

35 Nights of Zoo Lights Start Tonight at Assiniboine Park Zoo

For immediate release: Winnipeg, November 24, 2023 – It has been all hands-on deck this week as the Assiniboine Park Zoo prepares to welcome visitors to the opening weekend of Zoo Lights presented by Red River Co-op. The after hours, ticketed event will run over the course of 35 nights between November 24, 2023 and January 7, 2024.

Nearly 13,000 tickets have already been pre-sold for the run of the event. Tickets are time and date specific, with capacity limited in each time slot. Some time slots and evenings are expected to sell out early. Visitors are encouraged to plan ahead and purchase their tickets in advance to avoid potential disappointment.

“We are ready to celebrate the holiday season and expect to welcome more than 8,000 visitors over the first three nights Zoo Lights,” said Laura Cabak, Director, Public Relations & Communications, Assiniboine Park Conservancy. “With mild weather in the forecast, we are looking forward to a terrific opening weekend!”

Here’s what visitors can look forward to during 35 nights of Zoo Lights!

DAZZLING LIGHT DISPLAYS

- Close to 1.5 million lights and dynamic displays including photogenic favourites like the LOVE sign, cascading aurora borealis lights, the dazzling walk-through tunnel on the Tundra Trail, and the glowing golden bison.
- **NEW!** *Domino Effect* by Ingrid Ingrid is a dazzling, interactive display that invites you to play with giant dominos. Topple the dominos in a long cascade and enjoy the results as the domino orchestra plays a unique musical work in an illuminated rainbow of pastel hues!
- **NEW!** Test your skills with glow in the snow games like ladder ball and corn hole. Then, wander through our brand new, larger than life light maze!

MOMENTS AND MEMORIES

- Santa will be at Zoo Lights every night until December 23. Bring a camera or phone to capture your special moment. Other wintry characters will join us at Zoo Lights after Santa returns to the North Pole.
- Wednesday, December 6 is Sensory Night. The Zoo Lights experience will be modified to provide a more comfortable experience for our guests with sensory regulation or processing needs. Modifications will include lighting and audio adjustments and reduced capacity.

HOT EATS AND TASTY TREATS (\$)

- A variety of tasty food and beverage options will be served at the Tundra Grill, Winston’s, Bison Snack Shack, and the Marquee – a large, heated event tent with ample seating and nightly entertainment courtesy of local DJs.
- Menu items include mini donuts, soft pretzels, burgers, hot dogs, and other grab and go snacks, plus homemade soup, mac and cheese, shepherd’s pie and more. There will also be hot chocolate, coffee, and a selection of beverages just for grown-ups. S’more kits will be available for purchase and can be roasted around one of our cozy fire pits!

TICKET INFORMATION

- Tickets are date and time specific. Guests must enter the Zoo within the 30-minute time frame indicated on their ticket. Tickets do not have a designated exit time.
- All guests, regardless of age, require a ticket to be counted toward capacity.
- Ticket prices:
 - November dates (save 50%) – \$8.25 + GST (all ages 3+)
 - December dates – \$16.50 + GST (all ages 3+)
 - January dates (save 15%) – \$14.05 + GST (all ages 3+)
 - Children 2 and under – FREE

The full schedule, hours of operation, and other helpful information can be found at zoolightswpg.ca.

For interviews and information requests, please contact:
Laura Cabak, Director, Public Relations & Communications
Cell: 204-795-0091 | Email: lcabak@assiniboinepark.ca

Domino Effect Credits: *Domino Effect* by Ingrid Ingrid, is a production of Quartier des Spectacles Partnership, distributed by QDS international.

- Creation: Ingrid Ingrid
- Creative Direction: Geneviève Levasseur
- Interactive Experience Design: Katherine Melançon
- Architecture Design: Enrique Enriquez
- Lighting Design: Lightfactor Inc.
- Sound Design: Myriam Bleau
- Technology Design: Les Productions Version 10
- Industrial Design: Dix au carré
- Fabricant: Solufab, Rotoplast and Nordesco
- Production: Quartier des Spectacles Partnership
- Distribution: Quartier des Spectacles International
- Executive Production, Touring: Jack World