

Zoos Victoria Endowment Fund

The future is wild



ZOOS
VICTORIA





“The Zoo Endowment means that our animals will continue to create happy memories for our grandchildren’s grandchildren.”

– Dr Jenny Gray, Chief Executive, Zoos Victoria



Photo credit: Cormac Hanrahan

Zoos Victoria is guardian to three much-loved Victorian institutions: Melbourne Zoo, Healesville Sanctuary and Werribee Open Range Zoo, all iconic parts of Melbourne’s culture and heritage.

Since Melbourne Zoo opened its gates 155 years ago, our zoos have evolved to reflect the changing nature of our times.

As we look forward, I am thrilled to introduce you to the Zoos Victoria Endowment Fund; a fund for the future, supporting innovative and capacity-building activities that will continue to strengthen our position as a global leader in wildlife care and conservation and keep our future wild.

While we’ve come a long way in 155 years, we know that there are still challenges to be met. The conservation of our precious wildlife is becoming increasingly reliant on intervention from zoos. Similarly, zoos must constantly consider our responsibility for the animals under our guardianship, ensuring we provide the best levels of care at all times. Every day brings new opportunities and new challenges.

To meet these challenges and set ourselves up for a secure future, we have established the Zoos Victoria Endowment Fund to receive and invest donations and bequests and provide an ongoing income stream.



Photo credit: Cormac Hanrahan

I invite you to consider supporting our important work by making a gift to the Zoos Victoria Endowment. Your support will ensure we can plan for the future, protect endangered species from extinction, build upon our conservation activities and importantly, leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Dr Jenny Gray
Chief Executive, Zoos Victoria



Photo credit: Cormac Hanrahan

A Fund Working for our Future

Our Endowment Fund will ensure that Zoos Victoria continues to be at the forefront of wildlife protection and conservation for many years to come.



“A society grows great when men plant trees in whose shade they know they shall never sit.”

– Greek proverb

The Zoos Victoria Endowment is an investment fund that has been established in-perpetuity under the sound governance of the Zoological Parks and Gardens Board.

The Fund will grow over time through intelligent investments and additional contributions, donations and bequests.

As the Endowment’s capital base grows, so too will the income stream available each year, so that your support will make an indelible mark now and in the future. Together, we’ll build the foundations today for an even greater Zoo tomorrow.



Your legacy will also be ours, as together we invest in the Zoo’s knowledge, intelligence and ability to act thoughtfully, responsibly and independently to take on the challenges of animal protection and conservation. Together we will continue to inspire a love of nature in generations to come; to provide for the extraordinary animals in our care; and to ensure a future rich in wildlife.



Investing in Our Future

Our zoos have been creating happy memories for generations; we have a rich history of supporting and sustaining the world's most wonderful species for over 155 years.

As a leader in animal care and well-being, we know that conservation success means species in the wild, not in captivity. Every day in small and large ways we share the wonders of the natural world with our community as we advocate for all animals everywhere.

And now, as we launch the Zoos Victoria Endowment Fund, you can join us and make a lasting impact. Your contribution – small or large – will inspire, nurture and protect animals for generations to come.

Zoos Victoria Endowment - Making a Difference



Fighting Extinction

- Growing our capacity to fight extinction through investment in research and in-field activities.
- Allowing us to take considered risks and push the envelope with pioneering solutions to conservation problems.

Nurturing Animals

- Maintaining our position as a global leader in critical thinking on applied animal welfare and recognition of the value of animal life.
- Continuing to exceed ethical standards for happiness and well-being of the animals in our care.

Bringing Nature to our Community

- Educating and inspiring our future global custodians.
- Improving access to our zoos to ensure innovative wildlife-based recreation and learning experiences.
- Inspiring zoo visitors, members and the community to take conservation actions that make measurable and positive differences for wildlife.

Investing in our Intelligence

- Ensuring we continue to employ passionate world-leading thinkers, researchers and keeper staff.
- Developing our team's skills so they are at the forefront of conservation and the have the capacity to lead Zoos Victoria well into the future.

**Our past is rich. Our future is wild.
You can make a difference today.**

Angie Retallack
General Manager Philanthropy
9340 2720 | donate@zoo.org.au



Photo credit:
Cormac Hanrahan

Establishing the Endowment

Zoos Victoria is excited to welcome the support of two key partners, who have made a significant and inspiring contribution to the establishment of the Zoo Endowment.

This support has laid a solid foundation to help us build the fund over time and benefit the people and wildlife of Victoria well into the future.

The Bowness Family Foundation pledged a \$1,000,000 Leadership Gift toward the establishment of the Zoo Endowment.

"The strength of a public institution is always dependent on its financial sustainability. Our hope is that this gift encourages others to provide much needed support for one of Victoria's most valued and visited public icons."

— Natasha Bowness, Bowness Family Foundation

The Merrin Foundation committed \$300,000 to further grow the fund.

"The Endowment is of great interest to us as it will provide future funding for any specific conservation purposes that are in need of support. We are happy to see this gift made as a legacy to the Zoo."

— Charles Tegner, The Merrin Foundation

“Our hope is that this gift encourages others to provide much needed support for one of Victoria’s most valued and visited public icons.”

— Natasha Bowness



Help keep our future wild

Join us as a contributor to the Zoos Victoria Endowment Fund and start to see the real returns on your investment through our work today.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you a tax-deductible donation or multi-year pledge.

Leave a legacy

A planned gift through a bequest will provide for our wonderful wildlife for many years to come.

By entrusting Zoos Victoria with a bequest, you are supporting our future, secure in the knowledge that we will invest and manage your contribution so that it has a sustaining impact on our wildlife.

Live well today knowing that your legacy will create an annual gift for our animals forever.

Please contact us for a confidential discussion about leaving a gift to the zoo in your Will.



All gifts to the Zoo Endowment have a transformative impact and are fully tax deductible.

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You can make a difference today.**

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General Manager Philanthropy

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