



Canadian Rivers Day

Saturday, June 10, 2006



***"A river lies waiting
to be discovered..."***

Since 2004 SOS's Canadian Rivers Day events have been an opportunity to celebrate the river in our community. Save Our Seine aims to promote paddling along the entire Seine River Greenway, as a way to encourage healthy recreation with little or no impact to the river environment. Cleaning the river of garbage, removing logjams & invasive weeds, planting trees and our other activities create a beautiful paddling destination in our city.

Today the Seine is a lush 26km Greenway that requires approximately 12 hrs to paddle entirely. Many shorter trips are possible. Morning, noon or evening, spring, summer or fall, each route will be a different experience.

One day it will be common for citizens to get back to nature and paddle the Seine after

SOS Goal #6—*Improve appropriate public access along the Seine River (by low-impact nature trail & by canoe).*

SOS Vision #5- *Completion of an urban nature trail and canoe route, the length of the Seine. (26.2 kms!)*

SOS's Vision for the Greenway is a paddle route with adequate access points and proper canoe/kayak launches & landings. These would protect the sensitive shoreline habitat and provide paddlers with limited mobility, assistance entering and exiting their boat. Over 54 kilometers of shoreline and 20+ city parks make the Seine a paddling attraction for local citizens and visitors to our city. SOS aims to improve and enhance the Seine River Greenway in order to provide urban paddling opportunities to all citizens.

Enjoy your Seine!

...month of evening, spring, summer or fall, each route will be a different experience.

One day it will be common for citizens to get back to nature and paddle the Seine after work or school. Perhaps convenient lockers can be provided so paddlers to store their canoe and gear near the river and come by bike or bus? Families will bring out-of-town guests for a paddle and picnic and show off a new side of River City.

Is it time for you and your friends or family to discover the Seine River? If you have never paddled the Seine or never paddled at all, call SOS and we would be glad to help make arrangements and plan a route. [470-9247](tel:470-9247)

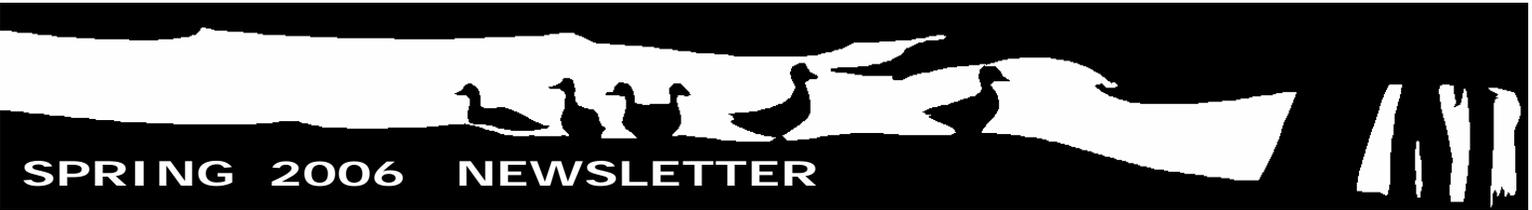
Join us on Canadian Rivers Day!

Seine River Greenway in order to provide urban paddling opportunities to all citizens.

Enjoy your Seine!



Will this be you on the Seine River this summer?





Contaminated Site along Seine River in St. Boniface to be cleaned up!

Since a mysterious sheen on the river was reported 11 years ago, SOS has been following the investigation of the contaminated site. We are thrilled to report that the process is on track and plans are for the clean-up to begin as soon as 2007! SOS will be involved in the remediation project and will offer its help in anyway to ensure the habitat recovers as quick as possible.

FORMER SHINGLE MANUFACTURING PLANT: Remedial Action Plan and Status Update

421 Archibald Street

WHAT IS THE SITE?

The IKO (Manitoba) facility is a former manufacturing facility. The Site is located on the east bank of the Seine River in an industrial area of St. Boniface. IKO Industries Ltd. purchased the Site in 1983 and is the current owner and operator. Throughout its history, the Site has had several different owners. The Site was a crude coal tar distillation facility, and a roofing products manufacturing facility. Coal tar and asphalt were both used in the past on Site. As a result of historic activities, there is contamination at the Site.

Several environmental investigations were completed at the Site between 1995 and 2005. This included 29 soil borings, 8 monitoring wells, and analysis of groundwater, surface water, soil, sediment and non-aqueous phase liquid samples; and chemical analysis of samples. The purpose of the sampling was to determine the extent of contamination on Site.

