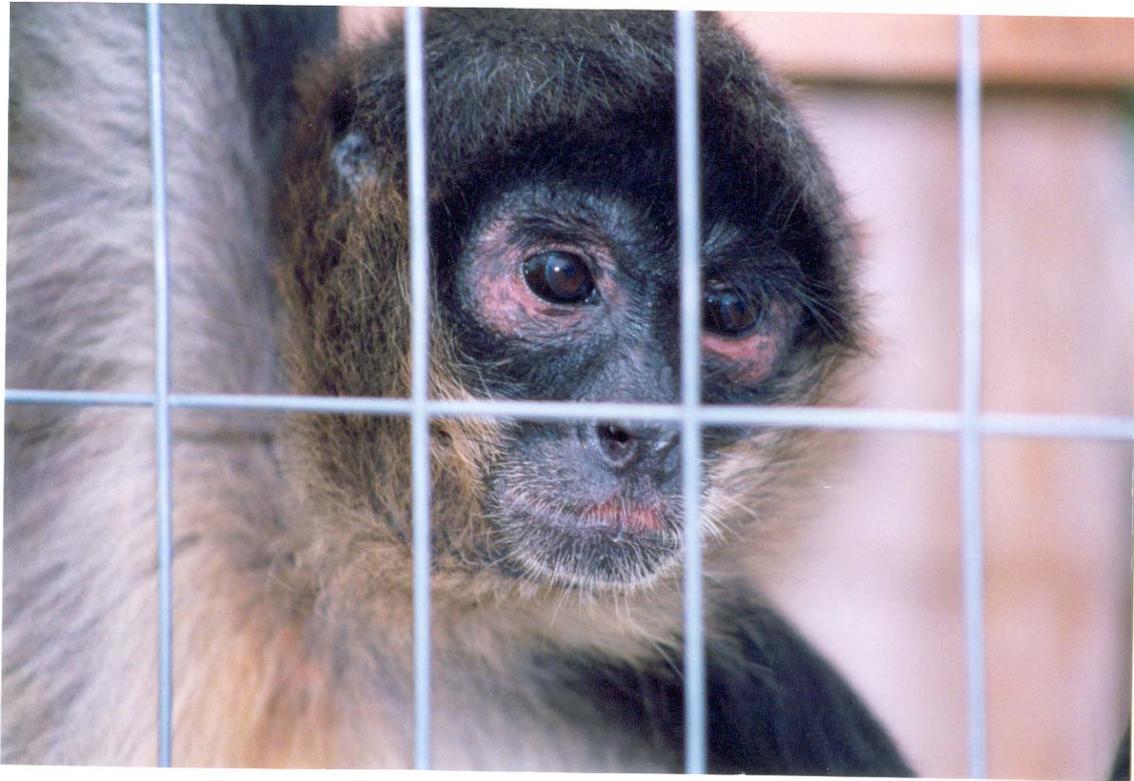


# Zoos in Ontario

## An Investigative Report



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October 1995

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## **Foreword**

As knowledge of the physical, psychological and social aspects of animal well-being increases, attitudes toward the keeping of animals in zoos, aquariums, safari parks and roadside menageries are changing. Increasingly, members of the public are becoming concerned about the way individual zoo animals are housed and cared for, and whether or not their confinement in zoos actually supports a legitimate agenda of conservation, education and science.

Unfortunately, most zoos today are little changed from their 19th century predecessors. They remain essentially menagerie-style collections of animals constituted to satisfy public curiosity and a desire to view wild animals up close. Most of these zoos cause considerable physical and psychological animal suffering.

Ontario currently has no legislation requiring the licensing of zoos or regulating the care and housing of captive wildlife. This has resulted in a proliferation of zoos and roadside menageries estimated to number more than 70 -- more than any other Canadian province.

The Canadian Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums (CAZPA), a national organization of zoos, operates an accreditation program for its member institutions. To become accredited a zoo must meet the association's standards for animal management, facility cleanliness, veterinary care, financial stability, education and several other areas. Only five Ontario zoos are currently accredited.

In 1984, the British Zoo Licensing Act came into effect. This act required all zoos to obtain a license to operate and subjected them to periodic inspections. In order to assess how Ontario's zoos would rate under the standards of the British Zoo Licensing Act, the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) and Zoocheck Canada invited Dr. John Gripper, a veterinarian and appointed inspector under the British act, to conduct an inspection of a representative sample of Ontario's zoos.

Dr. Gripper was asked to provide comments and criticisms on each facility he visited; to offer his opinion as to whether or not each zoo would gain a licence under the British Zoo Licensing Act; and to make recommendations as to how zoo practices in Ontario can be upgraded and improved.

It is the intention of WSPA and Zoocheck Canada to initiate debate on the well-being of wild animals kept in captivity in Ontario and contribute to the improvement of zoos generally by providing recommendations as to how the zoo industry can achieve that goal.

Although there are critical elements in this report, it is our hope that it will stimulate thoughtful discussion on how to achieve the goal we all share of improved standards of care and housing for all captive wildlife. If zoos are to exist, WSPA and Zoocheck Canada believe they must place the physical, psychological and social well-being of the animals as their highest priority.

## **About the Author**

Dr John Gripper is a veterinarian who has spent over 30 years in general practice in the United Kingdom. During this time he was a wildlife vet at the Cotswold Wildlife Park, Burford, Oxfordshire. He has been an appointed zoo inspector in the U.K. since the Zoo Licensing Act came into operation in 1984.

He is an Advisory Director of WSPA and a member of its Zoo Task Force. He has advised WSPA on the construction of bear sanctuaries in Greece and Turkey. On behalf of WSPA and the Born Free Foundation he has visited zoos in many countries around the world including Belgium, Croatia, Greece, Hong Kong, Lithuania, Romania, Russia, Siberia, Slovakia, Sweden, Taiwan, Tanzania, Turkey, Ukraine and Zimbabwe.

He is Chairman and founder of the Sebakwe Black Rhino Trust which supports a free range black rhino conservancy in Zimbabwe.

## **Enclosures**

An enclosure is defined as any accommodation provided for animals in zoos. Standards for animal care and housing for zoo animals were set out in April 1994 by the CAZPA as follows:

*Animal enclosures in which animals are on public display should:*

*a) Be of a size which enables the animals to:*

- i) exercise natural behaviour to facilitate public education and interpretation;*
- ii) achieve a distance from the public and other specimens at which the animals are not psychologically or physically stressed;*
- iii) achieve a full range of body movements and physical movements normally performed.*

*b) Contain 'furniture' and or/procedures to physically and psychologically enrich the environment and stimulate normal physical movement and behaviour.*

*c) Contain natural or man made shelters enabling the animals to protect themselves from natural conditions (e.g. sun, rain and snow).*

## **Space, Exercise and Grouping; Comfort and Well being**

Guidelines prepared by the EAZA set the following standards for the accommodation and care of animals in zoos.

*Animals to be provided with an environment, space and furniture sufficient to allow such exercise as is needed for the welfare of the particular species.*

*Enclosures to be of a sufficient size and animals to be so managed:*

- a) to avoid animals within herds or groups being unduly dominated by individuals;*
- b) to avoid the risk of persistent and unresolved conflict between herd or group members or between different species in mixed exhibits;*
- c) to ensure that the physical carrying capacity of the enclosure is not overburdened;*
- d) to prevent an unacceptable build-up of parasites and other pathogens.*

*Animals, not to be unnaturally provoked for the benefit of the viewing public.*

*Animals in visibly adjoining enclosures to be those which do not interact in an excessively stressful way.*

*Separate accommodation for pregnant animals and animals with young to be available, if necessary, in the interests of avoiding unnecessary stress or suffering.*

*Animals in outdoor enclosures to be provided with sufficient shelter from inclement weather or excessive sunlight where this is necessary for their comfort and well being.*

Modern zoo practice accepts that there is a need in any enclosure for the animal to be able to retreat from the view of the visiting public, from cage mates or from negative environmental factors. This advice is also contained in the CAZPA recommendations that "animals on display should have access to stressless cover or an adequate area to remove themselves from contact with the public".

There is no international catalogue of minimum space needs laid down for each species, except for marine mammals. In the United States, minimum pool sizes for marine mammals are regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) under the Animal Welfare Act. In Canada, the CAZPA has developed some proposed voluntary guidelines.

## **Safety and Security**

The public should be protected from directly contacting potentially dangerous animals by use of double fencing or other barriers (CAZPA). The advice given in the EAZA standards goes into further detail about the need for enclosure barriers and stand off barriers. There should also be a perimeter fence which should surround the whole zoo.

These measures are designed to avoid injury to members of the public and also prevent escape of wild animals.

Many of the zoos I inspected in Ontario lacked stand off barriers between hazardous animals and the public or had barriers which were not childproof. There were doors to enclosures without padlocks and often no escape-proof perimeter fence.

Unless zoos take the necessary precautions to prevent the public from injuries, then insurance companies are likely to increase their premiums to an uneconomical level. As a result, insurance coverage which indemnifies zoo operators against liability from injury to their staff or the public will become very expensive or even unavailable.

## **Animal Welfare**

Some scientists equate animal welfare with biological fitness, claiming that welfare is only reduced if the animal's inability to survive and reproduce is impaired.

However, professor Donald M. Broom of the animal welfare department of clinical veterinary medicine at Cambridge University, U.K. (1991) argues that although physical condition is important, an animal's welfare may also be poor in the absence of physical problems; for example, if the animal is frightened, anxious, frustrated or bored.

Other researchers have distinguished between physical animal health and animal suffering caused by an unpleasant mental state.

Assessing welfare is relatively simple for those who think that breeding and physical health are the definitive measures to use. The measurement is more difficult for those who believe that an animal's feelings are a more important determinate of its welfare.

The interpretation of animal welfare and suffering involves a subjective judgement based on observation and knowledge of normal animal behaviour.

Abnormal or stereotypic behaviour is an indication of chronic suffering caused by frustration, boredom, depression and anxiety (Lawrence and Rushen).

Broom has defined a stereotype as a repeated, relatively invariable sequence of movements that has no obvious purpose. Stereotypic behaviour may take the form of pacing, circling, head weaving and self mutilation.

Orienting consists of movements of the head and/or the whole body which direct the sensory organs towards a perceived goal or stimulus. Behavioural fixation or vacuum activity is a form of immobile posture. Throughout my inspection of zoos in Ontario, I saw many examples of stereotypic behaviour by captive animals which is an indication of psychological disturbance.

