



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

# Success Story

Second park area added, Tim Horton's Eventplex!

## An ambitious greenspace plan for a Prairie community

**T**HE TOWN OF MOOSOMIN PARKS AND Recreation Board has been working for several years to realize its vision for a greener, nature-rich environment to enhance the lives of the residents of this growing Saskatchewan community. According to the Town of Moosomin's environmental plan, the goal is to protect the natural environment and "to ensure growth is balanced with abundant green space, which is vital to the health and well-being of residents."

The Town's greenspace initiatives included a multi-year project to plant 1,000 new trees at Bradley Park, which contains baseball diamonds, fields for football and soccer, rodeo grounds, campsites and other amenities.



TOWN OF MOOSOMIN PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD, SASKATCHEWAN



Shrubs were added at the entrance



BMX track added to the park in 2022

*“We made a lot of progress with the greening of Bradley Park, and I am both proud of that and thankful to CPRA for the opportunity.”*

Cheyenne Jamieson, Greenspace Planner, Moosomin

The Town was given a boost for its greening plan in the summer of 2022, when CPRA provided funding under its Youth Employment Experience program for the hiring of a Greenspace Planner. The CPRA program is designed to give young people work experience in the parks and recreation sector and to build the capacity of parks and rec organizations.

Cheyenne Jamieson, who grew up in Moosomin and was age 20 at the time, was hired for the position. She spent several months helping to implement and document approved greenspace initiatives, as well as investigating and recommending new projects.

“We appreciate the opportunity provided by the CPRA funding because we wouldn’t have been in a position to hire Cheyenne for this important position without that support,” says Director of Parks and Recreation, Mike Schwan.

Mike explains that the land on which the park is located had been cleared for farmland several decades ago. “And there wasn’t a single tree left on that parcel of 50 acres on the outskirts of town. Over time, our community built the fields and sport facilities there, but it didn’t have any trees. We wanted to change that.”

The community’s environmental plan puts a priority on preserving and expanding the presence of trees to maintain community character and good air quality. Mike says the ambitious vision of planting 1,000 trees originally seemed somewhat “pie in the sky” – something that would be hard to achieve but a good goal to work towards.

“It’s gratifying to see how far we’ve come,” Mike says. “Close to 500 trees have now been planted.” Other greenspace initiatives include projects to expand walking trails in the town, re-using rain water and planting fruit trees to be used by the local food bank.

Mike says that Cheyenne brought considerable value to their team. “She worked with us as a younger staff member a couple of years earlier, so she was familiar with our organization. And she comes from a farm background and has a strong appreciation of environmental values.

“It was great to work with a young person who had solid knowledge combined with youthful exuberance. She brought a lot of fresh ideas to the table, which is great for someone like me who has worked in the parks and rec space for 35 years.”

For her part, Cheyenne appreciated the opportunity to learn from Mike and to benefit from his experience and knowledge. “I had plenty of chances to ask questions and get input and constructive feedback from him,” she says.

“In my role as a greenspace planner for the community, I had my first opportunity to work in the public sector, to work closely with others on a coordinated project and to interact with members of the public,” Cheyenne adds.

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