



Assiniboine Park Conservancy

Celebrate International Red Panda Day This Weekend at the Assiniboine Park Zoo

For immediate release: Winnipeg, September 17, 2026 – The Assiniboine Park Zoo invites guests to visit this Saturday and Sunday for a weekend of fun, educational activities to celebrate International Red Panda Day. Guests of all ages can enjoy interactive games, learn fascinating facts about red pandas, and discover how conservation efforts are helping protect the species in the wild.

Red pandas are native to the mountain forests of Nepal, India, Bhutan, China, and Myanmar (Burma) and classified as endangered on the IUCN Red List. According to the [Red Panda Network](#), there may be as few as 2,500 individuals remaining in the wild. Habitat loss, poaching, and climate change continue to threaten the species, which has suffered a population decline of over 50% in just two decades. Conservation initiatives, including community-based habitat protection and education programs, are critical to their survival.

“We’re looking forward to visitors connecting with one of the Zoo’s most beloved species while learning about the critical conservation efforts underway to protect them,” said Dani Wenger, Communications Coordinator, Assiniboine Park Conservancy. “With games, face painting, souvenirs, special Zoo chats, and more, there’s something for everyone to enjoy. We hope guests leave feeling inspired to support this endangered species.”

Event Details

Red Panda Weekend activities take place on Saturday, September 19 and Sunday, September 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Zoo Event Tent on the west side of the Zoo (except for Zoo chats).

- **Red Panda Zoo Chats** – Visit our red pandas and learn all about them from the people who know them best.
- **Face Painting** – Let your imagination run wild with face-painting by Mama K Paints – fun for kids of all ages!
- **Souvenir Station** – Make a small donation to the Red Panda Network and receive a special keepsake. Choose from a custom button, greeting card, tiny tail, or a unique piece of art.
- **Adaptation Station** – Learn how these arboreal experts have adapted to survive and thrive in the wild.
- **Red Panda Ranger Challenge** – Take on fun, educational challenges and collect stamps in your Red Panda Ranger passport! Activities include:
 - The balance beam
 - Plinko
 - Feed the red panda game
 - Red panda scavenger hunt
 - Recycling challenge, hosted by Recycle Everywhere
- **Name the Baby Red Panda** – We recently welcomed a male red panda baby, and he needs a name! Choose from one of the five names chosen by our animal care team until Sunday, September 20, at assiniboinepark.ca/babyredpanda.

PLUS: Photo-ops, appearances by Winston, our polar bear mascot, and more!

The Zoo is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Red Panda Weekend activities are included with regular Zoo admission unless noted. For more information, visit assiniboinepark.ca.

For interviews and information requests, please contact:

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