



Discover the Seine in Winter!



On Saturday January 13th, 2007, SOS and Prairie Pathfinders invites you to attend the 4th annual "Discover the Seine in Winter" Hike and Lunch.

Experience the tranquil winter beauty of the Seine River hiking this 8-10 km loop route on the frozen riverbed. Meet and sign-in at 9:30 am at the Hindu Centre located at 999 St. Anne's Road, (entrance door faces the river). The hike begins at 10:00 am.



Return to the Hindu Centre for a delicious lunch of authentic East Indian vegetarian food catered by Charisma of India. There will be lots of room and food for everyone and opportunities to tour the centre and Temple.

MLA Christine Melnick will be in attendance to address the group followed by a presentation about the ongoing work of SOS. The event includes a silent auction and door prizes. Maps and books will be on sale of in support of SOS.

Deadline for registration is **January 5th, 2007.**

The cost to join in on the fun is \$22.

See the mail-in registration form on page 2, or register online with the Prairie Pathfinders:

www.prairiepathfinders.mb.ca

Pay by mastercard or visa or mail your cheque made out to Prairie Pathfinders:

Box 68052 RPO Osborne Village,
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3L 2V9

See you there!





FOURTH ANNUAL
SEINE RIVER HIKE
Hike & Lunch
 Saturday Jan 13th - 10am
 Meet at the **HINDU CENTRE**
 999 St Anne's Rd

This frozen riverbed is a scenic delight - a wonderful hike on even the coldest day. End with a guaranteed warm-up - an authentic spicy East Indian feast. Join the fun!
 Hike Distance Approx 9 km

a PRAIRIE PATHFINDER
 SPECIAL EVENT
 in partnership with
 SAVE OUR SEINE & WINNIPEG TRAILS ASSOC
 Featuring a special presentation
 and silent auction + Door Prizes



Registration deadline is Jan 5th

Refunds less a \$10. fee will be given on cancellations before Jan 5th. No refunds after that date.

A registration confirmation will be sent out to registrants prior to the event. For any special request or inquiries, please contact us at prairiepathfinders@shaw.ca or (204) 774-0190

Mail this registration form with cheque to:

Prairie Pathfinders
 PO Box 68052
 RPO Osborne Village
 Winnipeg, MB
 R3L 2V9

Registration Form

Please register me for the Jan 13, 2007 SEINE RIVER HIKE. I am enclosing a cheque for \$22. payable to the Prairie Pathfinders.

Prairie Pathfinders Walking Club Waiver / Release

There are certain risks that are inherent in any walking club activity. As a Prairie Pathfinders Walking Club participant, I the undersigned, agree to accept personal responsibility for my own safety. By participating in Club hikes, I agree to hold harmless and free from blame the Prairie Pathfinders Walking Club, its directors, volunteer hike leaders, and other members from any such accident, injury, or illness which might be sustained from participating in hikes or other Club activities. This release and the benefits falling therefrom shall be binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators and assigns of the undersigned.

_____ signature

_____ name

_____ address

_____ city / town

_____ postal code

_____ telephone

_____ email

THE GOALS OF SOS

1. Preserve, protect and enhance the natural environment & heritage resource of the Seine River.
2. Restore & repair features of the environment that have been degraded.
3. Improve water level, flow & quality.
4. Raise the public's awareness of all aspects of the Seine River.
5. Improve the environmental behavior of private industry, governments and the general public.
6. Improve appropriate public access along the Seine River (by low-impact nature trail & by canoe).

SAVE OUR SEINE 2006 DONATION FORM

SOS depends on community volunteers and community contributions to help protect, preserve and enhance the Seine River Environment through education, awareness and hands-on participation. Your contribution assists SOS in enabling all citizens to reconnect with their local environment! **For any donation inquiries please call 470-9247**

Please Mail to:

**Save Our Seine
 Box 83, 208 Provencher Blvd.
 Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 3B4**

- ◆ Tree Planting & Clean-Ups
- ◆ Summer Student Positions
- ◆ School Partnerships
- ◆ Discover the Seine in Winter
- ◆ Canadian Rivers Day
- ◆ www.saveourseine.com
- ◆ Seine River Greenway Map
- ◆ Seine River Trails
- ◆ SOS Newsletters

☀ If you are a **United Way** donor, you may designate monthly contributions to SOS



Name: _____ (DONOR'S NAME)

Address: _____ City: _____
 (ADDRESS FOR TAX RECEIPT RETURN)

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: (_____) — _____

Email Address: _____ **Charitable Tax Number 89399 6975 RR0001**

SOS IS A REGISTERED CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION. ALL CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$20+ WILL RECEIVE A TAX RECEIPT.

