

## Assiniboine Park Conservancy to Host Seventh Annual Wildest Dreams Event at Assiniboine Park Zoo

**For immediate release:** Winnipeg, June 9, 2022 – This evening, after a two-year hiatus, the Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC) will welcome over 1,600 very special guests to the seventh annual Wildest Dream event at Assiniboine Park Zoo. Wildest Dreams is a very special event that provides a once-in-a-lifetime Zoo experience for children and families facing health and/or socio-economic challenges.

This year, APC has partnered with the following organizations to welcome children and families who would benefit most from attending the Wildest Dreams event:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Boston Pizza Foundation
- CancerCare Manitoba Foundation
- Dream Factory
- IF Charities
- Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba Inc. (IRCOM)
- Ka Ni Kanichihk
- Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre
- Manitoba Possible
- Manitoba Inuit Association
- Marymound
- Muscular Dystrophy Canada

- CWB National Leasing Foundation
- Newcomers Employment and Education Development Services Inc. (NEEDS)
- Ronald McDonald House Manitoba
- Rossbrook House
- St. Amant Foundation
- Teen Stop Jeunesse
- The Salvation Army
- True North Foundation
- Variety Manitoba
- Winnipeg Boldness Project

From the moment they walk through the doors, in addition to enjoying complimentary access to the entire Zoo, Wildest Dreams guests will be treated to a memorable array of special activities, experiences and entertainment. There will be Zoo chats, a dance party, craft zone, ambassador animals, and more! Complimentary food, beverages, and treats will also be provided.

Wildest Dreams is made possible with contributions from a number of supporting partners that provide financial and in-kind support for the event. For more information, please visit the Zoo website.

## **Quotes:**

"This event is very near and dear to our hearts here at the Assiniboine Park Conservancy. It is one of several ways we give back to the community we serve and a truly delightful evening."

- Sara Wolowich Brown, Communications Coordinator, Assiniboine Park Conservancy

"At IRCOM, our newcomer families are excited to attend the Wildest Dreams event. Many have not had the opportunity to enjoy visits to the Zoo because of the pandemic. Participating is one way to get to know their new home and feel welcome, while learning about the amazing animals and creatures at the Zoo."

- Shereen Denetto, Executive Director, IRCOM Inc.

"We are excited to be a partner with the Assiniboine Park Conservancy and offer this no cost event to children and youth living with disabilities. At Manitoba Possible our three core values are collaboration, diversity, and innovation. By working together with community partners, we are able to break down barriers towards full and equal participation, and after a two-year hiatus families are excited to have the opportunity in returning to such a special event."

- Jaylene Irwin, Supervisor, Recreation and Leisure, Manitoba Possible

"Wildest Dreams has turned into one of our biggest events. It is one of our few events that includes the whole family. It creates a bond between us and the families that attend the event...just a magical evening."

- Sheila Chippastance, Volunteer Coordinator, Rossbrook House.

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