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University of Regina
NEWS RELEASE

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U OF R CHILDREN'S GARDEN RELOCATED

The University of Regina has relocated its beloved Children's Garden to Marion McVeety Elementary School.

To mark the occasion, "an official watering" will be held Tuesday, June 22 at 1:15 p.m. at McVeety. School officials and school children will be present with a giant watering can.

Established in 1996 beside the education building, the 1,200 square metre Children's Garden featured a goldfish pond, a fruit orchard, a native prairie section with wildflowers, aspen poplar, saskatoon, dogwood and rose bushes. There was also a bridge, boulders and benches. The Garden was used as part of the teaching program by early childhood education classes, as well as children from the university daycare centres.

The Garden had to be relocated to make way for a construction compound to be erected as part of a planned addition to the education building.

"Relocating the garden is nearly completed, thanks mainly to the energetic volunteer labour of school parents," said Dr. Dan Beveridge, co-ordinator of the Children's Garden for the Faculty of Education.

"Parents, teachers, and over a dozen children were busy with spades and shovels digging up trees, shrubs, flowers and planting them in their new home."

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McVeety was chosen by the U of R as the recipient of the Children's Garden for several reasons. The school is located close to the university. School volunteers are experienced in caring for trees and other plants. McVeety has a track record in environmental education. It was designated an Earth School, meaning it completed 1,000 environmental projects in the nation-wide Green School program.

"We welcome the donation of materials and the opportunity for McVeety to be used by education students," said Janice Petracek, assistant superintendent with the Regina Public School Board.

U of R students will continue to use the Children's Garden for class purposes. The Faculty of Education plans to reestablish the Children's Garden somewhere else on campus at a later date.