at the historical Bandstand.

Sporting events on land and water are also popular during the summer in Wascana Centre. International, national and local rowing, canoeing, sailing and kayaking events love the calm waters of Wascana Lake. The Dragon boat races are a main stay and wind surfing adds to the fun.

While Mother Nature offered the Centre a few challenges in 2014 with the unusually wet weather, our dedicated crew worked hard with event organizers to ensure their success. The annual Canada Day celebrations were a huge success despite the weather challenges. While last minute changes were necessary, the event was another testament to the tremendous spirit of staff and volunteers.

Wascana Centre also hosted over 4,500 athletes from across the continent for the North American Indigenous Games. This prestigious event used the facilities throughout Wascana Centre for their 14 events as well as many cultural activities and performances.



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Some of the other major highlights in Wascana Centre for 2014 included Symphony Under the Sky, SaskTel Summer Invasion and Plywood Cup.

For 53 years Wascana Centre has been the jewel of Regina. With your help, it will continue to be a leader in cultural, sporting, ceremonial and recreational events for our community.



# Ecology

## Go Outside – Connect with Nature

2014 was a big year for Wascana. The Wings over Wascana (WOW) Nature Festival in May was one of the most successful yet! WOW is an outdoor nature festival at Wascana Marsh offering free wetland and wildlife activities, entertainment and guided hikes for people of all ages. Adjustments were made to focus on the environment and the marsh ecosystem found within the Habitat Conservation Area (HCA) which is a 23 acre area set aside for wildlife habitat within Wascana Centre. It provides a unique venue for park users to learn about wetlands and wildlife in the city of Regina.

By bringing the WOW Festival to the HCA we were able to give the public a chance to see and learn about native plants, invasive species and aquatic life. The highlight for attendees was seeing the herd of goats we use as part of our Caragana Management Program. Dozens of people attended the Prairie Conservation Action Plan (PCAP) Speaker Series featuring the Saskatchewan Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre along with one of their Burrowing Owls.

The educational experience offered at the WOW Festival is critical in educating people on the importance of wetlands, prairie ecosystems and the environment in general.

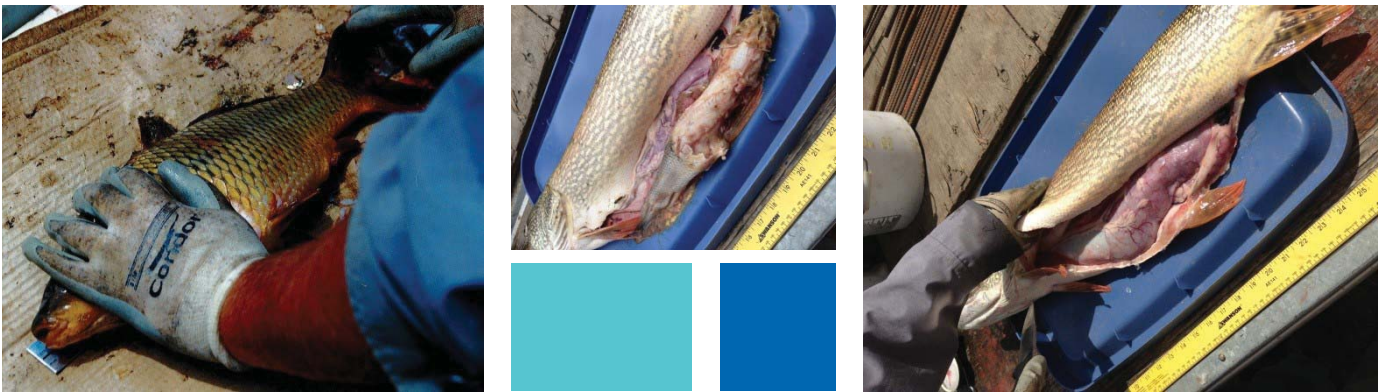


Wascana Centre has several environment based programs such as Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) and Wascana Centre's Canada Goose Management program but one that directly relates to the overall health of our Wascana Lake is the Carp Management Program. In 2012, Wascana staff and park users noticed larger numbers of Common Carp in both Wascana Lake and Marsh. Common Carp are a non-native invasive species introduced to North America in the early 19th century and have since spread to southern Saskatchewan.



Carp destroy the lake beds and reduce the amount of aquatic vegetation when searching for food by wallowing or digging through the bottom. Carp waste is comprised of undigested organic nutrients that are more appealing for algae, leading to a higher frequency of algal blooms. These behaviours have negative impacts on water quality, reduce the biodiversity of the wetland and decrease the overall health of the marsh.

Due to the negative effect Common Carp have on wetland ecosystems, Wascana Centre Authority introduced the Carp Management Program in 2013 to monitor the Carp found in Wascana Lake and Marsh. Over the first two years, we have noticed a slight decline in Carp populations and with continued monitoring we should be able to discover if numbers of Carp are increasing, decreasing or remaining at a stable level. By determining this we can then decide if a removal project is needed or if factors like winter kill are controlling the numbers of fish.



