

Assiniboine Park Zoo to Host an Entire Weekend of Activities Dedicated to International Polar Bear Day

For immediate release: Winnipeg, February 23, 2023 – International Polar Bear Day (February 27) is an annual day of awareness created by Polar Bears International that coincides with the time period when polar bear moms and cubs are in their dens. This is a particularly vulnerable time for cubs whose survival is critically important to the species.

“International Polar Bear Day is a perfect opportunity for visitors to connect with our bears here at the Zoo and learn how we participate in polar bear conservation to help wild polar bears in our province,” said Dr. Chris Enright, Senior Director of Animal Management and Conservation. “Polar bears are facing the threat of a warming arctic and we all have a role to play in protecting them.”

The Assiniboine Park Zoo is actively engaged in a number of conservation science projects at the Zoo and in the field that are enhancing our understanding of polar bears and contributing to the conservation of polar bears in the wild. This includes:

- testing of non-invasive burr-on-fur tracking tags,
- researching polar bear hair growth to validate studies of wild polar bears,
- tracking hormone changes in polar bears, and
- mapping important polar bear denning habitats in Manitoba that may be at risk from wildfires.

The Zoo has planned special activities on Saturday, February 25, and Sunday, February 26 to mark International Polar Bear Day and raise awareness about the important role modern zoos play in the conservation and protection of the species.

Activities listed below will take place on Saturday and Sunday unless otherwise noted.

Most events will happen between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. Please visit the [website](#) for a detailed schedule and more information.

- Breakfast with the Bears
- Polar Bear Zoo Chats
- Polar Bear Scavenger Hunt
- Conservation Station (Saturday only)
- Enrichment Station
- Northern Arctic Station
- Selfie Station
- Craft Station
- Polar Bear Art Silent Auction
- Souvenir Station



Assiniboine Park
Conservancy

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Proceeds of the art auction and donations support the work of the Assiniboine Park Conservancy's Polar Bear Rescue & Care Team.

The Zoo is open daily from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please visit assiniboinepark.ca for more information.

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For interviews and information requests, please contact:
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