## **Environmental Enrichment**

While quality of space is the core requirement for all captive animals, environmental and behaviour enrichment plays an essential role in animal welfare and the avoidance of stereotypic behaviour patterns.

Environmental enrichment can be carried out by the management of husbandry procedures; for example with variations in the feeding regimes, such as:

- a) random feeding times;
- b) frequency of daily feeds;
- c) varying amount of food fed;
- d) feeding methods, i.e. scatter feeding to encourage foraging;
- e) varying food types fed.

Enrichment can also be implemented by improvements to the layout of the enclosures:

- a) change of enclosure;
- b) change of layout;
- c) introduction of natural habitat, i.e. tree trunks, branches, climbing frames, shrubs, wood piles, nesting areas, straw, water pools;
- d) introduction of devices, such as swings, bungee rubbers, ropes, toys, bars and tires.

Many of the animal exhibits and enclosures in the Ontario zoos I visited had a barren environment and there was a poor understanding of modern enrichment procedures.

## **Education**

Education should be an important and integral function of all zoos and is part of the justification for keeping wild animals in captivity. However, a negative image is portrayed to the public when the animals on display are not in a state of well-being or are in sub-standard accommodation or enclosures. For this reason all zoos must move towards behaviourally stimulating naturalistic exhibits.

Education is more than just putting up a sign with the name of the species outside the cage. Detailed information about the animal species should be displayed near or on the exhibits and this should be supplemented by hand-out literature and informative guide books, pro-active audio-visual aids and educational programs for zoo visitors, including specialized children's programs.

Most of the zoos I visited in Ontario had only the absolute minimum educational information on display with little or no literature available for children or the general public.

## **Conservation**

The Rio Summit, The Convention on Biological Diversity and the recently amended 'mission statement' of International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), all have one objective at the centre of their agenda which may be summarized as follows:

The conservation and sustainable management of natural ecosystems and the wild species that inhabit them.

Ex-situ conservation programmes through captive breeding of endangered species in zoos and reintroduction back to the wild have been of limited success.

The future of successful conservation programmes is wild habitat based, where the natural ecosystem is preserved and supported by the local people. This may have to be supplemented by in-situ captive breeding.

For example, some of the conservation programmes carried out at the Metropolitan Toronto Zoo have been based on captive breeding and release of endangered species, in conjunction with overseas field projects and research involving protection of the local habitat.

## **Conclusion**

A consideration of the standards for animal care and housing in zoos laid down in Canada by the CAZPA and in Europe by the EAZA and the British Zoo Licencing Act, in relation to my inspection of the zoos in Ontario, showed that of the 18 zoos visited only Riverside Park and Zoo in Peterborough and the Metropolitan Toronto Zoo attained these standards.

The conservation value of roadside zoos, bear parks, safari parks and substandard zoos is nil.

## **Legislation**

In Ontario there is no legislation requiring the licensing of zoological displays or mandating standards of care and housing for captive wild animals. There is also no licensing system for the keeping of wild animals by private citizens. However there are two major pieces of legislation which do have the ability to impact on the keeping of wild animals in some situations.

The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) Act gives authority to Ontario SPCA inspectors and agents to enter premises, seize animals and issue orders to alleviate distress, but appears to have been used only in cases of gross physical abuse or neglect. The Act contains no provisions for the licensing of wild animal displays or ownership.

The Criminal Code of Canada contains provisions dealing with cruelty to animals but they are not sufficient to deal with many of the problems faced by captive wild animals. For example the Criminal Code is punitive and not preventative; it does not provide for inspections or licensing; it is based on the suffering of animals and not their welfare; to be deemed criminal a human action must be done with intent; pain, suffering and/or injury must be deemed unnecessary; and there is no power of confiscation.

In Britain, there are two pieces of legislation which directly impact on the keeping of wild animals. The Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 requires private individuals to obtain a licence for the keeping of a dangerous wild animal, and the Zoo Licensing Act 1981 brings all zoo collections under a government run inspection and licensing system. Following the introduction of the Zoo Licensing Act, many substandard zoos closed and there was a significant improvement in the standards of the remaining zoos.

Experience has now shown that the Zoo Licensing Act would be more effective if inspections were carried out every two years, instead of one inspection every six years as is now the case. As well, the inspection committee is currently comprised of one person from the zoo industry and one veterinarian. Ideally there should also be one member of the inspection committee with a primary interest in animal welfare.

Trade in endangered species of flora and fauna is controlled through The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

However, CITES does not impact on the conditions in which wild animals are kept in captivity as it is an international trade convention and does not contain provisions dealing with animal welfare.

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## **Zoo Reports**

Marineland Theme Park, Niagara Falls

Killman Zoo, Caledonia

African Lion Safari, Cambridge

Storybook Gardens, London

Greenview Aviaries, Park & Zoo, Ridgetown

Pineridge Zoo, Grand Bend

Storybook Park, Owen Sound

Canadian Wildlife Experience, Massey

Spruce Haven Boarding Kennels and Wildlife Zoo,  
Sault Ste Marie

Bellevue Park Zoo, Sault Ste Marie

Elmvale Jungle Zoo, Elmvale

Springwater Provincial Park, Barrie

1,000 Islands Wild Kingdom, Gananoque

Riverview Park and Zoo, Peterborough

Jungle Cat World, Orono

Bowmanville Zoological Park, Bowmanville

Northwoods Buffalo and Exotic Animal Ranch, Seagrave

Metropolitan Toronto Zoo, Toronto

## **Marineland Theme Park**

Niagara Falls, Ontario

30 July 1995

### **Species Observed**

Bottlenose dolphin (3+)

Orca whale (5+)

California sea lion (2+)

Grey seal (1)

Black bear (35+)

Fallow and Sika deer (500+)

Red Deer

Elk (40+)

North American Bison

### **Accommodation**

The marine mammals are currently housed in pools designed for public display which are very limited in space. I was informed by zoo staff that a larger pool would soon be constructed for the Orcas and the dolphins would be moved into the existing Orca pools.

The elk, deer, bears and bison are overcrowded and have virtually no shade or shelter to protect them from the sun. The enclosures are barren (no grass, bushes or trees) and have a soil-based floor. No attempt has been made to environmentally enrich these enclosures.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is actively encouraged and food is on sale for the bears, deer and fish. Marshmallows are sold as feed for the bears. I was told by zoo staff that the marshmallows 'build up the bears fat layers'. This feeding by the public encourages the bears to spend most of their time standing or swimming in their water area, begging for food.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

The marine mammals are trained to perform tricks for public entertainment. The dolphins and seals perform eight times daily and the Orca Whales and sea lions, six times daily. I believe this to be an excessive and stressful number of daily performances.

The bears constantly beg for food which results in aggression and fighting. The deer in the petting park are very tame and continuously crowd around the public seeking food.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be in good physical health, except for one bear with injuries to its nose, probably a result of fighting. I also observed a number of bears with scars. I am concerned about the very close contact between the public and the deer herd due to the potential for the spread of human tuberculosis infection to the deer.

### **Education**

Minimal attempt is made to educate the public about the animals on display. Some of the animal exhibits have only the name of the animals, but no more than that. Others, such as the bear enclosure and fish feeding lake, do not even have the species name. The exception is some good educational plaques for the dolphins.

### **Conservation**

Apart from claims they have bred Orca whales, there appears to be no conservation justification for this collection.

### **Conclusions**

This appears to be a very successful commercial enterprise which attracts large crowds to the amusement rides and marine mammal shows. The main objective seems to be public entertainment.

The other animal exhibits are not as popular. The animals are very overcrowded in barren enclosures with no attempt at any environmental enrichment. The bear enclosure is particularly bad. The bears are overcrowded; have no enrichment, such as tree trunks to encourage climbing; and exhibit aggression and abnormal behaviour caused by feeding by the public.

It would appear as though there is no financial excuse for Marineland to keep and display animals in such poor enclosures without any apparent care given to animal welfare.

This zoo would fail an inspection under the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

## **Recommendations**

1. In my opinion large marine mammals, like Orcas and dolphins, are unsuitable for captivity. However if they are to be kept in a captive environment, then the pool size should be increased to at least the proposed CAZPA minimum standards.
2. The number of daily marine mammal performances should be reduced. Performances should be based on more naturalistic behaviours, rather than circus-type tricks.
3. The bear enclosure:
  - a) should be improved with a more natural environment and the introduction of modern enrichment to encourage the bears to climb, play and forage for their food;
  - b) the number of bears should be reduced to no more than ten;
  - c) feeding of the bears by the public should cease;
  - d) the enclosure and the water should be kept clean.
4. New enclosures should be constructed for the elk, American bison and red deer. The enclosures should be more akin to their natural habitat and should contain grazing areas and shade for protection from the heat. The number of animals should be drastically reduced in accord with the enclosure space available.
5. The deer petting park should be reconstructed on a more natural site. A smaller herd should be kept and public feeding carefully controlled.
6. If these recommendations are not carried out, then the zoo and aquarium sections of this theme park should be closed.

## **Killman Zoo**

Caledonia, Ontario

31 July 1995

### **Species Observed**

Hamadryas baboon (5), Japanese macaque (6)  
Siberian tiger (2), African lion (2), Jaguar (4), Cougar (2), Canadian lynx (3), African serval (2), wolf (2), red and silver fox (2)  
Elk (2), Sika deer, North American bison (5+), Pygmy goats (10+), Vietnamese Pot-bellied pig (2)  
Great Horned owl (2), Eagle owl (2), Trumpeter swan (7), Peacock (2)

### **Accommodation**

The animals are housed in wooden cages, some of which are dilapidated. The larger cats have access to outside runs. A number of cages could be improved by adding additional vertical space. In the main, there is adequate environmental enrichment provided in the cages and the runs.

The fencing of the cages is showing signs of rust erosion. The outside fencing is fixed with insecure posts. The temporary tunnel for the lions to reach the two acre pond enclosure appears unsafe and I am concerned about the possibility of escape by the large cats and the public's safety.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public for some animals is actively encouraged and food is on sale. The water containers in the enclosures were all full of clean water.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

Nicky, a Canadian lynx, demonstrated some stereotypic pacing behaviour. It was in a very small, barren cage, measuring approximately 6' x 12' with no enrichment.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be in good physical health, apart from the Canadian lynx which was thin.