2014 also introduced a new initiative in Wascana, the Wascana Homeschool Environmental Education Program (WHEEP). The goal of the program is to provide children from the homeschool community an opportunity to access environmental education opportunities within Wascana Centre. A hands-on learning approach in the outdoors is used as much as possible to convey the topics covered. In the first semester, the group learned about the importance of aquatic habitats and both negative and positive human impacts, wildlife management in Wascana Centre and beyond, and the different survival methods our Wascana plants and animals have.

WHEEP is a great way to get younger generations involved and interested in the environment. With the first semester being a success and the second semester finishing off strong, the program went so well that they will be continuing next year!



# 2014 & 2015 Wascana Centre Donations



## Corporate Partners:

Affinity Credit Union  
Friends of Wascana Marsh  
South Saskatchewan Community  
Foundation Inc.  
The G. Murray and Edna Forbes  
Foundation

## Park Champions:

Canada Helps Org.  
Queen City Marathon Inc.  
Richard and Bernadette McIntyre  
United Way of Regina

## Park Patrons:

Sask Central

## Park Contributors:

Dale Schoffer  
David Spence  
Glen Downton  
Janet Ayer  
Janet Galger  
Janice Gullickson  
Judith Verbeke  
Loanne Myrah  
Anonymous

## Park Supporters:

Chris Soika  
Loanne Myrah

## Media:

CBC Saskatchewan  
Global TV  
Harvard Radio  
Rawlco Radio  
The Leader Post

## Grants:

ASUPCA  
City of Regina  
Province of Saskatchewan  
Saskatchewan Arts Board  
University of Regina

## Tree Sponsors:

PJ Allen  
Janet Kuchinka  
Gordon Smith

## Tree Planting Sponsors:

TD Friends of the Environment  
Tree Canada Foundation

## Bench and Memorial Donations:

Adrienne Cottrell  
Cynthia Young  
Gordon & Lorraine Garratt  
Ingrid Gisela Riffel  
Jardin Schnurr  
John Rowell  
Lorraine Layton  
Marilyn Venyige  
Patricia Fleming  
Preston Young  
Rhoda & Edward Murphy  
Rhonda Chapin  
Sematic Construction Inc.  
In Memory of Andrew Matte:  
Allan Matte  
Ashley Martin  
Audrey Duguid  
Cam Fuller  
Crystal Unger  
Darcy Mclean  
Donald Forer  
Halsall Productions  
Heather Leclair  
Kerri Stanford  
Laura Erickson  
Laura Pilon  
Leone Ottenbreit  
Lois Matte  
Lynell Pylatiuk  
Melany Carter  
Melissa Rodrigue  
Michael Bell  
Michelle Wheeler  
Orville Ottenbreit  
Paul Forer  
Renee Cook  
Robert and Pamela Bailey  
Tanya Banfield  
William Morrison

## Disc Golf:

Apex Plumbing & Heating  
Comic Readers Downtown  
Electrical Solutions  
Warren Gagnon

## Pine Island Finishing Line Facility:

Alliance Energy  
Anlin Welding  
Clifton Associates  
Deco Interiors  
Flynn Canada Ltd.  
KD Mechanical  
Midgard Project Management  
Mitchell Architect Ltd.  
PCL Construction  
Regina Hotel Association  
Regina Rowing Club  
Safway Scaffold  
Tierdon Glass  
Wascana Canoe & Kayak Rentals  
Wascana Racing Canoe Club

## DIVAS In The Park Contributors:

Regina & District Food Bank  
Rushton's Catering  
Andrew Peller Limited  
Oakcreek Golf & Turf  
SGI  
MacKenzie Art Gallery  
Globe Theatre  
AON Risk Solutions  
Arbonne  
Bev Anderson Consulting  
Bobcat of Regina  
Conexus Arts Centre  
Conexus Credit Union  
Curves  
Delta Regina  
HBI  
Hillberg & Berk  
Hilton by Doubletree  
Jack Keaton's BBQ  
Mecca Massage Therapy  
RCMP Heritage Centre  
Regina Disc Golf  
Saskatchewan Roughriders  
Saskatchewan Science Centre  
Scentsy  
Nancy Mcewen  
South Hill Design  
Supreme Office Products  
Wheatland Roofing Inc.  
The Royal Navy  
The Willow on Wascana Restaurant  
West Wind Aviation  
Beer Brothers  
Utopia



# Wascana Centre Authority Financial Highlights

Please see [www.wascana.ca](http://www.wascana.ca) for complete audited financial statements.