Bois-des-esprits Receives New Signs

You may have noticed the shiny new signs on your last stroll along the Bois-des-esprits. They are there to welcome visitors and inform them that this unique riverbottom forest is protected through a joint effort of the Province of Manitoba, City of Winnipeg, Save Our Seine and the community. Also be sure to read the new sign located next to "Woody" which tells the story of the spirits of the Seine - 'Woody - Mhitik'.



SOS Wants Your Photos of the Seine



If you have photos of the Seine River to share we'd love to see them—the older the better! The Seine has undergone many transformations over the years. Pictures are an invaluable way to tell the Seine's story.

Please send us copies of your memories of the Seine.

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 83
208 Provencher Blvd.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2H 3B4



2006 Urban Green Team

After working as an SOS Green-team member in 2005, I leapt at the opportunity to try my hand as team supervisor. I worked with a great team of three energetic, hard-working, high-spirited people, who always seemed to be laughing despite being knee-deep in mud. We had a summer jam packed with planting trees and bare root stock, yanking out that pesky purple loosestrife, clearing log jams, and of course removing mountains of garbage.

It was a hot, dry summer with extraordinarily low water levels which sometimes made it difficult to get around by canoe (but a little bit of mud never hurt anyone...yet) and even more garbage was exposed. My dedicated and hardcore teammates were **Ashley Machut-Johnston**, **Nathan Desrosier** and **Natalie Davis**. Enjoy the Seine!

Green Team Supervisor,
Robyn Palmer



In 2006, the SOS Urban Green Team logged almost 1,300 hours working along the Seine River Greenway!

On behalf the Save our Seine Board, our 1,000 members and all the citizens who enjoy a clean and natural Seine River Greenway...

Ashley, Nathan, Natalie and Robyn

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR TIRELESS EFFORT AND
HARD WORK, WE KNOW HOW HARD
YOU WORK! MERCI**

SOS would also like to thank our summer staff funders:



◆ Manitoba Education, Citizenship & Youth - Urban Green Team Program

◆ Human Resources Development Canada—Summer Career Placement



◆ Fish Futures Inc.



MERCI!!!

President's Message

This fall marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for SOS. This new chapter is full of opportunities, projects and partnerships. Over the past few months SOS has experienced many changes, most notable of which has been the structure of our board of directors. A new board president has been named along with two new vice-presidents. Tammy Rutherford is vice president with major responsibilities for SOS issues in St Vital and Alain Cenerini is vice president responsible for St Boniface issues. This structure will help to support the president's role and will ensure vigilance and a strong voice in both St Vital and St Boniface. Welcome to our new VPs, to new board members and a special welcome also to our new part-time coordinator, Kristine Koster.

Last spring we said a fond farewell to Bev Sawchuck, SOS's devoted leader for the past 3 years. The board also said goodbye to a number of long term members who have since moved onto explore other pursuits. We are grateful to each of them for their many contributions and for the legacy they have left through their dedication to ensuring the protection of our natural resources. As always I want to extend my sincerest appreciation to Dave Danyluk. His contributions to SOS remain remarkable and invaluable.

Thanks to the commitment of old and new members SOS has had numerous successful initiatives over the past year including: the Canadian Rivers Day Celebration; the Green Team Project; Vermette Park; and the Joint Park Planning Process with the City of Winnipeg.

I am honored to have the opportunity to become the SOS board president. I feel eager (and a bit nervous) to lead such a remarkable group. I hope to be able to initiate and promote successful projects, which help preserve, protect and enhance the natural environment and heritage resource of the Seine River.

As a recent graduate of the University of Manitoba's City Planning Program I look forward to applying the knowledge and skills I have gained from my education to improve the connections between the built and natural environments. Now more than ever I appreciate the vital role that groups such as SOS play in a community.

Some of my priorities during my tenure are to enhance the role of SOS as advisor to the Seine River community neighbors, to city administrators, to politicians at all levels, and to developers and professionals in order to sustain, regulate and shape the Seine River environment.

