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The poster features logos for 'OurArctic OurLife' and 'L'Arctique notre nature' at the top. The main text reads: 'Conserve Arctic biodiversity / Conservez la biodiversité de l'Arctique'. Below this, it lists 'Animals / Plants / Ecosystems' in both English and French. The background shows a polar bear in a snowy landscape with a bird in flight. At the bottom, it says 'Let's work together to save Arctic species. / Agissons ensemble pour sauver les espèces de l'Arctique.' and provides the website 'www.caza.ca'. Logos for CAZA AZAC, Polar Bears International, and the Government of Manitoba are at the very bottom.

INSPIRATION ON THE TUNDRA



Jill Marvin

A special thanks to all CAZA members who joined us in November during PBI Tundra Connection webcasts and teleconference... Below is my first ever blog that was posted on PBI website of my experience in Churchill.....Jill

I've had the privilege to work daily with polar bears and exotic animals for over 20 years in the zoo and aquarium industry. However, the opportunity to spend time with animals in their natural habitat is an entirely unique and rewarding experience. Friends, family, visitors, and tourists are often in awe of my profession. However, it's during weeks such as these on the tundra—surrounded by PBI scientists, colleagues, and polar bears—that I'm equally in awe of my career choice and the opportunities that my profession has given me.

Accredited zoos and aquariums in Canada reach millions of urban visitors each year with the goals of providing unique, up-close experiences with animals that will motivate and inspire them to help us to protect them and their natural habitat. Ecotourism, such as the Frontiers North Tundra Buggies here in Churchill, Manitoba, have accomplished this similar goal in a natural setting. This is a trip of lifetime which has succeeded in motivating many,

MISSION STATEMENT

Unite the Canadian Zoo and Aquarium community in connecting people to nature through demonstrating dedication to conservation and excellence in animal care.

INSPIRATION ON THE TUNDRA

including me to strive harder to inspire Canadians about the importance of protecting Canada's heritage, arctic species, habitat, and our icon, the polar bear.



Who could not be motivated by this experience? The first bear that I witnessed was on our evening trip to lodge. Yesterday, I saw so many that I could sit back and concentrate on the differences of each distinct individual. Today I'm fully enjoying watching behavior and body language. Additionally, I am surrounded by leading scientists, researchers, professionals, and general polar bear enthusiasts.

Our PBI leader, Robert Buchanan once told me that a visit to Churchill, the polar bear capital of the world, created a lot of hope and motivationpurple juice. When I was invited to join PBI for Tundra Connections, which included the opportunity to see polar bears in their natural habitat, my first reaction was.... surely there are others more experienced or those that needed additional purple juice? However, as our trip comes towards an end, I'm convinced that these past days have brought me to a higher level of understanding and respect for the tundra, the Arctic, and polar bears. I was able to contribute and the additional purple juice will assist me to be a more effective motivator and individual. If I could make a difference, big or small, individually or within the group, I challenge you to join me in making a difference and save polar bears.



Our Tundra Connections team consists of polar bear scientists Dr. Steve Amstrup, Marie Auger-Méthé, and Dr. Ian Stirling; Lance Rougeux of Discovery Channel Education; myself, and our fearless PBI Director of Field Operations and man of all trades, BJ Kirschhoffer. We reached close 38,000 polar bear enthusiasts, educators, students and zoo and aquarium professionals in two days through Tundra Connections. 38,000!!!! That's a lot of purple juice that can save a lot of polar bears. Thank you, PBI, for including me in the PBI family.

Photo Credits: Polar bears. Shari Burnett: Panel, ©Daniel J. Cox/ Natural Exposures.



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Member of IUCN
The World Conservation Union
Member of WAZA
The World Zoo Assoc.

CAZA'S Future

All of us who have chosen to get involved in the affairs of the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums have done so out of a strong personal conviction about our industry and its important role in Canadian society.

I am personally convinced that our industry is increasingly vital to the worldwide effort to ensure a secure future for animals and their habitat – in fact for the preservation of biodiversity. It has become clear in recent decades that the burgeoning human population of our planet, with its consequent exponential demands for resources is the key threat to the survival of many animal species. Accredited zoos and aquariums can be a source of knowledge about this situation, as well as serving as a refuge for the most-threatened species – in some cases (unfortunately) providing an assurance population for species that have or are about to be extirpated. Such populations can be maintained in zoos or aquariums until such time as the populations can be reintroduced to a natural home.