## **Education**

Each exhibit has the species name and other information on display. The detailed information signs are weathered and need renewing. A booklet providing comprehensive information on each species is available on loan to visitors on request. School parties are encouraged.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are being undertaken. According to a sign, attempts are being made to mate a white German Shepherd bitch with a male black Arctic wolf. The creation of such hybrid wolf dog puppies is irresponsible and serves no purpose.

## **Conclusions**

This is a small, privately run zoo collection, which appears to have been constructed with limited capital using basic materials. The zoo is in a good natural setting of woodland and ponds and the owners have endeavoured to provide for the welfare and behavioural needs of the animals in their care.

This zoo would fail an inspection under the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act. The wooden building constructions and the substandard safety fencing for the public and zoo employees are of particular concern.

## **Recommendations**

1. The enclosures must be upgraded and improved and the fencing strengthened and renewed.
2. In my opinion, the structural problems are serious enough that if these recommendations are not carried out, then the zoo should close.

## **African Lion Safari**

Cambridge, Ontario

31 July 1995

### **Species Observed**

Baboon (30+), Ring-tailed lemur, various monkey species  
Bengal tiger (4), African lion (6+), Cheetah (3), Black bear (9), Otter  
Asian elephant (7), White rhinoceros (3), Rothschild's giraffe (5),  
Bactrian camel (5), Eland (12+), Nilgai (12+), Zebra (12+), Fallow  
deer (50+), Sika deer (100+), Elk (30+), Llama (6+), Mouflon sheep  
(15+), Barbary sheep (40+), North American bison (40+), Yak (40+),  
Pygmy goat (12+), Vietnamese Pot-bellied pig (3) Ostrich (6+), Rhea  
(8+), various raptor species, various parrot species

### **Accommodation**

This zoo is a mixed collection with three main areas: a safari park with mainly African animals, a birds-of-prey collection and show, and performing Asian elephants.

The parrots are housed in modern enclosures with some enrichment.

The burrowing owls are in a very small cage too close to the public.

Many of the raptors are tethered on perches.

The animals in the safari park have barns and sheltered areas into which they are ushered at night and during the winter, but these were not inspected.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Public safety in the safari park is excellent. There are adequate safety barriers at the other exhibits where necessary.

The fencing in the safari park is effective from the perspective of safety, but is very prominent to the public. As the enclosures are small, the fencing appears intrusive and therefore the appearance of wide open spaces is lost.

## **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is not encouraged. The water containers in the enclosures were full of clean water. The tethered raptors did not have continuous access to water.

There is practically no grazing for the animals in the safari park due to overstocking and the effects of the dry, hot weather.

## **Abnormal Behaviour**

None was seen. There was considerable harassment of the rhinos, bears and giraffe by the staff in their vehicles as they tried to encourage these animals to go into their overnight quarters.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be in good physical health, apart from one giraffe with overgrown hooves. The two tethered Barn Owls were pestered by a small swarm of flies around their heads. The Burrowing Owls were under stress from too close a contact with the public.

## **Education**

Each exhibit has its name on display and the guide book on sale has excellent descriptions of the different species. The safari park has an education officer responsible for overseeing school parties.

The zoo lacks an education room or special educational exhibits for children.

## **Conservation**

A joint cheetah conservation programme is being undertaken with other Canadian zoos.

## **Conclusions**

This is a privately run facility. While I fully applaud the safari park concept, I feel this park has not yet achieved the higher standards I have seen elsewhere. The main reasons for this are overpopulation and overgrazing of animals in a limited space.

From a welfare viewpoint I find the birds of prey exhibit very unsatisfactory. This was reflected in adverse comments I overheard from the public.

The use of islands for exhibition of some small monkeys and other species is excellent, especially with viewing from a boat. However, this has been badly developed and spoiled by the excess number of waterfowl on the lake.

With a small number of improvements, as set out in the recommendations, this collection might be able to attain the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

### **Recommendations**

1. The area of the safari park should be enlarged threefold or the number of animals in the collection should be reduced proportionately.
2. All birds should have the ability of free flight at all times.
3. Animals performing circus-type tricks for the amusement of the public should no longer be part of a modern zoo.

## **Storybook Gardens**

London, Ontario

1 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Squirrel monkey (5), Ring-tailed lemur (6), Brown lemur (2), Harbour seal (4), Meerkat (2), Opossum (1), Sika deer (10), Llama (1), domestic livestock, Dwarf wallaby (3), Beaver (4), Porcupine (1), Bald eagle (1), Great Horned owl (1), Great Indian hornbill (1), Rhea (2), Flamingo (4), Peacock, Alligator (1), Red-necked Terrapin (24), Green iguana (1), various snake species

### **Accommodation**

The small reptile collection of 4 snakes and an iguana are currently kept in holding display cabinets until the new reptile house is constructed.

The Squirrel monkeys, Brown lemurs and porcupine are in unsatisfactory old-fashioned enclosures which are due for replacement in the near future.

There are a number of opportunities to improve the environmental enrichment in some of the enclosures; for example, the Squirrel monkeys.

### **Fencing**

A stand off barrier by the llama fence would provide better public safety.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is not encouraged, apart from supervised feeding in the pets corner.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

None was seen.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be in good physical health.

## **Education**

Each exhibit has its name and other limited information on display. The map of Storybook Gardens contains virtually no information about the animals on display. As this is a municipal facility, I believe education should be a main focus of the zoo. Although school parties are encouraged, I feel the educational aspects that could be derived from this collection are very underdeveloped. There are many modern proactive and interactive visual and physical displays that could be introduced for the benefit of children visiting the zoo.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are being undertaken.

## **Conclusions**

This is a small municipal collection. It appears to have been created for public entertainment, but there is a great potential for the educational aspects of the zoo to be developed, especially with the pets corner and farm animals section and with interactive visual display features.

This zoo might be able to attain the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act, subject to improvements to some of the older enclosures, an improved perimeter fence and erection of a stand off barrier for the llama.

## **Recommendations**

1. The zoo staff and the municipal authority should jointly work out a long term strategy for this zoo collection.

Questions that need to be addressed include:

- a) Should the animals on display all be indigenous; are exotic animals from other countries to be included; or should the zoo concentrate on domestic livestock only?
- b) Is there enough emphasis on the educational aspects?
- c) Is there any conservation role for this small zoo?
- d) Is sufficient capital funding available for the necessary improvements?

2. If this zoo is to continue operating, then older enclosures need improvement and upgrading.

## **Greenview Aviaries, Park & Zoo**

Ridgetown, Ontario

1 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Hamadryas baboon (3), Rhesus monkey, Japanese macaque, Java monkey (1), Squirrel monkey (3), Lemur, Kinkajou  
Siberian tiger (1), African lion (1), Jaguar (1), Cougar (2), Lynx (2), Bobcat (2), Red fox (2), Black bear (1), Raccoon (6), Skunk (1)  
Fallow deer (13), Llama (1), Miniature donkey (2), Domestic pony, Vietnamese Pot-bellied pig (2), Porcupine, Rhea (4), various bird species, Caiman, various reptile species

### **Accommodation**

The enclosures for the tiger, snow monkeys and jaguars, which appear to have been recently constructed, are totally unsuitable. Apart from a very small covered area, these enclosures offer no protection from the elements; i.e. wind, rain, snow or excessive heat and sunlight. These metal and wire enclosures appear to have no double safety entry doors.

A number of animals ( i.e. rabbits, skunk, monkeys, etc.) are standing on wire mesh floors. Faeces had accumulated over a period of time on the ground below the cages. The enclosures for the larger mammals, such as the lion and bear, are too small to allow normal exercise behaviour to take place. Many of the cages and enclosures have concrete-based floors and are quite barren. Little or no attempt has been made to provide any environmental enrichment.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Stand off barriers need to be introduced to prevent injury to the public from the Blue Crowned Amazon parrot, the Moluccan cockatoo, the Mexican Double Yellow Head Amazon parrot and the African Grey parrot.

The barbed wire fencing around the pony and donkey enclosures and elsewhere needs to be replaced.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is encouraged.

## **Abnormal Behaviour**

The bear exhibited stereotypic pacing behaviour. The solitary Squirrel monkey showed unusual hyperactive behaviour associated with stress. The male Hamadryas baboon showed stereotypic pacing behaviour and constantly stared at the dogs in the pens opposite to its enclosure, only six metres away.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be in good physical health.

## **Education**

Each exhibit has the species name and a pen number on display. A leaflet provides information on each exhibit related to the pen number.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken in respect of the mammals.

## **Conclusions**

This is a medium-size, privately run zoo collection and aviary in a rural setting. It appears to have been created for the entertainment of the public with no pretence at either conservation or education. Many aspects of the size and type of cages and mammal enclosures are totally unsatisfactory and unacceptable from a welfare viewpoint.

There is no possibility that a zoo of this type would pass the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act. In fact, this Act was specifically introduced to close down this sort of substandard zoo.

## **Recommendations**

1. I suggest this zoo be closed in its present form. All the large mammals and primates should be disposed of. The zoo could then continue as just an aviary and collection of domestic pets.

## **Pineridge Zoo**

Grand Bend, Ontario

2 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Hamadryas baboon (2), Celebes Crested ape (2), Spider monkey (1), Lion-tailed macaque (2), Rhesus monkey (4), Patas monkey (1), DeBrazza monkey (1), Green Vervet monkey (3), Ring-tailed lemur (2), Brown lemur (1), Common marmoset (2) Siberian tiger (2), Jaguar (1), Cougar (1), Bobcat (1), Wolf (4), Silver fox (3), Marble fox (1), Red fox (1), Raccoon (1), Coatimundi (2) Llama (6), Pygmy donkey (2), African pygmy goat (18), Vietnamese Pot-bellied pig (2), Wallaby (4), African Crested porcupine (7), Agouti (7), Prairie dog (2) Rhea (6), Chukar partridge, various pheasant species  
Green Iguana (2), Alligator (1)

### **Accommodation**

Most of the cages and enclosures are far too small. The floor was often earth-based and contaminated with faeces and rotten foodstuffs. One of the worst examples of unsuitable housing in this zoo is the enclosure for the four wallabies. The animals are overcrowded in a cage of approximately 10' x 15' x 10'. The enclosure has a mud-based floor and there is no den to retreat and hide from the public. Another example is seven African Crested porcupines overcrowded in a cage approximately 10' x 6' x 10'. The floor is filthy with food material and faeces and there is nowhere for the porcupines to retreat and hide from the public.