IKO and Honeywell have hired Conestoga-Rovers and Associates (www.CRAWorld.com) to complete the investigation and design the cleanup.

WHAT DID WE FIND?

- Shallow soil and groundwater on Site is contaminated;
- deep groundwater has not been adversely impacted;

WHAT IS THE PROPOSED REMEDY?

IKO and Honeywell are working with Manitoba Conservation to clean up the Site. The conceptual remedial action includes:

- ◆ excavation and off-Site disposal of impacted soil/sediment in the Seine River, the river banks and adjacent flood plains;
- ◆ backfilling the excavated areas with clean soil;
- ◆ reconstruction/restoration of the impacted riverbed, including ecological improvements to enhance fish and wildlife habitat;
- ◆ establish a groundwater attenuation zone;
- ◆ construction of a collection trench east of the Seine River to collect tarry material in the subsurface; and
- ◆ construction and placement of a soil cap on Site.



taminated;

- deep groundwater has not been adversely impacted;
- no one in the area drinks the groundwater;
- tarry material (called Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid) is present on Site and beneath the Seine River;
- The sediment in the Seine River is impacted.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

In short term, people can continue to canoe along the Seine River but we do plan to clean it up as soon as possible. The Site will be cleaned up in 2007. We are working with Manitoba Conservation to achieve regulatory approvals, and redevelop the Site.



IKO consultant, Denise Quigley presents investigation findings to residents, government officials and SOS members.

A long-term monitoring plan is being proposed to ensure the effectiveness of the remedy. Manitoba Conservation and CRA are working closely in 2006 to design the remedy. The purpose of this public information session is to provide an update to Save Our Seine and the public on the site investigations and give an overview of the conceptual remediation plan.

Vermette Park to receive significant revegetation

There is a 10-acre parcel of land resembling the old river-lot system of the Red River Colony, south of the Perimeter Hwy. (as outlined—right) This city-owned property has tremendous potential as a natural/cultural/educational park space. It has had minimal disturbance and has significant shoreline habitat.

Last year the city's Water and Waste department approached SOS to discuss the need to drain the farmland across St. Anne's Rd. through the property. SOS suggested modifications that would resolve the drainage issue as well as improve the habitat. Site investigation revealed a marsh wetland that was in need of more water.

The result is that the existing channel was widened and deepened to accept more flow. The marsh/wetland area was also expanded to hold more water before making its way into the Seine River. All improvements were within the original budget.

The pressing need now is to add significant native species to the disturbed area where excavation was needed.

The property also has significant cultural importance to St. Vital's first settlers, the Métis. SOS and the Union Nationale Métis are partnering to

