

Press Release Immediate Release Thursday, December 10, 2009

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GIANT PANDA EXHIBIT AT TORONTO ZOO

December 10, 2009, Toronto, Ontario: The possibility of a future giant panda exhibit at the Toronto Zoo received positive support from the Zoo's Board of Management today. The Board congratulated Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti, Chair of the Zoo's Fundraising & Sponsorship Committee, on the successful mission to China reaffirming letters of intent with the Chinese Association of Zoological Gardens (CAZG), Beijing Zoo and the Chongqing Zoo for future exchanges of various animals including a breeding pair of pandas. Councillor Mammoliti, along with Dr. William Rapley of the Zoo, recently met with officials in China to discuss mutual conservation projects.

"Our colleagues in China continue to be very supportive of this initiative with the Toronto Zoo" commented Councillor Mammoliti. "And I am encouraged by the recent positive support that we received from the Prime Minister's office. Our fundraising committee will focus on how best to raise the funds that we need to bring this exhibit to the Zoo."

Should a giant panda exhibit come to fruition, a ten-year conservation exchange would be put in place.

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