

Kanata Métis Cultural Natural Area- Design Intent- December 15, 2009

Provided to: Kanata Métis Cultural Enterprises Ltd.

Prepared by: EDS Group Inc.

Project: Kanata Cultural Natural Area & Resource Extraction Project

Purpose: *To create a naturalized, environmentally conscious landscape that celebrates Métis heritage through education, experience and recreation.*

Inspiration:

Métis Sash
Métis Flag
Finger weaving
Beadwork
Plant use
Clothing styles
Dance and music
Cultural connections
Transportation methods
Métis sporting events

Design Components:

1- Métis Commons

- Main venue for traditional Métis interpretive opportunities
- Provides rental space for functions such as traditional music and dance celebrations
- Contains public washrooms
- May provide concession opportunities

2- Accessible Trails

- Surrounding Kanata Lake, offers easy access to popular locations for those with reduced mobility

3- Small Day Use

- Connected via site trail system
- Includes picnic table, waste receptacle and BBQ area
- Offers naturalized views of Kanata Lake and treed areas

4- Reclaimed Vegetation

- Encourages the restoration of natural habitat
- Decreases the amount of exposed open space to eliminate wind erosion
- On-site plant material used for transplanting, where possible
- Only native plant material proposed

Prepared by:

5- Tent Camping

- Accessible by river, provides overnight accommodation for those partaking in river canoe activities
- Small sites promote the limited alteration of surrounding vegetation
- Connected via 'Portage Trail' to encourage traditional methods of transportation and accommodation

6- Group Day Use

- Open air picnic area with multiple covered picnic tables and waste receptacles
- Washroom facilities
- May include outdoor BBQ
- For use by families, school groups, corporate groups, etc.

7- Kanata Lake

- Centrally connected to all onsite amenities
- Accommodates social gatherings and interaction
- Surrounded by 'Accessible Trails'

8- Canoe Access/ Drop off

- Used to access North Saskatchewan River from site
- Accommodates vehicle access to drop off area
- Centrally located and adjacent to parking and 'Metis Commons'
- In agreement with River Valley Alliance(RVA) recommendations, will encourage the use of North Saskatchewan River for non-motorized water transport

9- Existing Vegetation

- Consistent with Métis cultural tradition, existing vegetation is proposed to be left untouched, where possible
- Vegetation removed due to site development would be replaced as 'Reclaimed Vegetation'

10- Portage Trail

- Supports traditional land and water transport methods
- In agreement with River Valley Alliance (RVA) recommendations, will encourage the use of North Saskatchewan River for non-motorized water transport

11- Preservation Area

- Large vegetated area shown to be left in its natural states
- No modifications proposed

12- Interpretive Retreat

- Educational retreat to showcase traditional Métis culture
- May include workshops for finger weaving, bead work and traditional medicine
- Connected to entire site via 'Portage Trail' and 'Walking Trail'
- May include children's educational programs

13- Naturalized Wetlands

- Provides wildlife habitat
- Offers excellent interpretive opportunity

14- Traditional Plant Walk

- A variety of native plants, specifically those traditionally used in Métis medicine and cooking
- Would support 'Interpretive Retreat' activities, such as plant identification and harvest
- Quiet area, away from main activities

15- Walking Trails

- Connected paths throughout site encourage nature appreciation and enjoyment
- Major interest points connected to promote walking to various venues
- Close to parking for those with reduced mobility

16- Outdoor Activities Field

- Open space to support a variety of non-programmed activities
- Combined with 'Métis Commons', may provide a venue for traditional Métis games
- May support outdoor functions with temporary stages and tent kiosks