

# Shearwater River Cruises



*Motor Vessels Saskatoon Princess & Meewasin Queen*

---

MEDIA RELEASE:

## **MEEWASIN QUEEN STILL IN OPERATION ON THE RIVER**

The motor vessel *Meewasin Queen*, operated by Shearwater River Cruises on the river in Saskatoon, continues to travel safely on her daily scheduled cruises despite increased river flows through the city, according to Shearwater operations manager Peter Kingsmill. “We re-fitted the *Meewasin Queen* with a new highly efficient engine, drive system and large propellers in 2009,” says Kingsmill, “and she handles very easily at the flows we are experiencing at the moment. Three to four knots (5 – 7 km) is a normal current flow on many navigable rivers, and even in tidal waters in the world’s harbours.”

Kingsmill does report that boarding the *Meewasin Queen* has become a problem for wheelchairs because of increased ramp angles at the dock. “If we sense these increased water levels will continue for very long, we will make every effort possible to correct this situation,” he says. “It would require some temporary modification to city-built facilities, and we will need to request permission to do this.”

Kingsmill also emphasizes that he and his operating staff assess river conditions every morning and throughout the day. “If Saskatchewan Water Authority personnel decide they need to release more water through the Gardiner Dam, we will need to re-assess the situation at that time. The safety of our passengers, and of our vessels, are always top-of-mind as we plan our operations.”

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Peter Kingsmill (306-222-6730 – for media use only)

General information: 1-888-747-7572