

## **Juno the Polar Bear Coming to Winnipeg from Toronto Zoo**

**For immediate release:** Winnipeg, February 22, 2017 - The Assiniboine Park Zoo is excited to announce that Juno, a 15 month old polar bear from the Toronto Zoo will soon be calling Winnipeg her home. Juno is the little sister of Hudson and Humphrey, both of whom are former residents of the zoo's award-winning Journey to Churchill exhibit.

Born at the Toronto Zoo on November 11, 2015, Juno was the only surviving cub in a litter of two and was closely monitored and cared for by Toronto Zoo staff during the early stages of her life. The move to the Assiniboine Park Zoo is considered temporary, but marks the next step in Juno's life where she will have the opportunity to socialize and engage with other polar bear cubs close to her age and further her development towards becoming an adult bear.

"We are privileged to have an internationally award-winning Arctic exhibit that can be home to many polar bears at the same time, all of whom help us educate visitors about the impacts of climate change on their species," said Gary Lunsford, Sr. Director, Animal Management & Conservation. "Having Juno come to Assiniboine Park Zoo will give her the opportunity to learn from and develop alongside other polar bears her age. This will be very beneficial to her as she continues to mature."

Juno will travel to Winnipeg next week and will make her home in the Leatherdale International Polar Bear Conservation Centre where she will undergo the standard 30-day quarantine period. In time, she will be introduced to polar bear cubs Nanuq and Siku who currently reside at the Leatherdale International Polar Bear Conservation Centre and are close to her age.

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