



Wanuskewin  
Heritage Park

# Thundering Ahead

Campaign for Canada's Wanuskewin Heritage Park

## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release: March 26, 2018

SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN: Today, Scotiabank announced a \$600,000 donation to Wanuskewin's *Thundering Ahead Campaign*, supporting the new addition of an educational space.

"Scotiabank is thrilled to support Wanuskewin in offering facilities where young people can thrive and learn," said James O'Sullivan, Group Head of Canadian Banking, Scotiabank. "We aim to support organizations that are committed to helping young people reach their infinite potential. Young people are our future leaders and Scotiabank's goal is to help ensure that they have the necessary skills and resources they need to support their success."

"Nearly a quarter of annual visitation to Wanuskewin is from schools and school-aged children," said Chief Executive Officer, Dana Soonias. "We want those kids to have a dedicated space where they can feel like the honoured guests that they are. It will also allow for teachers to more appropriately engage with their classrooms before getting outside or into the future interpretive galleries."

*Thundering Ahead* was launched a year ago with an aim to renew Wanuskewin Heritage Park, a National Historic Site and contender for UNESCO World Heritage Designation. The Park has set out to raise \$40 million to renovate and expand the interpretive centre, introduce exhibit galleries and a more robust visitor experience, expand the land base, protect the heritage and environmental resources of Opimihaw Valley and reintroduce a small herd of Plains bison. Candace Wasacase-Lafferty, Wanuskewin Board Chair is quoted: "We are so thankful for this generous donation from Scotiabank. Everything that we do here at Wanuskewin is ultimately for our next generation. Supporting an improvement of spaces dedicated to education and children of all ages is as important as it is meaningful. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, thank you."

Wayne Brownlee, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Nutrien, and co-chair of *Thundering Ahead* alongside First Nations Power Authority Chair, Felix Thomas, thanked O'Sullivan, stating: "When we started this campaign nationally, we were hopeful that there would be a strong response from major institutions like Scotiabank. We could not have predicted that our vision would be so strongly embraced or so generously supported."

#### **About Wanuskewin**

On February 9, 2017, Wanuskewin launched plans for a \$40-Million Capital Campaign to fund a bold renewal based on four pillars:

- 1) To elevate Wanuskewin from the longest-running archaeological project in Canada to an international centre for excellence in education, preservation and interpretation of Indigenous art and culture
- 2) To aspire to world heritage designation through UNESCO, building on Wanuskewin's existing status as a National Historic Site
- 3) To preserve the ecological island that is Opimihaw Valley and protect the unique ecology and biodiversity of the land as Wanuskewin transitions into an iconic urban park
- 4) To return the majestic bison to Wanuskewin's plains.



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Wanuskewin Heritage Park is located five kilometers north of Saskatoon. It opened in 1992 and has been host to many historic events, including a royal visit in 1986 when Queen Elizabeth II. In December 2016, the Catholic Church announced that an invitation had been extended for Pope Francis to visit Wanuskewin to offer a statement to residential school survivors in Canada. On December 20, 2017, Wanuskewin Heritage Park was placed on Canada's Tentative List for World Heritage Sites.

## About Scotiabank

At Scotiabank, we aim to support organizations that are committed to helping young people reach their infinite potential. Young people are our future leaders and Scotiabank's goal is to help ensure that they have the necessary skills and resources they need to support their success. Together with our employees, the Bank supports causes at a grassroots level. Recognized as a leader for our charitable donations and philanthropic activities, in 2017, Scotiabank contributed more than \$80 million to help our communities around the world.

Scotiabank is Canada's international bank and a leading financial services provider in North America, Latin America, the Caribbean and Central America, and Asia-Pacific. We are dedicated to helping our 24 million customers become better off through a broad range of advice, products and services, including personal and commercial banking, wealth management and private banking, corporate and investment banking, and capital markets. With a team of more than 89,000 employees and assets of over \$923 billion (as at January 31, 2018), Scotiabank trades on the Toronto (TSX: BNS) and New York Exchanges (NYSE: BNS). For more information, please visit [www.scotiabank.com](http://www.scotiabank.com) and follow us on Twitter @Scotiabank.

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## Media Contacts

Tara Janzen  
Development Manager  
Wanuskewin Heritage Park  
(306)931-6767 ext. 232  
[tara.janzen@wanuskewin.com](mailto:tara.janzen@wanuskewin.com)  
[www.thunderingahead.ca](http://www.thunderingahead.ca)

Jessica Hooker  
Senior Manager, Communications  
Scotiabank  
(647)261-9604  
[jessica.hooker@scotiabank.com](mailto:jessica.hooker@scotiabank.com)