Some of the cages and enclosures are concrete-based and quite barren. Little or no attempt has been made to provide any environmental enrichment.

I am very concerned about the welfare of these animals during the cold winter months when they are brought to indoor sheds and housed in even smaller cages.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Stand off barriers should be introduced for the Brown lemur, ferrets, Silver fox and porcupines. The barriers for the Green Vervet monkeys are not effective and the barrier for the wolf cubs is too close to avoid stress to the animals from the public.

The wooden platform from which the public can view a waterfowl pond is made of old timber, much of which has rotted. A plank near the edge of the platform is missing, causing it to be very dangerous for children who could easily fall into the pond.

The paddock that contains the Pygmy donkeys has a collapsed metal shed with sharp edges which can injure the animals.

I am concerned about the security of the large cat cages. The black Jaguar, for example appears to have only wooden plywood at the back of the cage to prevent escape.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is encouraged by the sale of peanuts which the public gives indiscriminately to all the different species of animals.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

One of the Hamadryas baboons was exhibiting stereotypic pacing behaviour. One of the four wallabies was also showing stereotypic pacing behaviour. One of the Siberian tigers showed stereotypic pacing behaviour and constantly watched and interacted with wolves in a pen only 20 feet away. One of these wolves also showed stereotypic pacing behaviour. The cougar, which is confined in a cage approximately 9' x 12' x 12', showed stereotypic pacing behaviour. The two wolf cubs were very stressed. One was overactive with constant anxious pacing and the other cowered in a corner. They reacted adversely whenever the public approached their cage.

There are a number of examples of social animals kept singly.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be well fed, apart from the wolf cubs which appeared thin. The Silver fox had hair loss that may be associated with self-mutilation. One of the agoutis was bald on its back.

### **Education**

Each exhibit has the species name on display. There is no further handout information about the animals available. Because of the very bad conditions the animals are kept in, I believe the public receives a negative educational message when visiting this zoo.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

## **Conclusions**

This is a medium-size, privately run collection in a rural woodland setting, which could have been made into an attractive background. However, in my opinion this zoo represents a wasted opportunity due to the dreadful conditions the animals are kept in. The resultant different examples of deprivation and stereotypic behaviour are a depressing sight. Many aspects of the size and type of cages and enclosures for the animals in the collection are totally unsatisfactory and unacceptable from a welfare viewpoint.

There is no possibility that a zoo of this type would ever pass the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act. In fact, this Act was specifically introduced to close down such zoos.

## **Recommendations**

1. I would advocate most strongly that this zoo be closed forthwith.

## **Story Book Park**

Owen Sound, Ontario

2 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Rhesus monkey (2), Japanese macaque (5+) Siberian tiger (2),  
Cougar (2) Sika deer (6), Llama (5), Pygmy goat (3)  
Miniature donkey (2)

### **Accommodation**

The deer, goat and llama enclosures have bare earth floors and no grass or trees. The monkey cages are far too small and contain very little in the way of environmental enrichment. The large cat cages are devoid of any enrichment and do not contain a high shelf for the tigers and cougars to lie on.

### **Fencing and Safety**

A stand off barrier should be constructed for the llama, which has only a single rusty fence between it and the public. The Rhesus monkey cage has only a low wall, which is an ineffective barrier for the public since it can easily be climbed by children. In fact, I watched as two children were encouraged by adults to hand feed these monkeys and I saw a child have his hair pulled by one of them.

### **Food & Drink**

There is no natural grazing for the Sika deer or llamas. Feeding by the public is encouraged through the sale of corn.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

The male Macaque monkey exhibited stereotypic pacing behaviour and watchfully stared at the other macaques. This was followed by stereotypic head shaking behaviour. One of the macaques in another cage showed signs of stereotypic pacing behaviour.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be well fed.

## **Education**

Not all the animals have name signs outside the pens and none of them have any description of the species. There is no literature available to the public to supplement this lack of information.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

## **Conclusions**

This is a small privately run zoo collection that is part of a children's entertainment park. The animals are not displayed well and the zoo provides no educational value for the children. As a result, the children are more interested in the fun rides and nursery tale displays than in the animals.

There is no possibility a zoo of this type would ever pass the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

## **Recommendations**

1. There seems little purpose or need for the existence of the animal displays in this entertainment park, and unless considerable improvements are made, they should be removed.

## **Canadian Wildlife Experience**

Massey, Ontario

3 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Lynx (2), Bobcat (2), Arctic wolf (2), Timber wolf (2), Arctic fox (2), Black bear (6), Raccoon (2), Fisher (1), Mink (2)  
Dromedary camel (1), North American bison (30+), Elk (37), Caribou (3), Musk-ox (1) Great Horned owl (1)

### **Accommodation**

This is a large 'drive through' park with excellent grassy plains and woods for the bison, elk, caribou and musk-ox to roam.

The enclosures for the Arctic fox, Arctic wolf and Timber wolf are large with good natural habitat.

The bear enclosure is also large, but is spoiled because it lacks natural running water or a pond for the bears. The drinking water is provided in an old bathtub which is unsuitable. There is no secondary enclosure which makes cleaning difficult. There was some rubbish in the enclosure. The metal edges of the fence around the bears have been set back at ground level and are protruding and dangerous for the bears. Likewise, the ground fence for the Timber Wolves has been unearthed and protrudes with hazardous sharp metal edges.

The bobcat, raccoon, Great Horned owl, fisher, lynx and mink cages are all very small (3' x 6' x 3'). The animals stand on a raised wire-netting base. It is possible to open the end nest boxes, which means the animals can't retreat from public view. These cages have little enrichment and the owl has no means of retreat from the public.

The camel is in an inadequately sized, circular enclosure about 30 feet in radius. It has no protection from the sun or inclement weather.

### **Fencing and Safety**

I was told at the gate by the owner that I could get out of my car on the circuit, but to be careful. The Arctic fox, Arctic wolf, Timber wolf and black bear enclosures have no stand off barriers. None of the cages for bobcats, lynx, raccoons and fishers have stand off barriers. The fence around the Dromedary camel has some sharp exposed

edges and needs strengthening. There is no stand off barrier to protect the public from the camel.

Very few of the enclosures are secured with a padlock which means anyone can open the gates to the animals' cages and release them. The security at the main gate appears lax and I would have expected a cattle grid as a precaution against escape by ungulates.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is not encouraged. The drinking water and bathing arrangements for the bears are unsatisfactory.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

I find it disconcerting that a voluntary staff member was encouraging the public to provoke the animals in order to take better photographs.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be well fed, except for the Dromedary camel which appeared thin and in generally poor condition.

### **Education**

Each exhibit has a number sign that corresponds to a description written on an informative leaflet that is given to visitors at the gate. This is an excellent system that could be expanded to include more educational information about the different animal species. It can also be used to encourage nature trails for supervised school parties.

### **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

### **Conclusions**

This is a privately run 'drive through' park in an ideal scenic setting of grassy plains and woodland. Some animals, such as the bison, looked very natural in their enclosures. The Arctic fox, Arctic wolf, Timber wolf and bear compounds are of a satisfactory size, as are the proposed compounds for the cougar and lynx. However, this wildlife park is spoiled by the very unsatisfactory conditions and small cages the

animals at the homestead area are kept in. The camel is also in a very poor enclosure and seems out of place in this otherwise indigenous collection.

This zoo would not pass the standards of the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

### **Recommendations**

1. This wildlife park should develop its great potential to have indigenous Canadian animals roaming through the 1,000 acres. The more dangerous animals should be housed in large compounds that retain the natural habitat.
2. No animals should be kept in small display cages, and those that are currently housed in them should be immediately dispersed until proper accommodation has been constructed.
3. Security should be improved. Not only is there a risk of animals escaping, but there is also the risk of injury to the public, especially children, which would result in bad publicity and difficulties renewing public insurance coverage.

## **Spruce Haven Boarding Kennels & Wildlife Zoo**

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

3 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Red fox (4), Black bear (1), Raccoon (3) Moose (1), Sika deer (3), Fallow deer (3+), Reindeer (1+), Yak (2), Llama (4), Ibex (6), Domestic horses, donkeys and pygmy goats, Wallaby (2), Beaver (1), Porcupine (1) Rhea (3), Barred owl

### **Accommodation**

This is a small privately run zoo. Most of the enclosures in the farmyard have earth-based floors without grass. There is an excess of uncollected faeces in the llama yard. The reindeer have a large enclosure, but the deer, yak and ibex are in enclosures that are too small with little or no grazing available. The concrete bear enclosure contains minimum enrichment material. The enclosures for the porcupine, raccoons, and foxes are far too small.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Stand off safety barriers should be erected for the llama paddock, raccoon and Red fox enclosures.

There is no safety barrier for the Yak or the (spitting) llama. There are no security padlocks on some of the cage doors; for example, the Red foxes.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is not encouraged.

Bathing arrangements for the bear consist of a half filled bathtub, which is totally unsatisfactory. Feed for the Yak and deer is placed near the front viewing fence, resulting in an accumulation of hay, mud and faeces in one area.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

The constant barking of dogs from the kennels is stressful for many of the wild animals.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be well fed.

## **Education**

Each exhibit has the species name on a sign. No further information about the animals is displayed and no leaflets are available from the management.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

## **Conclusions**

This is a second-rate backyard zoo collection that appears to serve no real purpose. I am very concerned that the close proximity of the dog boarding kennels with the constant barking, is stressful to the wild animals. There are a number of social animals kept singly. The bear has very little enrichment to occupy itself. The beaver has a very small enclosure with no water in which to swim.

This zoo would never be able to reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

## **Recommendations**

1. I advise that in view of the generally unsatisfactory conditions, the wildlife zoo should close. The animal collection would then consist of only the domestic and farm animals.

## **Bellevue Park**

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

3 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Cougar (2), Bobcat (2) Coyote (1), Red fox (2), Arctic fox (1), Raccoon (2), Otter, Skunk (1), Black bear (2) North American bison (2), White-tailed deer, Beaver (1) Canada goose (50+), various pheasant species

### **Accommodation**

This is a small municipal zoo divided into two separate areas. The first area consists of about five acres of grass where a herd of deer roam. This is shared with an excess number of Canada geese and other wild fowl. The bison are in a barren enclosure with an accumulation of straw, mud and faeces around the feeding racks. Two cougar are in a large internal pen.

