



For Immediate Release

October 22, 2018

New Boardwalk Bridge at the Ravine Opened

Residents of Yorkton now have an exciting addition to the walking trails within the community. The boardwalk, located at the Ravine Ecological Preserve, just west of the Gallagher Centre, has been replaced and is open for use after several years of being inaccessible.

The bridge was officially opened at a news conference today by Mayor Bob Maloney and Mathieu Roy, Vice-President, Trail Development and Management at Trans Canada Trail.

“We are very happy to have a bridge again connecting the east and west sides of the Ravine Ecological Park,” said the Mayor. “I would also like to thank Trans Canada Trail for their financial support toward our new Bridge,” he said.

Originally constructed in 1985, the boardwalk stretched across the ravine joining the east and west sides of the trail system. A predominant feature of the ravine park, the floating boardwalk was in use for 25 years before flooding in 2010 caused some damage to the structure. Repairs were made to reopen the boardwalk and it continued to be in use until flooding again in 2014 significantly damaged the walkway rendering it unusable and resting on the eastern bank of the ravine.

The Ravine Ecological Preserve is an approximate 80-acre natural park space which includes a walking/hiking trail that winds through rolling grasslands, and aquatic and aspen parkland habitats. The preserve is also home to the Dulmage Farmstead, a municipal heritage site, as well as the arboretum and peace grove. Additionally, the trail system has been designated as part of Yorkton’s portion of the Trans Canada Trail.

As the ravine trail is a designated portion of the Trans Canada Trail, the City was able to apply for funding through the organization’s 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Plan grant. Upon notification of being awarded the grant, the City began the tendering process for a new replacement boardwalk, with the project being awarded to C-Squared Innovations Inc. from Siltou, SK. Installation of the first half of the boardwalk was completed in September, with the second half installed and the boardwalk opened for use on October 5, 2018.

“We are proud to have supported the replacement of this essential boardwalk along the Yorkton Trail with a financial contribution of \$35,000,” said Mathieu Roy, Vice-President, Trail Development and Management at Trans Canada Trail. “This Trail section in the Ravine Ecological Preserve gives locals and visitors the chance to fully experience the natural diversity of the grasslands, parklands and wetlands in this beautiful area.” The total cost of the bridge replacement was \$78,000, with the City providing the remaining portion.

The new boardwalk has been designed to rise and fall with the level of water in the ravine, and ramps located on both ends of the ravine make it easily accessible from the nature trail. As the ravine does not see significant changes during the spring runoff, and with limited ice flow, the boardwalk will remain in the ravine over the winter months to be enjoyed year round.

“Those using the trail system should know that this is a natural trail, so roots, rocks, and fallen trees may be evident,” said the Mayor. “Individuals should use caution when walking the trail,” he said.

30

For further information contact:

Roy Lanaway,
Manager of Communications
City of Yorkton
T: 306 828-2424
M: 306-621-2510
rlanaway@yorkton.ca