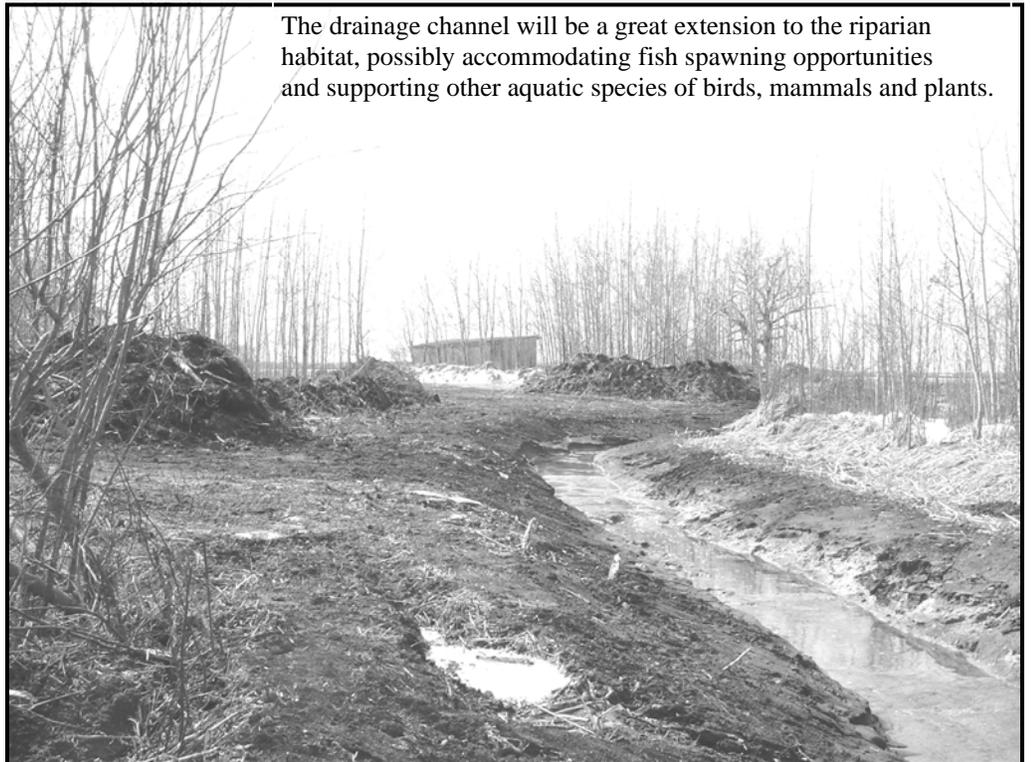


Planting Event—SOS, The Union National Métis and the City Naturalist Office will be co-hosting a tree planting event at the Vermette Park on **Saturday, June 17th at 10:00 a.m.**

If you would like to participate please call SOS and let us know you are coming and we can make necessary arrangements and provide directions. **470-9247** or coordinator@saveourseine.com



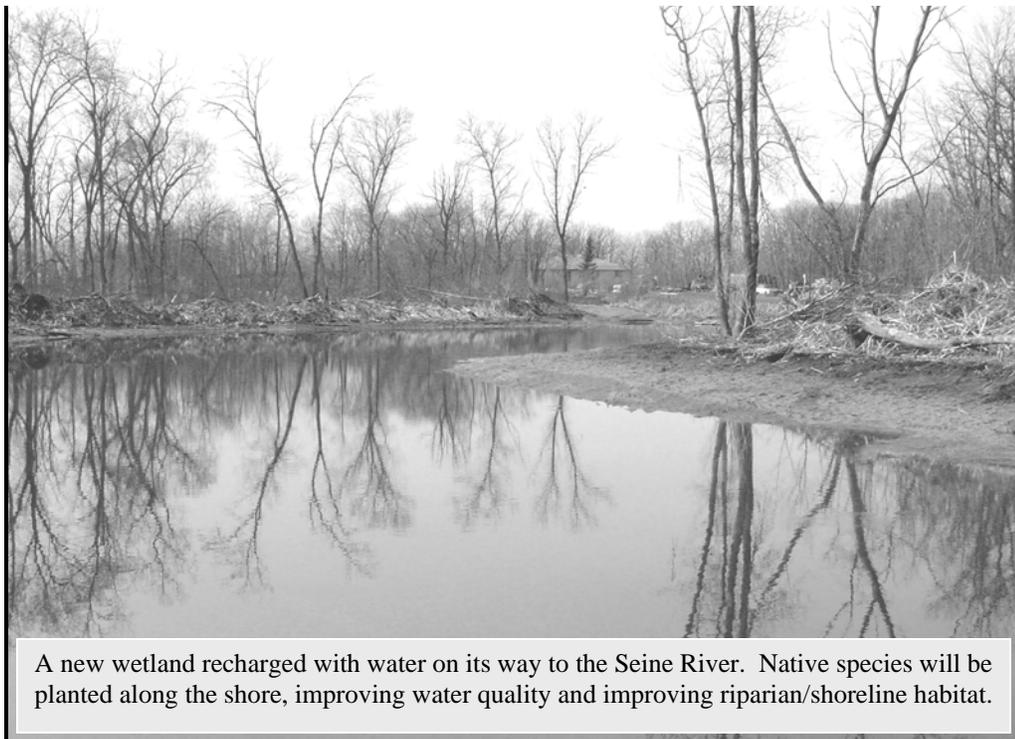
The drainage channel will be a great extension to the riparian habitat, possibly accommodating fish spawning opportunities and supporting other aquatic species of birds, mammals and plants.



St. Vital's first settlers, the Métis. SOS and the Union Nationale Métis are partnering to plan a park that reflects the early days of St. Vital - providing a unique natural, cultural, educational park in the Greenway.

The park may include habitat-sensitive woodchip trails & boardwalk, canoe launch, picnic area, earthen stage, wood duck and bat boxes, nest platforms for geese, fruit-bearing shrubs to attract birds, spawning and riffle structures, interpretive signage and organic berry gardens.

It will be unique!



A new wetland recharged with water on its way to the Seine River. Native species will be planted along the shore, improving water quality and improving riparian/shoreline habitat.