## Financial Highlights

As at March 31, 2015

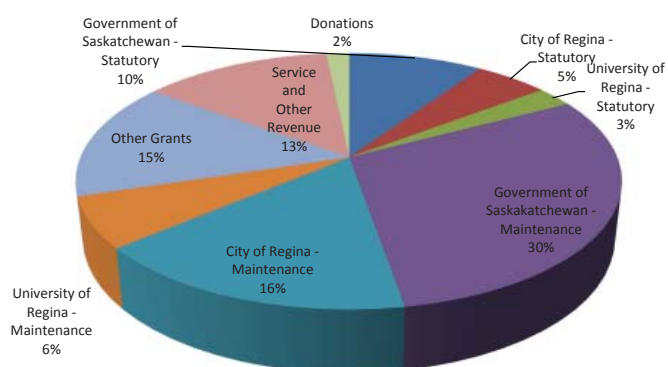
Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 3,162,651
Capital Assets	4,113,310
	<u>\$ 7,275,961</u>
Liabilities and Equity	
Current Liabilities	\$ 2,802,698
Deferred capital contributions	1,034,573
Equity	3,438,690
	<u>\$ 7,275,961</u>

## Financial Highlights

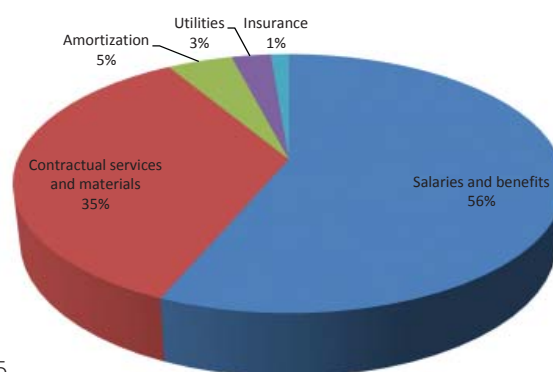
For the year ended March 31, 2015

Grants	\$ 7,012,076
Service and Other Revenue	1,104,255
Donations	133,913
	<u>8,250,244</u>
Salaries and benefits	\$ 4,685,694
Contractual services and materials	2,907,777
Amortization	379,344
Utilities	227,488
Insurance	105,975
	<u>8,306,278</u>
<b>Net Income (Loss) for the year</b>	<u>\$ (56,034)</u>

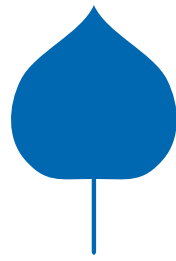
## 2015 Revenue



## 2015 Expenditures



The 2014-15 fiscal year was challenging for the Authority. In 2014-15 a deficit was budgeted due to the replacement of the Wascana Place HVAC System. With prudent management and mitigation, this deficit was reduced significantly to be within Board approved parameters of 1% of total revenues. Funding remained stable from previous years with statutory funding comprising 18% of total revenues and the majority of operations and services funded through special services and grants. With inflationary pressures and aging infrastructure it is becoming increasingly difficult to deliver the continued level of services and maintenance of operations as in the past. The majority of expenditures remain in salaries and benefits and contractual services and materials. The financial position of the Authority is consistent from prior year. An increase in deferred contributions reflects the delay of projects due to weather conditions.



Wascana Centre

A place for you!

# Wascana at a glance



930 HECTARES

WASCANA CENTRE  
Regina, SK



405 HECTARES

STANLEY PARK  
Vancouver, BC



341 HECTARES

CENTRAL PARK  
New York City, NY



280 HECTARES

PARC MONT-ROYAL  
Montréal, QC



161 HECTARES

HIGH PARK  
Toronto, ON



276  
SPECIES OF BIRD



36  
SPECIES OF MAMMAL



6  
SPECIES OF FISH



4  
SPECIES OF AMPHIBIAN



2  
SPECIES OF REPTILE



52  
MAJOR BUILDINGS



49  
MINOR BUILDINGS



77  
SPECIAL FEATURES



15  
MONUMENTS



7.4  
KM OF PAVED PATHS



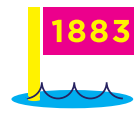
120 HECTARES

AREA OF WASCANA LAKE



2.5 BILLION  
LITRES

VOLUME OF WATER



1883

LAKE CREATED



8

ISLANDS IN  
WASCANA LAKE



1.5 MILLION

CUBIC METRE EXPANSION  
DURING BIG DIG



300  
SPECIES OF TREES  
AND SHRUBS



100K  
EACH TREES AND SHRUBS



100  
SPECIES OF ANNUALS



100  
SPECIES OF PERENNIALS



5.6  
KM OF NATURAL PATHS



5

MILLION VISITS



2300

COMMUNITY &  
SPORTING EVENTS



50

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES



1220

TEMPORARY RESIDENTS



14K

STUDENTS AT  
UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

## Wascana Centre Authority

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Wascana Place

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Wascana Centre Authority

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Website: [www.wascana.ca](http://www.wascana.ca) • Email: [wca@wascana.ca](mailto:wca@wascana.ca)