Hannin Creek Education and Applied Research Centre (HCEARC)

Project Partners:
Saskatchewan Polytechnic
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
Partnership cornerstones

• Shared values of Saskatchewan Polytechnic & Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
  • Building a conservation ethic
  • Providing training and education
  • Creating and leveraging a unique boreal facility for applied research
  • Respecting the land and Indigenous peoples
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation

• Non-profit, non-government, charitable organization
• Over 33,000 members, enhancing fish and wildlife habitat since 1929
• “To ensure the wildlife legacy we leave to our children surpasses that which we inherited.”
Saskatchewan Polytechnic

• **Purpose**: We empower a better Saskatchewan

• **Vision**: To lead the rise of polytechnic education

• **Mission**: Inspire success in every learning journey

• *miyo wahkohtowin (good relationships)*: Cree phrase expresses the value and positivity of interconnectedness and relationships, and is the platform of all that we do
A unique partnership makes a unique project

- Located in central Saskatchewan, Canada
- ~12 hectares of boreal forest, creek, forest (expanded from 1.2 hectares in 2013)
- Abundant wildlife
- Unique in the Prairie provinces for education, applied research and innovation
Location is key

• Remote but accessible watershed of the southern boreal forest, ideal for teaching, learning, research, and natural resource management for various ages and audiences
HCEARC development: Phase 1

- Upgrade rustic camp, built 1962
- Property re-acquired by Sask Polytech & SWF in 2013 to ensure conservation education training and applied research

- Renovated bunkhouses with local pine floors
- Modern kitchen and classroom
- Docking and boat launches
Phase 2: Laboratory building

- Stainless steel lab for field work and demonstrations
- 2 additional classrooms for events, youth workshops
- Expanded applied research opportunities
- Global hydrology, carbon cycling, sustainable forestry and wildlife initiatives
Phase 3: Indigenous encampment

- Slated to begin 2021
- Outdoor learning centre
- Indigenous cultural teaching & learning
- Additional areas of focus: horticulture, alternative energy

Tipi example

Outdoor learning
Audiences: Post-secondary education

• The boreal ecosystem is our classroom

Sask Polytech hands-on activities
Audiences: Youth

- Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation Conservation camps
- Saskatchewan Federated Cooperative Youth Leadership
  - Confidence, curiosity, capacity, and a conservation ethic
- Stewards for the Land
Audiences: First Nations & Metis

• Training, dialogue and environmental sustainability
Audiences: Applied Research

Connecting industry with academic expertise and innovation
Success attributable to

- Excellent working relationships
- Strong commitment to excellence & conservation
- Recognition
  - 2016 Sask Polytech President’s Partner Award of Excellence
  - IPN-Global Best Program – Silver Medal 2016
  - RCE Saskatchewan on Education for Sustainable Development award 2019
Contact information

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