I look forward to a great year with our new Board. I am very grateful for the support they have shown me and for their on-going commitment to the work of SOS. Together we hope to bring you another year of exciting events, and effective advocacy on behalf of our beautiful Seine River and the natural environments of our neighborhoods, our city and province. As always we encourage your participation and feedback

Volunteer President,
Suzanne Gessler BA, BSW, MCP

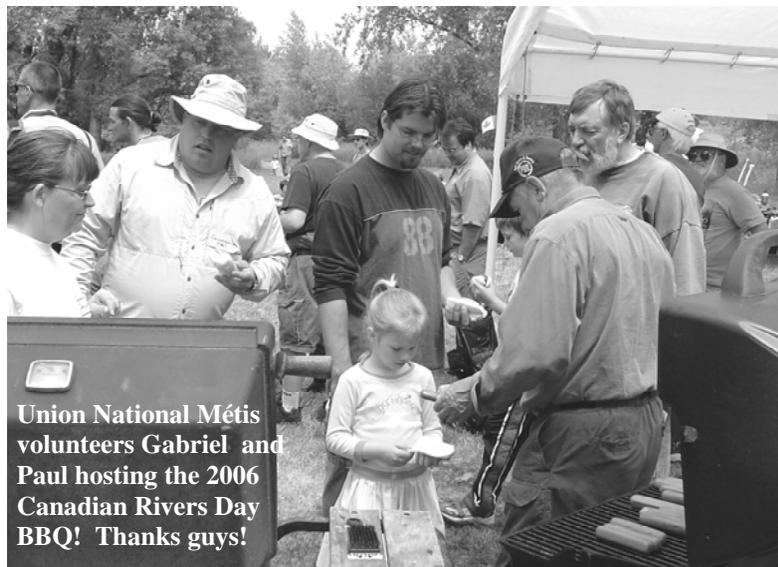
Ecological Gift Program An Urban Approach

Private citizens and corporations now have an exciting opportunity to receive tax benefits while protecting their ecologically sensitive property through the Ecological Gift Program. An ecogift may be a gift of the full title to a property. It may also be a gift of the value of a conservation easement, covenant or servitude that is attached to the title of a property. In either case, the owner can choose to donate the land or they can retain ownership while adhering to long term access and use restrictions.

If you are interested in learning more about this program please contact the Naturalist Services Branch.

Phone: 986-7233

E-mail: cheming@winnipeg.ca



Union National Métis volunteers Gabriel and Paul hosting the 2006 Canadian Rivers Day BBQ! Thanks guys!

SOS Has A New Coordinator!

Welcome Kristine Koster!

Kristine has been hired to take over from Dave Danyluk. She will work part-time, the equivalent of two days per week. As the sole employee of SOS, she will assist the Board and membership in fulfilling SOS's Goals, Roles, and Vision. She can be reached for SOS business at 470-9197.

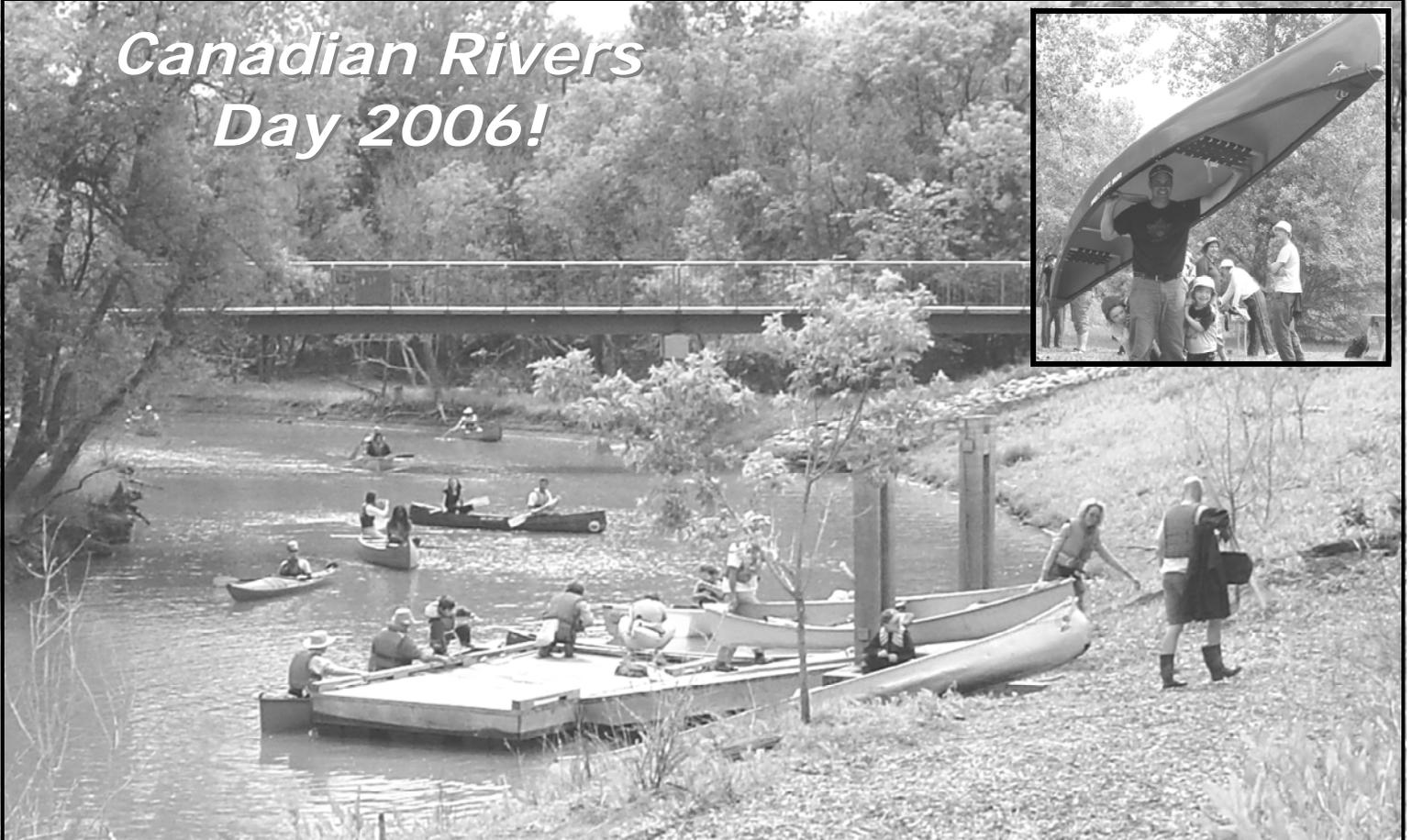
Kristine has a strong background in environmental issues. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from the University of Winnipeg where she majored in Environmental Sustainability and Geography. Currently, she is a pre-masters student in the Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources at the University of Manitoba.

