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Assiniboine Park Conservancy Launches Second Annual Polar Bear Run Event

For immediate release: Winnipeg, December 9, 2016 – The Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC) is excited to announce that the second annual Polar Bear Run presented by the Manitoba Moose will be held on Sunday, February 26, 2017 at Assiniboine Park. This family-friendly event is perfect for all ages and includes a variety of options for participants including:

- 10 km and 5 km runs (through Assiniboine Park)
- Walk (through the Park and a portion of the Zoo)
- Skate (on the Riley Family Duck Pond).

All proceeds from the Polar Bear Run support the Assiniboine Park Conservancy's Polar Bear Rescue Team. Last year's event welcomed 250 participants and raised over \$15,000 in support of the cause. APC is hoping to exceed that amount this year.

This year APC is expanding the event and launching a Polar Bear Run School Program. Schools from across Manitoba are invited to host their own Polar Bear Run or Walk in February to bring students together as part of a growing movement to save polar bears, while engaging them in learning about the impacts of climate change on the animals, ecosystems and communities of northern Manitoba. More information and tool kits can be found online [here](#).

Scheduled in proximity to International Polar Bear Day, the Polar Bear Run was created to raise awareness about the Zoo's polar bear rescue and conservation efforts as well as support the continued care of these incredible animals.

"Polar bear conservation and climate change awareness is something that we're particularly passionate about and actively involved in here at Assiniboine Park Conservancy," said Laura Cabak, APC Marketing & Communications Specialist and run organizer. "This event is a great way for the community to become involved in supporting this important cause and to help raise awareness about the effects of climate change on sea ice and polar bears."

"The Manitoba Moose Hockey Club is excited to again be the Presenting Sponsor of the Polar Bear Run," said Manitoba Moose VP of Operations, Dan Hursh. "It is an excellent event helping connect our community with the meaningful work being done by Assiniboine Park Conservancy's Polar Bear Rescue Team. We are very proud to be a part of it."

Assiniboine Park Conservancy is offering a free pair of tickets to see a Manitoba Moose game at the MTS Centre to the first 30 participants to register for the Polar Bear Run. The game takes place Friday February 3, 2017.

Registration is now open and can be completed [online](#) or by visiting your local Running Room. Registration includes a complimentary post-race pancake breakfast in a heated event tent, a Polar Bear Rescue Team toque, drawstring bag and a coupon for 50% off admission to the Assiniboine Park Zoo. Early bird pricing is in effect until December 31, 2016.

About the Polar Bear Rescue Team

Assiniboine Park Zoo's Polar Bear Rescue Team is a group of animal care professionals consisting of veterinary staff, animal husbandry experts and conservation scientists that are called to action by Manitoba Sustainable Development when there are polar bear cubs in need of rescue. [Learn more.](#)

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