Forks filled with fishermen for fall derby

BY AVI SAPER

STAFF REPORTER

The Red River Walkway resembled a fishing village last Saturday as more than 500 anglers descended on The Forks for a day of urban fishing.

Now in its seventh year, the City Cats/Urban Angling Partnership Fall Fishing Derby has grown into one of the province's biggest fishing events, event co-ordinator Todd Longley said.

"We have an extra 250 people here from last year, and it's going to keep on growing," he said.

Anglers of all ages, many of whom came

out with their families, dotted the riverfront from the railway bridge west of The Forks all the way to the Provencher Bridge.

"I want to see people all the way down at the Legislature one of these years," Longley said.

In addition to raising money for the Never Alone Foundation, a charity that assists cancer victims and their families, the derby is intended to promote urban fishing on the Red River.

Jan Bass, a volunteer judge at the event, said the river is quite an active fishery. He said events such as the derby are very important because they help the sport reach new people.

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