Canada is relatively fortunate

L'avenir de l'AZAC

Ceux d'entre nous qui ont choisi de s'impliquer dans les affaires de l'Association des zoos et aquariums du Canada le font suivant une forte conviction personnelle à l'égard de notre industrie et de son important rôle dans la société canadienne.

Je suis personnellement convaincu que notre industrie est de plus en plus indispensable à l'effort mondial visant à assurer un avenir sûr pour les animaux et leur habitat - en fait pour la préservation de la biodiversité. Il est devenu clair, au cours des dernières décennies, que l'expansion de la population humaine sur notre planète, avec pour conséquence les exigences exponentielles sur nos ressources, est la principale menace pour la survie de nombreuses espèces animales. Les zoos et aquariums accrédités peuvent être une source de connaissances sur cette situation, et peuvent servir de refuge pour les espèces les plus menacées en assurant dans certains cas (malheureusement) une population pour les espèces qui ont disparu ou sont sur le point de disparaître. Ces populations peuvent être maintenues dans des zoos ou des aquariums jusqu'à ce qu'elles puissent être réintroduites dans la nature.

Le Canada est relativement chanceux par rapport à certaines régions du monde où l'habitat a disparu à un rythme alarmant, entraînant des pertes de la biodiversité. Notre pays bénéficie d'une superficie immense et d'une population relativement faible. Néanmoins, nous avons des défis critiques dans certaines régions, relativement à certaines espèces.

Parmi ces zones menacées : l'Arctique canadien. Le changement climatique a déjà eu un impact majeur sur la région et sur les plantes et les animaux, et les processus de changement vont persister pendant de nombreuses années en dépit du succès espéré en modérant les facteurs qui sont à l'origine de ce



FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

when compared to some areas of the world where habitat has disappeared at an alarming rate, with consequent loss of biodiversity. Our country is blessed with a huge land area and a relatively small population. Nevertheless we do have critical challenges in some areas, with some species.

Notable among these threatened areas is Canada's Arctic. Climate change has already had a major impact on that region and its plants and animals and the process of change will persist for many years in spite of our hoped-for success in moderating the factors that are at the root of that change. Equally seriously, a range of other factors including pollution, resource exploitation, human pressures and others are having a major impact on the region. This realization was the basis for CAZA's choice to feature Arctic Biodiversity as our contribution to IYOB in 2010, and it leads us to continue that educational/outreach effort through 2011.

But it is worth noting, as was made clear during an intensive discussion at our recent conservation workshop in Toronto, that there are many other areas and many other species that are equally at risk. In fact, southern Canada is not immune to the pressures and forces that are causing problems in the north; there are many cases where animal populations are teetering on the brink and some at least where survival in their natural ranges is limited to a matter of years.

Concerns such as this led us to a serious review of our involvement in conservation programs – both at the level of the Association and at the level of work carried out by our institutional members. Advice from that workshop will be brought to the Board for consideration at its mid-term meeting in Ottawa at the end of March. However, in my mind this is an issue for all of us, and I am reaching out to you for your thoughts and advice.

LA PLUME DU PRÉSIDENT

changement. Une série d'autres facteurs tout aussi sérieux, comme la pollution, l'exploitation des ressources, les pressions de l'homme et autres, a aussi un impact majeur sur la région. C'est cette réalisation qui a guidé le choix de l'AZAC de faire de la biodiversité de l'Arctique notre contribution à l'initiative de l'Année internationale de la biodiversité en 2010, et nous sommes amenés à poursuivre cet effort de sensibilisation et d'éducation en 2011.

Mais il est intéressant de noter, comme cela a été clairement indiqué au cours d'une intensive discussion lors de notre récent atelier sur la conservation à Toronto, qu'il existe beaucoup d'autres domaines et de nombreuses autres espèces qui sont également à risque. En fait, le sud du Canada n'est pas immunisé contre les pressions et les forces qui causent des problèmes dans le nord ; il y a de nombreux cas où les populations animales sont au bord de l'extinction et la survie d'autres populations dans leur aire de répartition naturelle est limitée à quelques années.

Les préoccupations de ce genre nous ont conduit à un examen sérieux de notre implication dans les programmes de conservation - tant au niveau de l'Association qu'au niveau du travail effectué par nos membres institutionnels. Les recommandations découlant de cet atelier seront présentées au Conseil d'administration lors de sa réunion de mi-parcours fin mars à Ottawa. Cependant, c'est une question pour nous regarde tous, et je compte sur vos suggestions et idées.

