

To: Animal Acquisition Committee

From: W.A. Rapley  
Executive Director  
Conservation, Education & Research

Subject: **BIRD ACQUISITION FROM FORT WAYNE CHILDREN'S ZOO**

Date: 2010-07-29

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**Recommendations:**

**It is recommended to purchase 0.1 pheasant pigeon (*Otidiphaps nobilis*) from Fort Wayne's Children Zoo for display in the Indo Malayan pavilion.**

**Financial Impact:**

The bird is being sent free of charge. Shipping costs and brokerage fees will be the total expenses paid out. The bird will be going into the Indo Kitchen aviary, so no costs will be accrued for exhibits. The diet will be the same as other birds in the exhibit. Graphics for identification will have some costs.

**Background:**

The Toronto Zoo has a variety of birds throughout the grounds. To maintain the variety and number, the Toronto Zoo constantly looks for species with good display and educational value, and with a large captive population to maintain a sustainable number in captivity. Pheasant pigeons fulfill these criteria very well. The birds are beautiful, look like pheasants and have been known to breed on display. The species has not been displayed at the Toronto Zoo in the past. It is hoped that this bird will become a nucleus for a population at the Toronto Zoo.

**Comments/Discussion:**

The pheasant pigeon is a large beautiful bird that will be a welcomed bonus to the Toronto Zoo collection. The bird is peaceful with other species and its vibrant colours will add to the display in the Indo Malayan pavilion. A mate will be sought as soon as possible.

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John Tracogna  
Chief Executive Officer

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W.A. Rapley  
Executive Director  
Conservation, Education & Research