In the other area, two bears are housed in a concrete enclosure which has poor environmental enrichment. The other animal cages in this area are very small with poor enrichment and provide little or no protection from the elements.

### **Fencing and Safety**

In the first area the cougar fencing is very rusty and will need to be replaced. The stand off safety barriers for the bobcat, skunk and raccoons consist of only a chain and even this is absent at the rear of the pens.

This zoo is unsupervised and is accessible to the public during the day and at night. I am concerned for the safety of the animals and the potential for provocation or damage from vandalism and possible injury or escape of the animals.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is not actively encouraged by the sale of food, but a metal food chute is provided for the feeding of the bears. Indiscriminate feeding takes place due to lack of supervision.

## **Abnormal Behaviour**

The coyote exhibited continuous circular stereotypic pacing behaviour around his water area and anxiously glanced at the bears.

There is no restriction on the public taking their dogs around the zoo and this is a cause of stress to the animals.

There are a number of single animals displayed, such as the Arctic fox, skunk and coyote. The lack of enrichment and conspecifics may lead to stress-related behavioral problems.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be well fed.

## **Education**

Most of the animal exhibits in the second area have the name of the exhibited species on a sign. The cougars are the only animals that are named in the first area. There is no other information or leaflets available to the public so the educational aspects of this collection are nil.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

## **Conclusions**

This is a second-rate zoo collection of dilapidated and outdated small enclosures which are in need of upgrading. There are a number of single animals. There is very little in the way of environmental enrichment. An example of this is the barren concrete bear enclosure. Without a major redesign and rebuilding programme this zoo would never be able to reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

I am very concerned about the safety aspects of this zoo and the potential for escape or injury to the public and long term problems in renewing insurance coverage. The question has to be asked as to what is the purpose and objectives of this zoo?

## **Recommendations**

1. I advise that in view of the generally unsatisfactory public safety conditions and animal welfare problems, the zoo should not continue in its present form.
2. The local authority must decide if it wishes to redesign and rebuild a new zoo. If not, then a decision should be taken to close this zoo in its present form and dispose of the wild animals.
3. However, one option would be to replace it with farm animals or just to retain the deer park as a single feature.

## **Elmvale Jungle Zoo**

Elmvale, Ontario

5 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Hamadryas baboon (2), Baboon (1), Lion-tailed macaque (1), Patas monkey (2), Ring-tailed lemur (7+), Brown lemur (2)  
Bengal tiger (2), African lion (2), Cougar (2), Leopard (2), Jaguar (2), Lynx (2) Fallow deer (15+), North American bison (2), Zebra (2), Llama (3), Bactrian camel (1), Addax (2), Sicilian donkey, Miniature goat (13), Domestic sheep (2), Vietnamese Pot-bellied pig, Kangaroo (3), Capybara (2), African Crested porcupine (2) Ostrich (2), Crowned crane (6), Demoiselle crane (4), Flamingo (4), Bald eagle (2), Great Horned owl (2), Snowy owl (4), various parrot species, various waterfowl species, Various reptile species

### **Accommodation**

This is a medium-size privately run zoo set in 25 acres of attractive woodland. In the main, the accommodation is of an acceptable standard.

The lions have no retreat from the public and require a second shelf to lie on. The Moluccan cockatoos, Great Horned owl and porcupines have no hutches to retreat from public view. The Snowy owls have no protection from the elements and no nest box to retreat from the public. The Bengal tigers and cougars do not have a high shelf to lie on. The fallow deer have a barren paddock with no grass. The addition of ropes, hanging tires, etc. would provide better enrichment for the Lion-tailed macaques and Patas monkeys. The Bactrian camel has a grassy paddock but was shut in a small pen.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Stand off safety barriers should be erected for the Electus and Double Yellow Head parrots, the Moluccan cockatoos and Brown lemurs.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is actively encouraged through the sale of popcorn, peanuts and fish food.

No water was available in the Moluccan cockatoos enclosure.

## **Abnormal Behaviour**

No animals exhibited stereotypic behaviour. The zebra and bison both have enclosures next to the busy main road which carries heavy noisy traffic. There are only a few single specimens on display.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be well fed and in good physical condition, with the exception of a capybara which had been fighting and was in poor condition and ill.

## **Education**

Nearly all the animal exhibits have full names and good information notices about the animals outside the enclosures. However, there is no leaflet or literature available to provide further educational information.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

## **Conclusions**

This is a privately run zoo collection which I am told has made considerable efforts to improve its standards over the years. However, there must be further improvements to the accommodation, enclosures and fencing before it can reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

## **Recommendations**

1. I would advise that this zoo should continue to improve its standards in order to seek CAZPA accreditation.

## **Springwater Provincial Park**

Barrie, Ontario

5 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Arctic wolf (2), Coyote (2), Red fox (3), Raccoon (1+)  
White-tailed deer, Beaver (1) Great Horned owl (3), Snowy owl,  
Screech owl, various pheasant species, various duck species

### **Accommodation**

This is a small zoo run by the Ministry of Natural Resources. It is set in woodland. The accommodation for the Great Horned, Snowy and Barred owls is very poor. There is only one small perch in each of the enclosures and no attempt has been made to provide environmental enrichment of any kind. The Screech owl is on an unsatisfactory wire mesh floor with only a small perch and no enrichment. The deer are in a large wooded area with no grazing.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Stand off safety barriers should be erected around the owl enclosures. Fencing for the owl enclosures is very rusted and needs replacing to avoid escape. The wooden fencing surrounding the deer has rotted and parts of the internal fencing are in danger of collapse.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is not actively encouraged.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

I was told that the beaver, a single specimen in a small enclosure, exhibits abnormal stereotypic behaviour.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared well fed and in good physical condition.

### **Education**

Nearly all the animal exhibits have full names and good information on signs, except for the Arctic wolf exhibit which has a bear sign on it.

There is no leaflet or literature available to provide further educational information about the animals and the map of the park is difficult to follow. There are however, two good educational display stands erected in the park for the public to learn about wildlife.

### **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

### **Conclusions**

This is a small collection of indigenous wild animals. Improvements are needed to the accommodation and enclosures to upgrade this display. This collection does not reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

### **Recommendations**

1. I advise that this zoo be upgraded so that it can display indigenous animals in natural surroundings that pay more attention to the welfare of the animals.
2. There is good potential to develop the educational aspects of this park.
3. Unless capital and effort are available to improve this zoo, it should be closed.

## **1000 Islands Wild Kingdom**

Gananoque, Ontario

8 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Hamadryas Baboon (3), Green baboon (3), Japanese macaque (5), Stump-tailed macaque (1), Capuchin monkey (1), Squirrel monkey (1), Siberian tiger (2), African lion (1), Cougar (2), Jaguar (1), Leopard (1), Canadian lynx (1), Timber wolf (1), Arctic wolf (1), Silver fox (2), Polar bear (1), Black bear (2), Raccoon, Sika deer (2), Llama (1), Yak (1), Shetland pony (2), Domestic donkey (3), Barbados sheep (8), Angora goat (4), Pygmy goat (21), Vietnamese Pot-bellied pig (4), Patagonian cavy (1), North American porcupine (2), Domestic rabbit (5) Rhea (1), Golden pheasant (1), Peacock (2), various other bird species Green iguana (1), various snake species

### **Accommodation**

This is a medium-size privately run zoo. The enclosures are designed to provide the greatest exposure of the animals to the public and give very little privacy to the animals. Most of the enclosure floors are concrete. There is little or no attempt at providing any environmental enrichment into the enclosures.

Two unnamed primates are on an unhygienic raised mesh floor with a collection of rotting foodstuffs and faeces underneath. The llama is in a bare earth paddock with large piles of accumulated faeces. The ponies, goats and sheep are in a bare earth paddock. The jaguar and polar bear dens are blocked prohibiting privacy from public view. The Shetland pony shed was dilapidated and in danger of collapse.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Stand off safety barriers should be erected around the squirrel monkey, capuchin monkey, llama, rhea and the jaguar dens. The stand off barrier is broken on one side of the lion enclosure. Part of the bears' stand off barrier is made of climbable rails and is not effective. The cougars' stand off barriers do not reach the ground and do not provide security. The gate of the green baboon exhibit's stand off barrier was open. There is no stand off barrier at the back of the leopard den and the barrier is insecure at the sides. The fence to the llama enclosure is loose and insecure and at the back consists of only strands of barbed

wire. The wooden dens of the polar bear, black bear and jaguar have rotted and need replacing.

A number of animals have dirty dens. A collection of old bones which had accumulated over an extended period of time could be seen in the cougar den.

There is no security perimeter fence around the zoo. Much of the original fencing is old and rusted and needs replacing.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is actively encouraged by the sale of food and the provision of feeding chutes into the cages and enclosures.

The feeding of the primates consists of zoo staff throwing monkey nuts into and nearby the outside of the cages in a haphazard fashion. Food for one monkey was placed beneath the wire mesh floor of its cage thereby increasing the possibility of contamination by faeces and urine.

Many water troughs were dirty. A number of drinking-water containers are at ground level and were contaminated by faeces and food material. Water for the bears is provided in a large, rusty, old metal bath with sharp edges, which doubles as their bathing and drinking water. There was a dirty green scum on the cougars' drinking water. The donkeys have a dirty, rusty water container that was nearly empty.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

I was told that the polar bear exhibits abnormal stereotypic behaviour. At the time of my visit this polar bear appeared very drowsy. The timber wolf showed stereotypic pacing behaviour and exhibited great anxiety and fear of the public. One of the Green Baboons showed stereotypic pacing behaviour.

I have great concern at the number of single animals exhibited at this zoo which is unnatural and can lead to abnormal behaviour.

### **Animal Health**

A brown and white rabbit was thin and had a matted coat. A grey rabbit was in poor condition and was fur-plucking and reluctant to move. One of the Japanese macaques had an open wound on the right hand side of its face. The smaller of the black bears had diarrhoea. The

yak had a matted coat and the donkeys' coats were matted and needed grooming. One of the angora goats had matted fleece coated in faeces that needed to be shorn. A green baboon had a swelling on its lower right jaw about the size of a walnut. The silver foxes were thin and in poor condition. The timber wolf had injured ear tips and these wounds were attracting flies. In addition to showing stereotypic pacing, this wolf was constantly shaking its head in an attempt to rid itself of the flies buzzing around the open sores.