SOS Goal #1.—*Preserve, protect and enhance the natural environment & heritage resource of the Seine River.*

Across the river from the Mager House is the *Bois-des-esprits*. When SOS campaigned to have the forest spared from development we adopted the brilliant quote by John Sawhill of the Nature Conservancy, "***In the end our society will be defined not only by what we create, but by what we refuse to destroy.***" This statement is painfully true regarding this St. Vital landmark. Our society cannot be defined as the protectors of our local heritage.

The saga began when the architect approached SOS in early 2005 and informed us of the 80-bed health care facility that was planned for the site. This is a welcome addition to the Seine River Greenway. Even better was the pledge to keep the Mager House on the site, moved aside from the new building's footprint and placed on a solid new foundation. SOS was thrilled.

In the summer the developers hinted that the structure was in poor condition and may not survive any move. Then they added it would collapse and in fact no one could enter the structure due to the risk it posed. They would not allow anyone in to inspect the home to explore alternatives. Bad news indeed. The best that could come of it was that some bricks and stones could be pillaged and used for a 'memorial wall' inside the new building.

SOS was not convinced the structure was in such bad shape and shared the information with the Winnipeg Free Press.

A local engineer and professional in the construction industry, read the article, was impressed with the house and offered to quickly salvage it in order to not delay the larger project.



Mager House 1914—2006

He did a lot of research and discovered that the brick veneer could be removed carefully and replaced once the structure was relocated. Also he discovered from old photos of it under construction that the exterior was built with solid wood planks, providing much strength. It was built more solid than homes built today!

This was by no means convenient for the developers (Winnipeg Regional Health Authority) who saw the house as a nuisance. The engineer was determined and called the developers, architect and councillor directly.

The Lance newspaper covered the story which prompted the councillor for St. Vital to convene a meeting. Several meetings were held to see if this Samaritan was capable and sincere, we were all convinced. Assurances were given that the house would stand and access to the house would be gained. The Councillor pledged funding and

that he would get access to the house in the next few days. It would be saved.

Months passed and it became clear that the developer was uninterested to rescue the house. The good Samaritan eventually had to pull his offer since it appeared the sincerity of the developer had evaporated. Another serious offer came forward to relocate the house down the river, in St. Vital it was also rejected. We are crushed to have lost this heritage landmark despite all our efforts. St. Vital, we apologize for failing to reverse this horrible decision



Seine River - Navigability

There is federal legislation over 100-years old called the **Navigable Waters Protection Act**. This Act ensures waterways that are listed as 'Navigable' are protected. The Seine River is recognized as a navigable waterway under the Act. There are two main ways to restrict navigability along a river like the Seine; obstructions and low-water levels. Many structures along the Seine River however violate the act. Some of these violations are extremely dangerous and were actually built by our provincial and municipal governments.

SOS filed 6 complaints with the Navigable Waters Protection Officer last year.

Under the Act if a structure is built across the river it must have a minimum clearance to allow pad-

Files were opened for the following obstructions,

- 1) Highway#59 crossing (Provincial),
- 2) Seine River Siphon Inlet at the Red River Floodway (Provincial),
- 3) Seine River Siphon Outlet at the Red River Floodway (Provincial),
- 4) Prairie Grove Road crossing (City of Winnipeg),
- 5) CP Rail crossing (Canadian Pacific Rail),
- 6) Windsor Park Golf Course path (City of Winnipeg).

The Hwy #59 crossing was built in violation of the 100+ year-old Act as recently 2002-03. It forces paddlers to cross a 4-lane 100km/hr highway!

During high water levels paddlers have to avoid a powerful whirl-pool, land their boat and cross a road with motorists unable to see paddlers over the hill. The rail crossing a few hundred meters downstream forces paddlers to climb up a steep hill, across an active rail

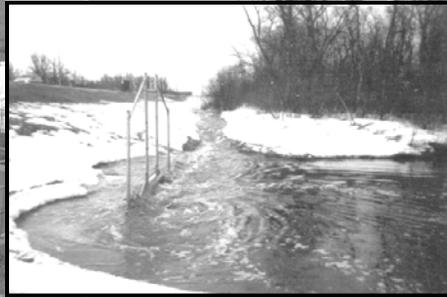
Waters Protection Officer last year.

