



Assiniboine Park Conservancy

Zoo Lights Presented by Red River Co-op Returns to Assiniboine Park Zoo November 20 – January 3

For immediate release: Winnipeg, October 28, 2026 – Assiniboine Park Zoo is getting ready to dazzle as Zoo Lights presented by Red River Co-op returns for another season of holiday magic. Winnipeg's favourite holiday tradition will light up the Zoo for 29 spectacular nights, from Friday, November 20, 2026, to Sunday, January 3, 2027.

This year, visitors will also discover Thomas Dambo's *TROLLS: Save the Humans* exhibition against the twinkly backdrop of Zoo Lights. The exhibition, presented by Thor Plumbing & Heating, features six larger-than-life Troll sculptures made from reclaimed materials, set along the Zoo's glowing pathways. This marks the first time Thomas Dambo's Trolls have visited Canada.

"Zoo Lights is a beloved holiday tradition, and the addition of Thomas Dambo's Trolls offers visitors a whole new reason to explore," said Lindsay Hughes, Manager, Communications, Assiniboine Park Conservancy. "It's a chance to share joy and cheer with loved ones, create lasting memories, and enjoy all the sparkle and festivities that we look forward to each year, with a spectacular new twist."

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- **Millions of festive lights** illuminating a two-kilometre winter walking trail.
- **Dazzling displays**, including stunning new photo-ops and towering Trolls, alongside returning favourites like the Zoo Lights Express train and glowing light tunnel.
- **Santa Claus** will visit nightly until December 23 at the Peppermint Palace, and whimsical characters will join the fun starting December 26.
- **Snow Boot Shake**, a nightly outdoor dance party with a live DJ.
- **Cozy fire pits**, perfect for warming frosty fingers and toes and roasting s'mores.
- **Delicious food and drinks**, including hot chocolate, savoury snacks, sweet seasonal treats, and specialty beverages for an extra holiday indulgence.
- **Frosty fun and games**, including croquet, skeeball, and box hockey.
- **Visit the Coca-Cola Holiday Caravan** on opening weekend only for product samples and photos with Santa.

TICKETS

Tickets are now on sale for members at a special discounted rate for a limited time until Tuesday, November 3. Tickets go on sale to the public on Wednesday, November 4.

- November dates: \$13.50 + GST (ages 3+) *25% discount*
- December and January dates: \$18.00 + GST (ages 3+)
- Children 2 and under: FREE

Tickets can be purchased online or at the Zoo during regular daytime hours of operation. Evening walk-ups welcome on event days, subject to availability.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Assiniboine Park Conservancy is seeking enthusiastic volunteers (ages 18+) to help bring Zoo Lights to life. Volunteers must commit to at least three shifts and enjoy spending time outdoors in winter weather. Volunteers will receive complimentary snacks, refreshments, and other rewards.

Zoo Lights is proudly supported by presenting sponsor Red River Co-op, through a multi-year partnership with the Assiniboine Park Conservancy.

"Zoo Lights has become a favourite holiday tradition for many families, offering a unique opportunity to spend time together and create lasting memories," said Craig Gilpin, CEO, Red River Cooperative. "Red River Co-op is proud to support events that bring people together and make our communities vibrant places to live. We're delighted to be part of this holiday tradition each year."

For the full schedule, FAQs, and volunteer information, please visit the [Assiniboine Park website](#).

-30-

For interviews and information requests, please contact:

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