## **Education**

Most of the animal exhibits have the species name outside the enclosures, but there are a number of single primates without the species name on display. The zoo provides no leaflet or guidebook with information about the animals on exhibit. There are a small number of additional information plaques at some enclosures, but these are weathered and difficult to read.

## **Conservation**

No conservation programmes for endangered species are undertaken at this zoo.

## **Conclusions**

This zoo is a privately run second-rate collection of wild animals kept in substandard accommodation. Lack of any understanding about the care and welfare of animals is evident. The state of the enclosures gives the appearance that the zoo has no basic knowledge of the feeding, hygiene and environmental enrichment required for keeping wild animals in captivity.

The safety precautions and security at this zoo are well below standard and in view of the grave risk of injury to the public I am surprised that any insurance company has issued a policy to the zoo to protect them against claims for injury to the staff or public.

This collection does not reach any of the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

## **Recommendations**

1. Action should be taken against this zoo in respect to the distress to some of its captive wild animals and to improve the deplorable lack of hygiene and safety precautions.
2. This zoo should be closed at the earliest opportunity. (Subsequent to my visit I was told that this zoo will close in September 1995 and that the animals have been purchased by Northwoods Buffalo and Exotic Animal Ranch in Seagrave, Ontario).

## **Riverview Park and Zoo**

Peterborough, Ontario

9 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Spider monkey (4), Squirrel monkey (2), Lemur (3) Cougar (2), Serval (2), Arctic wolf (2) Sika deer, Reindeer, Yak (2), Llama (5), Bactrian camel (2), Barbary sheep, Wallaby (2) Barred owl (1), Emu (1), various parrot species, Peacock (2), various waterfowl species  
Green Iguana, various reptile species

### **Accommodation**

This is a small zoo run by the Peterborough Utilities Commission. It is set within attractive parkland and most of the enclosures are designed to provide plenty of space and good enrichment for the animals on display. The existing monkey house needs upgrading and in particular the parrot enclosure is too small with poor enrichment. Plans are in hand to construct a new monkey house in 1996.

### **Fencing and Safety**

There should be a stand off barrier between the llamas and public. The llama enclosure contains some rusty metal posts and fencing that should be removed. The electric wire fence for the Yaks is rusty and should be replaced. A broken dividing fence with sharp protruding edges in the deer enclosure needs to be repaired or removed. The chains inside the monkey house are not a satisfactory safety stand-off barrier.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is discouraged except for the sale of fish food for the carp.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

No stereotypic behaviour was seen at the time of our visit and because of the space and enrichment provided in the enclosures it is unlikely to occur.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appeared to be in good physical condition and health.

## **Education**

All of the animal exhibits have the species name outside the enclosures and many of them also have plaques with further information. However, there is no informative literature or leaflet available for visitors. This zoo has an Orientation Centre and staff responsible for the education of school children.

## **Conservation**

This zoo does not take part in any international conservation programmes.

## **Conclusions**

This is a CAZPA accredited zoo. Plans are in hand for the upgrading of the monkey house. The concept of large enclosures for a limited number of animals, combined with natural and environmental enrichment set in attractive parkland is excellent and a good example to other zoos.

Work is needed to erect and improve some of the safety barriers. The road signs to the zoo were very worn and illegible.

This collection reaches the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

## **Recommendations**

1. This zoo should expand its education programme for school children.
2. It should produce an informative leaflet about the zoo animals for visitors.
3. The new monkey house should be completed next year.
4. The suggested improvements to fencing and safety barriers undertaken.
5. New zoo directional road signs should be erected.

## **Jungle Cat World**

Orono, Ontario

9 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

White-handed gibbon (2), Black Spider monkey (2), Brown-headed Spider monkey (2), Ring-tailed lemur (2+), Common marmoset (6), Cotton-top tamarin (3) Bengal tiger (3), Siberian tiger (2), African lion (3), Cougar (3), Snow leopard (2), Jaguar (2), Canadian lynx (2), Siberian lynx (2), Serval (2), Bobcat (2), Jungle cat (3), Arctic wolf (5), Striped hyena (1), Black bear (2), Otter (2), Meerkat, Fallow deer (12), Barbados sheep, Pygmy goat, Domestic rabbit, Red-tailed hawk (1), various bird species, Various reptile species

### **Accommodation**

This is a medium size privately-run zoo. Many of the enclosures are well designed and provide adequate space in natural surroundings for the animals. The Siberian tiger enclosure is particularly impressive and a should be a model for the rest of the collection. A thoughtful and effective approach to environmental enrichment combined with high resting places for the large cats are evident in the majority of the enclosures.

At the time of my visit an acceptable standard had not yet been achieved in respect of the following enclosures: a) the otters have no pond for swimming; b) the black bears have no bathing pool; c) the Bengal tigers have a small enclosure; d) the panthers have an undersized enclosure; and e) the bobcats are in a poor enclosure with rusty wire. However, zoo staff informed me that plans are in hand to improve them, and in the case of the Black bears the work had already commenced.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Most of the stand off barriers are effective. Safety barriers should be erected around the Green Amazon parrot and the jungle cats. The stand off barriers around the bobcats, Red-tailed hawk and serval cats need replacing as they are not childproof.

The 6 foot high perimeter fence is not high enough to prevent the escape of some large cats; however, all their enclosures also have overhead security netting.

## **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is discouraged except for the sale of corn for the deer and pygmy goats.

## **Abnormal Behaviour**

No stereotypic behaviour was seen at the time of our visit. Although this zoo is associated with a nearby dog kennel, no barking could be heard to disturb the wild animals. I am concerned that some of the animals cannot retreat from public view, i.e. the cougars and jaguars. There are very few single animals exhibited.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appear to be in good physical condition and health.

## **Education**

All the animal exhibits have the species name outside the enclosures and many of them also have plaques with further information. This zoo has a director of education and has established a successful interactive educational outreach programme for schools. Informative back-up literature is available.

## **Conservation**

This zoo is taking part in an international conservation programme for Snow Leopards.

## **Conclusions**

This is a CAZPA accredited zoo with a special interest in cats. Some of the enclosures need upgrading and enlargement and some of this work is already in hand. Work is needed to erect and improve some of the safety barriers. The overall impression is that this zoo is succeeding -- within its limited budget -- in its attempt to keep animals in an enriched environment.

This collection might be able to reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act once the improvements to the enclosures and safety barriers outlined above have been completed.

## **Recommendations**

1. This zoo should be encouraged to improve its specialist collection by providing a limited number of animals with good space and environmental enrichment.
2. The zoo is to be congratulated on its educational programme.

## **Bowmanville Zoological Park**

Bowmanville, Ontario

10 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Gibbon (2), Crab-eating macaque (7) Siberian tiger (2), African lion (3), Jaguar (2), Timber wolf (2), Coatimundi (2) Elephant (3), Nilgai (6), Eland (4), Sitatunga (2), Fallow deer (25+), North American bison (4+), Llama (3), Guanaco, Aoudad (6), Pygmy donkey, Pygmy goat (20+), Domestic pig (10), Wild boar (3), Domestic goat (7), Capybara (1) Emu (10), Rhea (6+), Sarus crane (2), Raven (1), various parrot species (6), various waterfowl species Green Iguana (3), Burmese python (2)

### **Accommodation**

This is a medium size privately run zoo. Some of the newer enclosures, such as those for the gibbons and Sarus Crane, are well designed, but some of the older enclosures are outdated. The old macaque enclosure is small and contains no enrichment. The emus are overcrowded. The three ponies have no grass in their paddock. The Pygmy goats are overcrowded. The lions are in a small enclosure with no retreat from the public or shade from the sun and no enrichment. The Siberian tigers and jaguars have no retreat from public view. The elephant enclosure is bare with little enrichment and no water pool. The Eland and Aoudad have no retreat from the public or shade from the sun: their paddock floor is predominantly bare earth.

Two emu are housed too close to the noisy children's fun fair. The llama and goats are in an enclosure with no grass and a dilapidated shed.

### **Fencing and Safety**

Most of the stand off barriers are effective, but there is a need to erect safety barriers around the llamas, emus, wild boar, rhea, guanaco and capybara. The Eland and Aoudad fencing is rusty with some sharp edges. Electric fencing at this enclosure is not effective. The guanaco fencing is rusty and needs to be renewed. Part of the internal fencing for the deer enclosure is collapsing and needs repair. The fencing for the old macaque enclosure is rusty. The bison fencing is rusty and some of the upright poles are insecure.

The perimeter fence by the car park is collapsing and insecure.

## **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is encouraged by the sale of nuts at the gate and corn from dispensers around the zoo.

No water was visible for the parrots. The water container for the raven was on the floor and dirty. No water was visible for the Siberian tigers. The water trough for the bison was very rusty.

## **Abnormal Behaviour**

The African elephant was exhibiting stereotypic head weaving behaviour. One of the Timber wolves was showing stereotypic pacing behaviour.

## **Animal Health**

The emus are overcrowded in a small enclosure. Two of them appeared distressed and appeared to have shallow breathing. One of these had wounds on both sides of its neck.

## **Education**

Most of the animal exhibits have the species name on the enclosures and some of them, such as the elephants and the Sarus cranes, have plaques with further information. There is no sign for the parrots or Timber wolves. The newer monkey enclosure still has the lemur's sign on it. A guide map is available for visitors but it has no further information or details about the zoo animals.

## **Conservation**

This zoo states that it is taking part in the North American SSP (Species Survival Plan) for Asian elephants.

## **Conclusions**

This is a CAZPA accredited zoo with a special emphasis on performing animals such as the camels and elephants. It is Canada's oldest operating zoo and many of the enclosures need a continuous programme of upgrading and improvement. Safety barriers and new fencing need to be erected.

This collection would not reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act

### **Recommendations**

1. This zoo should continue to upgrade and improve the enclosures by making them larger and providing better enrichment.
2. Special attention should be given to enlarging and improving the elephant enclosure.
3. Further safety barriers should be erected and the fencing should be repaired.
4. More emphasis should be placed on developing a good education programme.
5. Animals performing circus-type tricks for the amusement of the public should no longer be part of a modern zoo.