Under the Act if a structure is built across the river it must have a minimum clearance to allow paddlers to pass. If clearance is insufficient, proper landings and portage trail must be provided. A city golf course has three river crossings, two are ideal and the third is two small culverts with no landing or trail. (below right) The shoreline where landing is practical is directly in front of a tee-box where golf balls are blasted across the river!

with motorists unable to see paddlers over the hill. The rail crossing a few hundred meters downstream forces paddlers to climb up a steep hill, across an active rail line then down the steep hill to the river.

The most dangerous obstruction is the Floodway Crossing (below left) which has no signage or warning to alert paddlers of the invisible, 12 foot drop which flows into underground, 150 ft culverts.

SOS is terrified a tragedy will occur and cannot understand why the Province and Floodway Authority do not voluntarily install safety-signage immediately.



Save Our Seine Canadian Rivers Day Pledge Form

SOS • 470-9247 • coordinator@saveourseine.com • Box 83-208 Provencher Blvd. • Winnipeg • R2H 3B4

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
 Home Ph: _____ Business Ph: _____ email: _____



***Register your boat with SOS (phone or email) by June 7th and receive a free Seine River Greenway Map**

Saturday June 10, 2006

- Please bring all your pledge money and this form to the event.
- You will be issued 1 ballot for every \$10.00 you raise.
- Partial pledges will be rounded down.
- *Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20.00 or more, if the Donor's name and address is clearly printed and complete.*
- Charitable Tax Number 89399 6975 RR0001
- Cheques preferred. Please make cheques payable to "Save our Seine".
- Help save time by submitting one cheque or money order for all donations.
- Please use additional pledge sheets if required.

This waiver must be signed by all participants and/or their legal guardians

Print Name (s): _____

 Signature (s): _____

Office Use Only Amt. Rec'd _____ Date _____
 V Initials _____ P initials _____

Waiver

I hereby release Save Our Seine Inc. and all other contributing sponsors/ contributors from any and all claims whatsoever arising out of injuries to myself, damage of property and/or liabilities suffered/incurred as a result of my participation or the participant names below in the Save our Seine event no matter how arising, including arising from the negligence of the Save Our Seine Inc. or their employees, agents, volunteers and sponsors. SOS recommends wearing a proper PFD at all times.

Sponsor Name	Sponsor Address	City	Postal Code	Phone Number	Amount Pledged	Amount Received
Bill Gates	Box 83-208 Provencher Blvd	Wpg	R2H 3B4	470-9247	\$20.00	\$20.00

Donors please record name/contact info of fundraiser (above) in case tax receipt not received by August 15, 2006

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! TOTALS OVER \$75 WILL RECEIVE A FREE SOS T-SHIRT!

Shirt Size (circle): M L XL

Divide Total by \$10.00 for # of Ballots: _____ Total \$

Save Our Seine's first fundraising paddle event is made possible with the generous support of our sponsors. Again, local outfitter and Seine River guide, **Northern Soul** has stepped forward and pledged its boats, lifejackets, paddles, van & trailer as well as volunteering as event organizer. **Paddle Manitoba** volunteers are back guiding special VIPs (Very Important Paddlers) to extend paddle opportunities in the community. Prizes have been donated by *Mountain Equipment Coop, Wilderness Supply Co., Winnipeg Trails, Nova Craft Canoes, Northern Soul, and many more.*

If you cannot paddle or make it to the event and still wish to support SOS and the Seine River Greenway, **donations can be made directly to Save Our Seine** and mailed to **Box 83—208 Provencher Blvd. Wpg. MB R2H 3B4**

THANK YOU!

TAX RECEIPTS ISSUED FOR DONATIONS OF \$20 OR MORE



NOVA CRAFT CANOE



www.northernsoul.ca



BOX 2665 WINNIPEG • MANITOBA • CANADA • R5C 1B5



Save Our Seine Canadian Rivers Day

1st Annual Fund- Raising Paddling Event

Saturday June 10, 2006
Have you paddled the Seine River Yet?
Dust off your canoe or kayak and get
on the Seine River!

The Event:

The Seine River is Winnipeg's best kept paddling secret. It is scenic, sheltered, shallow and safe and it just waiting to be discovered and celebrated. This Canadian Rivers Day, SOS is kicking off their 1st annual fundraising paddle event. Proceeds will improve the Seine's navigability and improve access spots with formal canoe/kayak launch sites

June 10 Event Schedule (rain or shine)

- 9:00 AM registration and pledge collection
- 10:00 AM paddle begins
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM arrive at Park Gaboury Lagemodiere
- 1:00 PM BBQ and grand prize draw
- 2:00 PM free shuttle back to your vehicle

The distance of the paddle is approximately 7 km.