Ces dernières années, la participation de l'Association a inclus le soutien au Programme pour les espèces canadiennes en voie de disparition, avec la participation active de notre biologiste de la faune John Carnio, impliqué dans huit programmes de rétablissement à travers le Canada. Nous avons également fourni un



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In recent years, the Association's involvement has included support for the Canadian Endangered Species Program, with the active involvement of our wildlife biologist John Carnio in working with eight recovery programs across Canada. We've also provided some limited funding for conservation projects carried out by our members, and we have strongly supported educational work about all of this so that Canadians are made more aware of the challenges and opportunities. Our accreditation standards now demand active participation by institutions in appropriate conservation work, and there is a satisfyingly large and diverse range of projects carried out by our members throughout the country.

All that said, the question remains whether this is sufficient given the scope and severity of the problems we face as a society. There was some healthy debate at the recent workshop about the relative priority of our conservation involvement with the other roles and activities of our association and its membership. One point of view holds that the preservation of biodiversity is THE issue for the future of our planet, and that being the case should be the overarching priority for our industry.

I would be greatly appreciative of your thoughts on this highly important question; it is after all, your Association, and we need to be guided by your views. Please let me know directly, or feel free to contact the chair of our Conservation and Education Committee, Jack Sisson, or the staff at National Office.

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financement limité pour les projets de conservation menés par nos membres, et nous avons fermement soutenu le travail d'éducation afin que les Canadiens soient plus conscients des défis et des opportunités qui existent. Nos normes d'accréditation exigent désormais la participation active des institutions dans des travaux de conservation appropriés, et il existe un nombre satisfaisant et diversifié de projets réalisés par nos membres dans tout le pays.

Ceci étant dit, la question demeure de savoir si cela est suffisant, étant donné l'ampleur et la gravité des problèmes auxquels nous sommes confrontés en tant que société. Un franc débat a eu lieu durant le récent atelier sur la priorité relative de notre engagement dans la conservation et les autres rôles et activités de notre Association et de ses membres. Un point de vue soutient que la préservation de la biodiversité est une question primordiale pour l'avenir de notre planète, et devrait donc être une priorité pour notre industrie.

Je vous serais très reconnaissant de me faire part de vos suggestions sur cette question très importante : il s'agit, après tout, de votre Association, et nous avons besoin d'être guidés par votre point de vue. Faites-le moi savoir directement ou n'hésitez pas à contacter le président du comité de conservation et de l'éducation, Jack Sisson, ou le personnel du bureau national.



ACCREDITATION COMMISSION REPORT

The CAZA Accreditation Commission has been very active since the Conference in Montreal.

We have edited the majority of our documents so that CAZA Institutional Members will be able to file all their accreditation documents in an electronic format. There are numerous benefits to this change in process. It is a green initiative that will reduce the amount of paper, postage, and time required to distribute accreditation materials from an applicant institution to the accreditation inspection team. This will also us to store all our records stored electronically in a central location eliminating the need to ship many boxes of historical material every time a new Accreditation Chair is appointed. Finally and possibly most importantly is that it will reduce the duplication of work in future accreditation submissions for the applicant institution.

We are also finalizing a process to certify Affiliate Member Institutions. This will be ratified by the Board of Directors at their mid-year meeting. The membership committee is working on a fee structure for the Affiliate membership category. This will enable CAZA to meet the needs of both Municipal and Provincial governments who have been asking for CAZA support in assessing facilities that do not meet the definition of an institutional member.

We have three institutions scheduled for accreditation inspections in 2011 and potentially two Affiliate Organizations to go through the certification process. I also anticipate one facility will apply for CAZA accreditation and membership in 2011.

This year members of the Accreditation Commission will all be participating in an onsite inspection. The experience they will receive will benefit them in future accreditation discussions as we continue to fine tune and update our accreditation processes. I will also be seeking a number of other CAZA Professional Fellow Members to participate in accreditation inspections, so please be prepared to serve your association.

NEW DIRECTOR AT THE GREATER VANCOUVER ZOO

Christoph Steeger has joined the Greater Vancouver Zoo as a new Director. Born and raised in Germany with one year of academic studies at the Academy for Philosophy in Munich. Moved to British Columbia in 1981 and graduated from SFU (Simon Fraser University) with a Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Biology. Christoph did his master's research on reproductive strategies of Ospreys of the West Kootenay Region of southern British Columbia.