## **Northwoods Buffalo and Exotic Animal Ranch**

Seagrave, Ontario

10 August 1995

### **Species Observed**

Japanese macaque (3), various primate species, Siberian tiger (7+), African lion (4+), Cougar (2), Jaguar (5), Leopard (2), Canadian lynx (1), Bobcat (3), Arctic wolf (4), Timber wolf (1), Black bear (1) North American bison (25+), Deer, Llama (2) Ostrich (5), Eagle owl (3), Peacock, Turkey, Parrot (1)

### **Accommodation**

This is a new privately-run zoo. As most of the enclosures are still under construction, my comments refer to their current state. Enrichment in many of the enclosures, especially the primates, the black bear, the tigers inside the barn, the Asian leopards and the cougars, needs to be improved. Some of the animals are not able to retreat from public view, for example the primates, Siberian tigers, parrot and parakeets and Eagle owls. The bobcats are in a small enclosure with little enrichment.

### **Fencing and Safety**

The stand off barriers are not yet constructed and it is possible for the public to put their hands right into the primate, wolf, bear and large cat enclosures. Most of the fencing has been recently erected. The fencing around two of the lion enclosures and the tiger enclosure is 6 inch deer netting backed up by internal electric wire fencing. The enclosures are not covered by any overhead wire mesh.

Most of the enclosures have internal electric fencing. Since there are no stand off barriers this electrical fencing can be touched by the public and is a safety hazard. There is no perimeter fence around the zoo.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is not encouraged.

The water receptacle for the two primates was on the floor and had dirty water. There is no pool for the bear. No water was visible for the Eagle owls.

## **Abnormal Behaviour**

One of the Siberian tigers was showing stereotypic pacing behaviour.

## **Animal Health**

The animals appeared in good physical condition and health.

## **Education**

Many of the animal exhibits have no species name on the enclosures. There is no formal education programme, but the zoo staff informed me they plan to organize school parties to visit the zoo.

There was no leaflet available to visitors with information about the zoo animals.

## **Conservation**

This zoo was not taking part in any international conservation projects.

## **Conclusions**

This zoo is still under construction and I am very concerned that the public are being allowed to visit the zoo before safety barriers have been completed.

I was told by the owner that he had just purchased all the wild animals from another zoo and that these would be integrated with his existing stock. Surplus animals would be sold.

There was considerable bravado by the owner that he and his assistant could enter the cages of the large cats. I believe this could result in serious injury.

This collection does not reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act.

## **Recommendations**

1. This zoo should not be open to the public (especially children) until all the safety barriers have been completed.

2. Stronger fencing should be used in the lion and tiger enclosures which at present only have deer fencing and no overhead mesh.
3. This zoo should be subject to regular inspections with special regard to public safety and the absorption and disposal of a large influx of new animals.
4. Every enclosure that has electric fencing that could be dangerous to the public should have appropriate warning signs.
5. There is a need to improve the enrichment of many of the enclosures.

## **Metropolitan Toronto Zoo**

Toronto, Ontario

11 August 1995

### **Species At Zoo**

Mammals (691), Birds (447), Reptiles (224), Amphibians (231), Fish (958), Invertebrates (4294)

This is a large municipal zoo that replaced the smaller and more traditional Riverdale Zoo in 1974. The Metropolitan Toronto Zoo is funded by the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, gate money, and contributions from the Zoological Society of Metropolitan Toronto. On the day of my visit it was only possible to see a third of the zoo due to its extensive size.

### **Accommodation**

Considerable thought and concern for environmental enrichment has been given to the design of the animal enclosures. Some of the older enclosures, such as the Sacred baboons, American bald eagles and the elephants, are due for upgrading and plans are in hand to redevelop the whole of the African section and the Lowland gorilla enclosure.

### **Fencing and Safety**

A number of exhibits have stand off barriers that consist of only a link chain between posts or just two wires between posts. These barriers are not childproof. Examples are: the barriers for the Sacred baboons, part of the giraffe enclosure and the White rhino where it was possible for a toddler to fall into the sunken enclosure. There should be a stand off barrier at the llama enclosure. The netting for the white lion enclosure is 6 inch deer-type wire netting and is not strong enough for a lion exhibit.

Following an accident to a keeper, a 'hands off' policy of protected management for safety protocol for the handling of the elephants has been introduced.

### **Food & Drink**

Feeding by the public is actively discouraged.

Special diets were prepared for all the animals and the food used is of a very high quality.

### **Abnormal Behaviour**

No stereotypic behaviour was seen during our visit.

### **Animal Health**

The animals appeared in good physical condition and health. The zoo has two full-time veterinarians on the staff and a well equipped animal hospital.

### **Education**

All of the animal exhibits have a species name displayed outside the enclosures. Further information and graphic material is also well displayed. There is a very strong education department at the zoo with six staff who provide school programmes, a zoo camp and a number of training programmes. These are backed by informative leaflets. Outreach educational programmes take the zoo experience to schools, Scout and Brownie clubs.

The adopt-a-pond programme and Massasauga rattlesnake recovery team has helped bring school children an understanding of the worldwide decline in amphibians and reptiles.

### **Conservation**

This zoo participates in a number of conservation projects:

- a) breeding and return of the Puerto Rican Crested toad, working with the Puerto Rican Department of Natural Resources;
- b) breeding and return to the wild of the Black-footed ferret to wild sites in Wyoming;
- c) breeding and re-introduction of the Wood bison in conjunction with World Wildlife Fund and the Canadian Wildlife Service.

The zoo understands that for successful conservation of endangered species there must also be protection of the animals' natural habitat. The zoo participates in a number of research projects and field work in overseas international conservation programmes.

## **Conclusions**

This is a large municipal zoo set in 710 acres in the Rouge River Valley. The zoo was opened in 1974. Some of the enclosures constructed more than 20 years ago require upgrading. I am surprised some of the safety barriers are only single chain link fence or double wire and post which are not childproof.

The zoo has an excellent progressive educational department. The conservation and associated research work carried out at this zoo is of a high standard. This zoo should take a major role in assisting smaller Ontario zoos to improve their standards by providing advice and special training courses for zoo keepers.

The zoo's involvement in the Regional Canadian Collection Plan to control breeding and prevent the production of surplus zoo animals is to be applauded.

This collection would reach the standards required for the U.K. Zoo Licensing Act, subject to an improvement in the safety barriers.

## **Recommendations**

1. The present planned programme of upgrading older enclosures should continue.
2. Stronger fencing should be used for the enclosure currently housing the white lions which has only deer fencing.
3. All of the stand off barriers between hazardous animals and the public should be made secure to prevent children either getting through them or climbing over them.
4. As the flag-ship zoo in Ontario, this zoo should be more pro-active in raising the standards of other zoos in the province.

## **C.A.Z.A. STANDARDS OF ANIMAL CARE AND HOUSING**

### **I. Facilities**

- A. Animal Facilities
- B. Staff & Public Facilities

### **II. Operations**

- A. General
- B. Emergency Preparation
- C. Equipment and Chemicals
- D. Security
- E. Management

### **III. Staff**

- A. Animal Care
- B. Animal Nutrition
- C. Veterinary Care

## **C.A.Z.A. STANDARDS OF ANIMAL CARE AND HOUSING**

### **I. Facilities**

#### **A. Animal Facilities**

1. Building materials and substrate to which animals have access should be:

- a) non-toxic\*
- b) of a texture and design which does not predispose the animal to abrasion, laceration or other injury considering the behaviour and physical characteristics of the animal
- c) in good repair

\*nontoxic in the method in which it is used, the material does not represent a toxic hazard to the animal species to which it is exposed

2) The environment in which the animals live should:

a) be wholesome in terms of providing adequate ventilation/aeration with clean, acceptably toxic free air for respiration.

b) not adversely affect the animals considering its auditory, olfactory and light or visual sensitivities

3) Where artificial environmental systems must be maintained to support the animals, these systems should be monitored either mechanically or manually to enable repair or substitution with alternate systems thereby preventing distress, injury or death of the specimen.

4) Animal enclosures in which animals are on public display should\*:

a) be of a size which enables the animals to:

i) exercise natural behaviours to facilitate public education and interpretation.

ii) achieve a full range of body movements and physical movements\*\* normally performed.

\* Consideration should be given to the recommended enclosure standards designated under the current government regulations and established guidelines of professional groups.

\*\* Animals may be physically altered to preclude certain physical activities (e.g., pinioning) only as a last resort and only if an environment can be provided in which the limitations of the altered state does not create predictable physical or psychological discomfort.

b) contain "furniture" and/or procedures to physically and psychologically enrich the environment and stimulate normal physical movement and behaviour of the specimen.

c) contain natural or man-made shelters enabling animals to protect themselves from natural conditions (e.g., sun, rain, snow).

5) Long-term or permanent animal enclosures for animals off public display;

a) should be of a size which enables the animal to:

i) achieve a distance from the staff or other animals at which the animals are not psychologically stressed

ii) achieve a full range of body movements and physical movements normally performed.

b) should be provided with "furniture" and or procedures to physically and psychologically enrich the environment and stimulate normal physical movement & behaviour.

c) contain natural or man-made shelters enabling animals to protect themselves from natural conditions (e.g., sun, rain, snow).

#### 6) Temporary Animal Housing

a) must be of a size and design which minimizes the likelihood of physical and psychological trauma of the specimen while providing fundamental physical needs.

b) Temporary housing is required only in emergency situations or during animal movement. Provisions should be underway to move any animal in temporary housing to adequate long-term enclosures.

c) contain natural or man-made shelters enabling animals to protect themselves from natural conditions (e.g., sun, rain, snow).

7) Housing and care of animals to be used for feed should be according to established standards outlined in the Canadian Council on Animal Care, Guide to the care and use of experimental animals, Vol 1 & 2

8) Containers used for transportation of animals must conform to or exceed the current I.A.T.A. Standards

### **B. Staff & Public Facilities**

1) Provision must be made to enable staff to change clothing if necessary upon arrival and leaving the work site, to wash and/or shower and to eat meals as required. These areas must be well maintained and kept clean and pest free.

2) Washrooms for both public and staff must be:

a) adequate in number according to recommendations by public and occupational health guidelines

b) maintained in a good state of repair and cleanliness. Adequate numbers of toilet facilities should be accessible by physically disabled patrons and in accordance with applicable legislation. It is accepted that topography may limit handicapped accessibility to some areas and accessibility may also be limited to structures which were constructed prior to accessibility legislation.

