



## **NEWS RELEASE**

- For Immediate Release -

*June 26, 2009*

### **CALGARY CO-OP SPONSORS FIRST WILDLIFE CAROUSEL IN CANADA AT THE CALGARY ZOO**

Calgary, AB – The Calgary Zoo is pleased to announce its partnership with Calgary Co-op to develop the **Calgary Co-op Kids Zone** which will feature the first wildlife carousel in Canada and also include a new train shelter for the children's zoo train and a toddler playground.

Construction will begin in September 2009 on the Calgary Co-op Kids Zone which will be located at the west end of the zoo island near the Eurasian Marsh and tiger exhibit; it is scheduled to open in summer 2010.

"Calgary Co-op, like the Calgary Zoo, believes in our community and family fun," said Donna Burn, Vice President, Member and Public Relations for the Calgary Co-op.

"Our exclusive sponsorship to construct a new Calgary Co-op Kids Zone at the zoo will help bring people together in a fun way and enable children to learn about conservation. This child-friendly area will provide years of learning and fun for children and their families, while enhancing the unique features of the Calgary Zoo for the enjoyment of people in our community for many years to come."

This project is made possible through the generous proceeds of Calgary Co-op and their Charity Golf Classic events.

The carousel with its 30 unique wildlife figures is being constructed by Carousel Works, the world's largest manufacturer of wooden carousels. Each hand crafted, custom designed, wooden carousel is a work of art. With everything from Co-oparoo, the kangaroo to a silverback gorilla, a flamingo and even a praying mantis, the carousel will be sure to delight young visitors to the zoo for many years. It will also include two chariots, one of which will be wheelchair accessible.

**Media Information:**

**WHAT: GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY**

**WHEN: MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2009 at 1:45 p.m.**

**WHERE: Beside Tigers Den Retail Outlet**

**WHO: Ken McCullough, CEO of Calgary Co-op  
Members of the Calgary Co-op Board  
Dr. Clément Lanthier, President & CEO of the Calgary Zoo  
Members of the Calgary Zoo Project Team**

***Please check in at Zoo Security located near the bridge to Inglewood.***

- 30 -

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*The Calgary Zoo is part of a professional, accredited association and member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums (CAZA) comprised of caring, trusted experts committed to ensuring that many endangered and threatened species are part of the world's future. AZA and CAZA advocate on behalf of animals with a unified and consistent voice, and collaborate with others committed to their long-term survival. The Calgary Zoo participates in many Species Survival Plans (SSP), a network among accredited institutions designed to breed endangered species in captivity to ensure the best possible genetic diversity and maintain healthy populations in human care. Through our conservation, education and research programs, many animals in our care play an essential role in the survival of their species in the wild.*

*The Calgary Zoological Society is a charitable organization. Charitable Registration #118824192 RR0001*