“I loved the Greater Vancouver Zoo from the beginning when I saw its beautiful natural setting and the spaciousness of the animal enclosures. Since then I have also been impressed by the sincere sense of responsibility in the care for the animals and the large personal investment of people involved or associated with the zoo. All this is very inspiring and a great basis for moving the zoo forward. Our plan for the near future is to create new and exciting animal exhibits, conservation and education programs, and improvements to the zoo's infrastructure. Our ultimate goal is for Greater Vancouver Zoo to become a leader in conservation, a community centre for our local and provincial residents, and a prime destination for our visitors and tourists from afar.” commented Christoph Steeger.

Following his academic education, Christoph has been working as a registered professional biologist (R.P.Bio.) for the past 20 years. He has been co-owner, manager, and senior biologist of a Nelson-based ecological research and consulting company. The focus of his work was initially on research and management of forest wildlife and habitat. Over the last decade, he has been involved in various projects on the conservation of species-at-risk including Mountain Caribou, Williamson's Sapsucker, Great Blue Heron, and various reptile species. Other aspects of his professional work include land management planning, ecological assessments, and design and delivery of professional development courses in wildlife tree management.

Christoph has been a director of the Columbia Mountains Institute of Applied Ecology (2001-2009) and the Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society (2008-present). He's currently a member of the federal species recovery team for Williamson's Sapsucker and is the representative of the Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society on the BC mountain caribou project.

Everyone is thrilled to have Christoph join the team at the Greater Vancouver Zoo and we all look forward to his expertise in conservation and further enhancements to the facility!

NEW DIRECTOR OF ZOOLOGICAL OPERATIONS AT THE ASSINIBOINE PARK ZOO

I am pleased to announce that Tim Sinclair-Smith has joined the Assiniboine Park Zoo in the position of Director, Zoological Operations. Tim brings a broad base of zoo experience to his new position, having worked most recently in Calgary but also including postings elsewhere in Canada, Australia and Africa. He replaces Dr. Gord Glover who has retired following a long and successful career with the Zoo.

Tim joins the team of the new Assiniboine Park Conservancy that is assuming management responsibility for all aspects of Assiniboine Park. He will be a key player in the implementation of the Park's new Masterplan that will see the redevelopment of many facilities within the current Zoo including the new International Polar Bear Conservation Centre currently under construction and Journey to Churchill project slated to be tendered later this year. His experience and enthusiasm will be tremendous assets as the future plans for the Assiniboine Park Zoo unfold.

Tim assumed his new duties in January and can be reached at tsinclairsmith@assiniboinepark.ca.

Don Peterkin
Chief Operations Officer
Assiniboine Park Conservancy

A NEW DIRECTOR FOR THE AQUARIUM DU QUÉBEC

The staff and management of the Aquarium are pleased to welcome Mr. Christophe Zamuner as Director. Christophe has worked within the Sepaq administration for the past 8 years and his professional background comes from the manufacturing business, natural parks and the environment. Mr. Zamuner looks forward to maintaining and developing the collaborations that the Aquarium du Québec has with CAZA and other accredited institutions within the organization.

In January 2011, the Aquarium's director since 2006, Mr. André Roy, was promoted to Director of Operations of Sepaq's Tourist Centres. His new role includes the management of 10 Centres including the Aquarium du Québec, Duschesnay, and Montmorency among others. Although André's daily presence will be missed, his new position and continuing commitment to the Aquarium will strengthen its position as a leading organization within Sepaq's large family of parks and reserves throughout Quebec.



Please join us in congratulating our past and new Director of the Aquarium du Québec.

www.sepaq.com/aquarium



GORDON GLOVER SAYS ADIEU

After almost 28 years at the Assiniboine Park Zoo, 23 of those as Zoo Veterinarian and the last four as Director, it is time for a change. CAZA has been an integral part of my working life over that 28 years. The Association has given me the opportunity to learn more about the Zoo industry in Canada and internationally. It has been the vehicle through which I have made many friends and contacts and perhaps most important, it has given me (and I can probably say the Assiniboine Park Zoo) a sense of belonging to a community with all the support that comes with that community.

I hope to stay involved in the Zoo here in Winnipeg with many new development projects underway, and with the zoo community elsewhere, if I can assist.

There are so many people who I have 'leaned on' for support and guidance and so many people that I have enjoyed working with in the zoo and wildlife community. Thank you all!