Most recently, she worked as a Nature Interpreter at Oak Hammock Marsh. Prior to that, from 2004 until the end of its mandate in 2006, she was the Policy Assistant with the City of Winnipeg's Civic Environmental Committee. She also worked with the Coalition to Save the Elms and remains a member on the Board of Directors.

Kristine has extensive volunteer experience with several environmental organizations in Winnipeg including; Resource Conservation Manitoba, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, the Canadian Green Building Council, and others. Kristine lives near the Seine River on Niakwa Road with her partner Gary. She is excited to be part of the Save Our Seine team.



Canadian Rivers Day 2006!



SOS began celebrating Canadian Rivers Day events along the Seine in 2004. Each event has been more successful and attracted more people than in the previous year; this year's turnout was beyond our expectations. **Over 130 people registered for the 2-3 hour paddle from Morier Park to Gaboury Lagimodiere Park – that means 60 boats!** Who knows when the last time this many paddlers assembled at the historic forks of the Seine and the Red Rivers? We do know when it will happen next - **June 2007!** Watch for the SOS Spring 2007 Newsletter for details of next year's celebration.

The day began with participants registering at Morier Park, as volunteers helped quickly untie boats and carry them to the river. Each registrant received a Seine River Greenway Map and those who fundraised over \$75 got an SOS T-shirt. Half-way down river, the *Blue Grass Revival Orchestra* surprised entertained paddlers with some great live tunes from the footbridge.

When paddlers began to arrive (above photo) at the end of the route, the celebration began. Hotdogs were BBQ'd by volunteers from the Union Nationale Métis (see page 5) and devoured by the hungry paddlers. Two event tents were supplied by the Festival du Voyageur in the case of rain or hot sun. Water was donated by World of Water (on Goulet) and a portable public address system was provided by the City to announce the 20+ winners of the fabulous prizes!

- New 16' red Prospector canoe – Nova Craft Canoes & Save Our Seine (*winner top right!*)
- Paddles and lifejackets - Wilderness Supply Company
- Paddling and camping gear – Mountain Equipment Coop
- SOS T- Shirts and Cardigans – Save Our Seine
- Northern Soul T-shirts – Northern Soul Wilderness Adventures

Dave Pancoe with **Northern Soul** was asked by the SOS Board to be this year's official event planner and did a superb job. Northern Soul has guided hundreds of trips along the Seine and no one knows the river better. Dave worked with the SOS Green Team to ensure the route was clear of fallen trees and free of any litter—even paddling the route one last time at 5:00 am! For participants who did not have access to a boat, Northern Soul also furnished about 20 canoes and gear (and all the shuttling) for free!

The SOS/Canadian Rivers Day tradition of hosting new Canadian citizens as Very Important Paddlers (VIPs) was again coordinated by Pancoe and Paddle Manitoba. President Cameron White, activated dozens of experienced Paddle Manitoba members to make sure all beginners and VIPs had a great first experience on the Seine and in a canoe!

Thank you to all the volunteers and participants who helped celebrate Canadian Rivers Day 2006!!!