

WE LOOK FORWARD TO
GROWING OUR PRAIRIE
LANDSCAPE TOGETHER, TO
BENEFIT STUDENTS AND
COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR
GENERATIONS TO COME.

For more information, please visit www.7oaks.org/ALSF.



SEVEN OAKS
SCHOOL DIVISION
community begins here

Seven Oaks School Division | 830 Powers St.
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SCHOOL DIVISION
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Join us
at our
Open
House

**September 22 from
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Seven Oaks Learning
and Service Centre
1985 Grassmere Road

COME CHECK IT OUT!

SEE THE GREAT THINGS COMING TO YOUR COMMUNITY AND STUDENTS AT THIS ONE-OF-A-KIND FACILITY.

Learn about gardening, cooking, nutrition, Indigenous education and environmental literacy activities from Seven Oaks teachers.

Learn with experts and find out how we're making a difference in the neighbourhood and beyond.

- Green Action Centre and students showcasing divisional composting and highlighting how microbial life drives decomposition and results in nutrient rich compost
- Native Plant Solutions showcasing the benefits of naturalized stormwater retention ponds for habitat, filtering water and aesthetic value
- Elder Mary Courchene talking about the Circle Garden and land-based education
- Get up close and personal with a live owl and learn from biologist James Duncan
- Learn about the amazing school gardens, farms, ecological and cultural connections happening in Seven Oaks School Division today!

Take in the family fun!

- Petting zoo
- Hay rides
- Walking tour of the site
- Hot dogs and drinks provided



COMMUNITY AMENITIES

We have added three features to our site that will directly improve the West St. Paul community's access to recreational and wellness activities:

- Three kilometres of scenic walking trails
- Public toboggan hill
- Naturalized stormwater retention pond that will also serve as a community skating rink in winter months

These amenities will be open to the public seven days a week, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

The agricultural portion of our facility will be located east of the main access road, reducing costs and ensuring we comply with provincial regulations. Our ecology and horticultural advisors also recommended this location because of its lower salinity levels. This will mean better growing conditions and increased prosperity of plants.

We will seed the majority of our non-produce garden space with grasses and flowers that are indigenous to Manitoba, contributing to our province's tallgrass prairie restoration. This grassland once thrived in southern Manitoba, but today less than 1% of the original tallgrass prairie remains.

Indigenous plant species can be effective in reducing or stopping salts from reaching the soil surface where they can inhibit or challenge plant growth. They contribute to soil conservation by stabilizing soil, retaining nutrients and can withstand climate changes. The deep, voluminous roots add large quantities of organic matter back to the soil and these species also protect our water by slowing runoff and reducing nutrient loading into our waterways.

ADVANTAGES ABOUND!

The facility will help students learn about agriculture, food history, how to grow food and how the land sustains all life.

The facility will support ecological restoration and support students in land stewardship and conservation learning and action.

The facility will support our shared learning of historic and cultural connections to land, Indigenous worldviews on growing food and the significance of our connections to the land.

It will provide greater opportunities for the West St. Paul community to stay active.

And it will contribute to restoring our province's endangered ecosystem.

THE SEVEN OAKS LEARNING AND SERVICE CENTRE WILL BE THE MOST LEADING-EDGE SCHOOL-AGE AGRICULTURAL LEARNING FACILITY IN THE PROVINCE AND WE ARE SO EXCITED TO SHARE IT WITH YOU. STUDENTS WILL HAVE A UNIQUE HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE LEARNING ABOUT AGRICULTURE – AND THE COMMUNITY WILL HAVE GREAT OUTDOOR AMENITIES OPEN DAILY.