4) All structures must meet the standards for construction and fire protection according to relevant codes.

5) Concessions distributing food for public consumption must meet the requirements of public health guidelines.

## **II. Operations**

### **A. General**

1) Buildings and substrate to which animals have access should be kept clean:

a) washable surfaces should be washed clean and disinfected as required to prevent dangerous accumulations of organic and inorganic materials and organisms

b) substrate which cannot be washed should be cleaned of gross waste and dangerous contaminants and replaced as required to maintain a wholesome environment.

2) Animal identification and records must provide information to enable current and retrospective investigation of genealogy, life history and medical events;

a) Mammals and birds and any other animal readily identifiable should be identified individually by number and records maintained based upon this identification.

b) Animal records should include the date of acquisition, disposition, genealogy and/or source, record of movement of the animals within & outside the institution significant life-events, reproductive history, medical history and necropsies.

c) Records should be maintained on the basis of "animal groups" when animals cannot be reasonably or safely identified on an individual basis.

d) Records should be protected from fire and other predictable events which may result in loss or destruction (i.e., duplication and off-site storage).

3) All animal care staff must be monitored throughout the working day and confirm their departure upon leaving the institution.

4) Animal waste must be used or disposed of in a fashion which complies with all applicable regulations.

- 5) Sewage disposal from all facilities must comply with all applicable regulations.
- 6) Toxic or hazardous waste must be handled according to occupational and public health regulations.
- 7) The institution must be actively involved with objectives and action plans in at least one of the following programs:  
public or formal education, research, conservation and species preservation.
- 8) The institution should have access to applicable regulation concerning:
  - a) public health ie: food concession requirements
  - b) fire prevention and control
  - c) humane animals regulation
  - d) IATA regulations
  - e) CAZA standards, policies and Code of Ethics
  - f) Veterinary Act
  - g) Agriculture Canada regulation (as applicable)
  - h) Department of Fisheries and Oceans regulation (as applicable)
  - i) Zoo Regulations (as applicable)
- 9) The following written policies and procedures must be established and understood by all staff who are involved:
  - a) animal acquisition and disposition (in accordance with C.A.Z.A. Policy)
  - b) handling and disposal of hazardous goods where applicable.
- 10) Established policies and position statements of the C.A.Z.A. must be on file in the institution and the management must have a working knowledge of these policies.
- 11) Pest control programs must be effective so that the animal collection, the staff and the public is not threatened by pests or contamination resulting from pests.

## **B. Emergency Preparation**

- 1) Plans to respond to predictable emergency scenarios must be clearly defined in writing and all staff must be aware of their responsibilities and the overall objectives.
- 2) At least one staff person with current Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation Certification and at least one person trained in First Aid should be on site when public are within the grounds of the institution.
- 3) Fire Control
  - a) All animal housing structures in which there is electrical service, an artificial source of temperature control, fuel service, or to which the public has access must have at least one appropriate class fire extinguisher as designated by local regulation.
  - b) All fire extinguishers must be charged and inspected at least annually and as required by local regulation.
  - c) Personnel regularly working in buildings in which fire extinguishers are maintained, should be knowledgeable in their use.
- 4) Firearms
  - a) Firearms must be maintained in operational condition, stored in a locked area when not in use and under conditions which comply with relevant regulation.
  - b) Only personnel who are certified in the use of firearms should have access to the firearms.
  - c) Personnel who are responsible for the use of firearms in emergency response protocols, should be aware of their responsibilities and the proper procedures as designated in the written protocol.
- 5) Emergency Response
  - a) Animal enclosures & housing should be constructed in locations and to standards which will minimize the risk of animal injury or escape in the event of predictable environmental or other threats.
  - b) Written Emergency Response Plans for the following situations should be implemented. These plans must be reviewed and updated at least annually and all personnel involved in such procedures should be aware of the plans and their responsibilities in the event of an emergency.
    - i) Animal Escape

- ii) Fire
- iii) Flood/Storm
- iv) Human exposure to animal venom or poison (where applicable).
- v) Human injury or distress (public, staff, volunteer)
- vi) Utility failure (where applicable)

### **C. Equipment and Chemicals**

- 1) Equipment and machinery must be in good repair and safe to operate.
- 2) Provisions must be available to sanitize equipment which may be used in more than one animal enclosure.
- 3) Where an item of machinery or equipment is critical to the maintenance of animal specimen, contingency plans must be in place in the event of disfunction or loss of that item.
- 4) Equipment and machinery and its method of use must meet all standards imposed under regulation including environmental standards.
- 5) Chemicals used or stored on the property of the institution must be properly identified by label.
- 6) All chemical labeling and Material Data Safety Information must be in accordance with applicable regulation.
- 7) Containers of chemicals must provide for the safe storage of the material.
- 8) Containers of chemicals must be stored or maintained under appropriate security to minimize the opportunity of spillage or accidental human or animal exposure.
- 9) Containers of chemicals must be stored or maintained in a location where, in the event of spillage:
  - a) the environmental impact is minimized.
  - b) the clean-up operation is facilitated
  - c) the opportunity for human or animal exposure is minimized.

## **D. Security**

Security must be provide to safeguard the animal collection and the general public.

- 1) A complete barrier, natural or man-made perimeter fence, must exist around the animal enclosures which protects the animal collection from direct exposure to the non-visiting public and exposure to feral or domestic animals. The level of security required will vary according to the species in the collection and the proximity of the institution to populated areas, to agricultural land and to sensitive wildlife habitat. (Recommended minimum barrier should be the equivalent of a two meter high chain link fence.)
- 2) Reasonable facilities must be in place to enable containment of an escaped animal within the property. (Complete perimeter barrier as described in D. Security
- 3) Some method of remote or manual monitoring of the security of the institution when not open to the public should be in place.
- 4) Animals on display should have access to structures, cover or adequate area to enable them to remove themselves from contact with the public.
- 5) Public should be prevented from directly contacting dangerous animals by use of double fencing or other barriers.
- 6) Animal food materials should be maintained in an area which is not accessible to the general public.
- 7) Natural or man-made barriers and signage should clearly identify areas in which the public is not admitted (e.g., animal housing and maintenance areas).

## **E. Management**

- 1) The governing authority has the responsibility for policy matters and for oversight of the institution. The director/general manager must have the authority for the management of the animal collection, staff and programs.
- 2) The lines of communication between the governing authority and chief executive officer must be clearly defined.
- 3) An accredited institution that is without the services of a full-time, paid director for longer than one-year will be subject to loss of accreditation.

4) Significant administrative reorganization of the administration of an accredited institution must be reported to the Chairman of the Accreditation Commission.

### **III. Staff**

1) Personnel involved in the management and maintenance of the animals should have the physical ability, the knowledge, the access to information, the training and the equipment necessary to:

- a) adequately and humanely maintain the animals under the conditions provided,
- b) provide adequate nutrition
- c) provide environmental enrichment for the behavioural needs of the animal
- d) respond appropriately to predictable emergency scenarios.

2) Training programs must be established to enable staff to conduct their work duties safely and to respond appropriately to predictable emergency situations according to written protocols.

Training programs should include information regarding:

- a) animal husbandry
- b) emergency response procedures
- c) hazardous goods handling and management (where relevant)
- d) animal restraint
- e) hygiene and zoonoses

### **IV. Animal Care**

1) All animals or animal groups should be observed by animal keeping staff at least once daily and as often as required given the circumstances of the environment, animal condition and behaviour of the animal group. Hibernation and periods of particular sensitivity such as those associated with reproductive activity of some species may preclude daily observation. Consideration should be given to remote audio and/or video monitoring in such conditions.)

2. Standard references regarding the husbandry of wild animals should be available. (Recommended minimum reference list supplied by the CAZPA)

3. Animal keeping staff should be knowledgeable in the husbandry and biology of the animals in their care including reproductive behaviour.
4. The animal keeping staff should be knowledgeable in the safe use of equipment, chemicals and procedures which are utilized in the care of animals for which they are responsible.
5. Animal keepers must have knowledge of the physical capabilities of the animal with which he/she works to enable him/her to work safely.
6. Staff or management responsible for the housing, husbandry, nutrition and transport of animals within the collection should have access to enable them to perform these functions safely and humanely.

## **V. Animal Nutrition**

1. References should be available for the nutritional requirements and feeding practices of the animals in the collection.
2. Observation of feeding and records of feeding should be maintained on a daily basis.
3. Food materials should be wholesome.
  - a) Food materials should not be contaminated with organic, inorganic or chemical materials which may adversely affect the recipient animal.
  - b) Food materials should be stored:
    - i) in a manner which preserves the nutritional integrity of the material until fed.
    - ii) so as to prevent contamination by organic, inorganic or chemical contaminants.
    - iii) to prevent access by pest species.
4. Essential feed components should be offered to the animal collection by the animal keeper:
  - a) only feed which is prepared by the institution may be fed by the public to animals which are clearly designated by the institution.
  - b) public feeding of animals should be monitored by the staff and the volume of feed offered controlled.
5. A potable source of water for animal maintenance must be available to all specimen.

6. Food and water should be offered in such a way that it is made accessible to each individual specimen.

## **VI. Veterinary Care**

Veterinary services must be available for the animal collection and should comply with the Guidelines for Zoo/Aquarium Veterinary Medicine Programs and Veterinary Hospitals (J. Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, 21(3), 1990).

- 1) A contract providing consultation regarding preventative health care of the collection and describing clinical veterinary services including 24 hour emergency service should be in place.
- 2) Equipment required for the restraint, treatment and handling of the animal collection must be available.
- 3) Facilities should be available for the isolation and treatment of sick or injured animals and for the quarantine of newly arrived animals.
- 4) All pharmaceuticals on the premises must be maintained under conditions of temperature and security which comply with all regulations and meet pharmaceutical company recommendations.
- 5) All pharmaceuticals stored at the institution should be current.
- 6) Only licensed veterinarians are permitted to perform veterinary procedures in accordance with regulations of the provincial/territorial veterinary act.
- 7) The primary veterinary hospital or clinic serving the collection should comply with the criteria for animal hospitals established by the Provincial Veterinary Association.
- 8) Biomedical waste will be handled and disposed of in accordance with all relevant legislation.

