

Assiniboine Park Conservancy Hosts Online Auction Featuring Once-in-a-Lifetime Park and Zoo Experiences

For immediate release: Winnipeg, August 19, 2021 – The Assiniboine Park Conservancy is hosting its second annual <u>online auction</u>, giving people the opportunity to bid on an array of unique items and once-in-alifetime experiences that can only be enjoyed at Assiniboine Park and Zoo. The auction opens at 6 p.m. today (Thursday, August 19) and closes at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, August 27.

The experience auction, which is typically hosted live at the Conservancy's annual Garden Party fundraising event, was moved online last year. This change allowed event organizers to expand the number and variety of items and made it easier for more people to participate. The response was so encouraging, organizers opted to bring the online auction back this year.

"We are very excited to bring back our online auction and showcase the incredible passion and expertise of our talented team here at Assiniboine Park and Zoo," said Donna Wilford, Donor Development Officer, Assiniboine Park Conservancy. "This is an incredible opportunity for people to support us and experience the Park and Zoo in exciting and wonderful ways!"

The online auction includes over 100 items with bidding starting at \$25. Items up for bid include:

- A 12-day safari adventure for two in Tanzania donated by Dashir Lodge & Safaris.
- A guided tour and cooking class with Executive Chef Heiko Duehrsen at the Gardens at The Leaf.
- Gorgeous outdoor holiday arrangements crafted with care by our expert horticulturists.
- A skating party at the Riley Family Duck Pond and a Winnipeg Jets jersey signed by Blake Wheeler.
- One-of-a-kind artwork featuring the creative talents of some of the Zoo's most charismatic creatures.

Participants may also choose to share their love of the Park and Zoo by bidding to symbolically adopt one of the Zoo's amazing animals.

The online auction can be accessed at assiniboineparkauction.ca. Bidding opens today at 6:00 p.m.

As a charitable organization, the Assiniboine Park Conservancy relies on the generosity of donors and fundraising events like the online auction to support the Park and Zoo and our work in education, conservation, research and recreation.

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