



Assiniboine Park Conservancy is Celebrating New Outdoor Gardens at The Leaf, August 27-29

For immediate release

Winnipeg, August 27, 2021 — The Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC) is inviting visitors to discover the new outdoor Gardens at The Leaf this weekend at Assiniboine Park. The opening of the gardens earlier this summer marked the return of a significant and beautifully revitalized area of Assiniboine Park to the community for year-round enjoyment. With close to 30 acres of new gardens and greenspace, this is a major milestone in Assiniboine Park's ongoing redevelopment.

APC staff, board members, and project stakeholders, including representatives from the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg, gathered in the new Performance Garden this morning to honour this milestone and launch the three-day celebration.

This afternoon and over the course of the weekend, park visitors can take in a variety of pop-up performances by local musicians and dancers, culinary demonstrations, and other fun and engaging events. Activities and performances will take place in various locations throughout the expansive gardens. There will also be a selection of multi-cultural food trucks available on site.

The outdoor Gardens at The Leaf include six unique gardens: Indigenous Peoples Garden, Kitchen Garden, Sensory Garden, Performance Garden, Seasonal Garden, and The Grove.

Quotes:

"The province has increased its contribution to \$25 million for this project and we are excited to have worked in collaboration in efforts to beautify Manitoba's recreation spaces and providing our communities with this multi-seasonal attraction."

— *The Honourable Sarah Guillemard, Minister of Conservation and Climate*

"The Leaf - Canada's Diversity Gardens is another world class destination, along with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and the WAG's Qaumajuq, that is helping to put Winnipeg on the global map. The City of Winnipeg is proud to have provided \$13.3 million to this very worthwhile initiative in order to provide an exceptional gathering place for all to enjoy for many years to come."

— *His Worship, Mayor Brian Bowman, City of Winnipeg*

"The opening of the new outdoor Gardens at The Leaf earlier this summer marks the completion of the outdoor phase of The Leaf – Canada's Diversity Gardens. This is a significant achievement inspired by a bold vision and brought to life by an incredibly talented and passionate team of people. Thank you to our project partners, donors, and supporters who helped make this possible!"

— *Margaret Redmond, President & CEO, Assiniboine Park Conservancy*

About The Leaf – Canada’s Diversity Gardens:

- The Leaf – Canada’s Diversity Gardens is the final major phase in the redevelopment of Assiniboine Park and Zoo that got underway in 2009.
- The project consists of The Leaf, an indoor horticultural attraction currently under construction, and the new outdoor Gardens at The Leaf, which opened earlier this summer (July 9).
- Through horticultural and interpretive displays, education programs, on-site engagement, and special events, The Leaf – Canada’s Diversity Gardens will explore the human connection with plants and the role plants play in shaping our communities and cultures.

Links:

<https://www.assiniboinepark.ca/leaf/vision>

<https://www.assiniboinepark.ca/leaf/gardens/explore-gardens>

<https://www.assiniboinepark.ca/events/gardens-celebration>

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