Prizes

Register to win prizes by collecting pledges. For every \$10.00 raised you will receive one prize-ballot. The grand prize draw is a 16ft Nova Craft Prospector Canoe valued at \$1200.00. Plus many other prizes (too many to list) = many chances to win!

VIP (Very Important Paddlers)

Paddle Manitoba volunteers will return to guide special (VIP) guests along the Seine. Invited guests may include New Canadians, 1st time paddlers, mobility challenged persons or other groups that don't share equal access to paddling opportunities. *Way to go Paddle Manitoba!!!*

BBQ

BBQ and refreshments will be made available at the Parc Gaboury Lagimodiere.

**Grand
Prize Draw**
\$1200 Nova Craft Canoe
(16ft Prospector design)
Every \$10.00 raised gets
you a ballot for
the draw.

Free Shuttle Back to Departure Point

A free shuttle bus courtesy of event sponsors will be provided from Parc Gaboury Lagimodiere back to your vehicle parked at Morier Park. Bus departs approximately 2:00 p.m.

Don't Have Your Own Canoe?

Borrow or rent! Northern Soul Wilderness Adventures Inc. is donating the use of their canoe fleet for the event, call **284-4072** or email; adventure@northernsoul.ca to reserve yours - availability limited book early! Canoe and Kayak rentals (PFDs, other gear) also available at Mountain Equipment Co-op 943-5505 OR Wilderness Supply 783-9555.

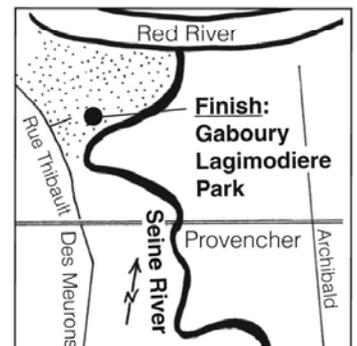
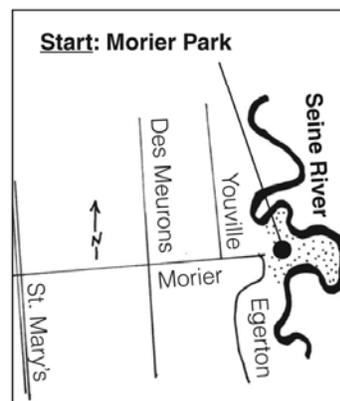
The Route (approx. 7 kms)

Put In: Morier Park

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. (East off St. Mary's Rd. on Morier St. to Egerton Rd. at the Seine River).

Take Out: Gaboury Lagimodiere Park

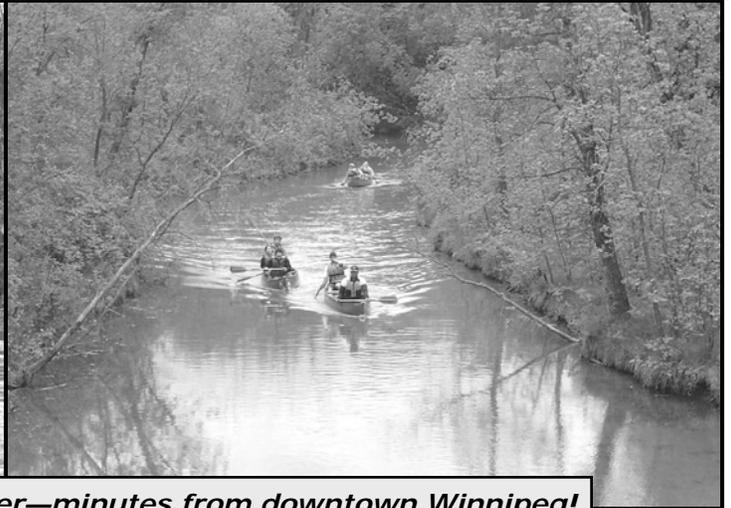
(North off Provencher Blvd. on Rue Thibault/Desmuerons intersection) Reception/BBQ and Grand Prize Draw 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.



Sponsored by: Nova Craft Canoes, Wilderness Supply Company, Winnipeg Trails, Northern Soul, Paddle Manitoba, Mountain Equipment Co-op

Paddle Manitoba





This is not a provincial park, it is the Seine River—minutes from downtown Winnipeg!



SPRING 2006 NEWSLETTER