My new contact coordinates are as follows:

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Dr. Gordon Glover

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOOKEEPERS AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

The American Association of ZooKeepers AAZK Awards Committee is accepting nominations for the Lifetime Achievement Award, Jean M. Hromadka AAZK Excellence in Animal Care Award, The Lutz Ruhe Meritorious Achievement - AAZK Professional of the Year Award, the Lee Houts Enrichment Excellence Award, the Certificate of Merit for Zoo Keeper Education, the Certificate of Excellence in Exhibit Renovation, the Certificate of Merit in Conservation, the Mazuri Animal Nutrition Award, and The AAZK Chapter of the Year Award which will be presented at the 2011 AAZK Conference in San Diego, California. The deadline for nominations is 1 May 2011. Information concerning the qualifications, nomination procedure, selection procedure and an explanation of the awards may be obtained at www.aazk.org, under committees/awards.



AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS AND AQUARIA , AFRICAN ZOO SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The African Association of Zoos and Aquaria (PAAZAB) African Zoo Sponsorship Programme In 2006 the membership of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums made something of a landmark decision with the adoption of COMM 61.10:2006 at the Leipzig conference. The resolution stated:

“We as a community of organized zoos have a moral, ethical and professional responsibility to engage with needy institutions in order to help them improve their standards, achieve conservation goals, and benefit the animals they hold.”

Although simple in its derivation, the implications of the statement are wide and far-reaching, and reinforce the concept of zoo mentorship. The idea of developed world zoos engaging with developing world zoos is far from new (Conway, 2003; Walker & Morgan, 2005) and is a recommended strategy of the World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy of 2005.

As a means of promoting such partnerships between zoos in Africa and those in Europe and America, the African Association of Zoos and Aquaria (PAAZAB) has developed a membership sponsorship structure that facilitates the initiation of such partnerships.

One of the significant issues identified through the WOZA Africa initiative of PAAZAB (Morgan 2003) is the fact that the majority of operational zoos in West and central Africa are isolated from the international zoo community as represented by WAZA. As a consequence such zoos have little exposure to trends in and tenants of, modern zoo practice. A potential solution to this is to encourage such zoos to take up membership in the regional zoos association, PAAZAB. In doing so, they then have access to the global network and their participation therein, expected and solicited.

A single one-off payment to PAAZAB by the sponsoring zoo covers the cost of an African zoo's membership to PAAZAB for a three-year period. However, in addition to this, the sponsored zoo also receives a visit by PAAZAB personnel and a report is generated for both the sponsored and sponsoring zoos. Furthermore the cost also covers the attendance of the zoo's senior management of at least one PAAZAB conference during the three year period.

Thus far the nature of this form of engagement has proven to be quite successful. Noteworthy have been Leipzig Zoo's sponsorship of Addis Ababa Lion Zoo in Ethiopia; the Zoological Society of London's sponsorship of Kumasi Zoo in Ghana, Twycross zoo of Uganda Wildlife Education Centre in Uganda and Bristol Zoo, Mvog Betsi Zoo in Cameroon. These relationships have been characterised by effective cross-pollination of cultural mores, skills transfer and resource and capacity building. The relationship/sponsorship need not be simply one to one. Several zoos might consider a partnership to cover the costs of an African Zoo's membership. Indeed, the relationship need not necessarily be zoo to zoo. David Field and Lesley Dickie – names known to all in the WAZA Community - in their private capacities are presently sponsoring Parc Zoologique de Ivoloïna, Madagascar.

There remain a number of other African Zoos that will benefit from this programme, including:



AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS AND AQUARIA , AFRICAN ZOO SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

Sanda Kyarimi Zoo Maidaguri, Nigeria;
University of Ibadan Zoo, Ibadan, Nigeria;
Kinshasa Zoo, Kinshasa, DRC;
Safari Walk, Nairobi, Kenya;
Nairobi Snake Park, Nairobi, Kenya;
Parc Zoologique de Tsimbazaza, Anatananarivo, Madagascar;
Bamako Zoo, Bamako, Mali;
Ouagadougou Zoo, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso;
Parc Zoologique de Hahn, Dakar, Senegal
Parc Zoologique et des Loisirs, Algiers, Algeria;
Maputo Zoo, Maputo, Mocambique;
Niamey Zoo, Niamey, Niger;
Abidjan Zoo, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Do give some thought to sponsoring an African zoo and address any queries to the author at the address below:

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WALKER S & MORGAN D R (2005) Global Imperative – all zoos contributing to Conservation PROC of the 60th AGM of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA)
Photos:
Kumasi Zoo Ghana . PAAZAB and ZSL
Addis Ababa Lion Zoo Ethiopia
Parc Ivoloina, Madagascar



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