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**For Immediate Release:
Thursday, February 12, 2009**

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TORONTO ZOO UNVEILS CARBON NEUTRAL EXHIBIT FOR THE LION-TAILED MACAQUES WITH THE "GREEN MACAQUE" PROJECT

Thursday, February 12, 2009, Toronto, Ontario: This morning, the Toronto Zoo officially opened the newly refurbished lion-tailed macaque exhibit, also known as the "Green Macaque Project". On hand for this exciting event were Councillor Raymond Cho, Chair, Zoo Board of Management, Ben Marans from the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, Scott Carter of the Detroit Zoo, Lion-tailed Macaque SSP Coordinator for North America, and Dave Ireland, Toronto Zoo Curator of Conservation. The exhibit, previously heated in the off season by overhead large-scale electric radiant heaters, will now be warmed from below by far more efficient and renewable means – the earth's geothermal energy – and cooled in summer in the same way. Lion-tailed macaques are a species of endangered primate from India.

"Geoexchange systems are the most efficient of all renewable energy sources, at least in temperate climates like Ontario," comments Dave Ireland, the Zoo's Curator of Conservation. "It's great that we can show our visitors how it works."

In 2007, the Toronto Zoo established a Green Plan and the Green Macaque Exhibit embodies the Plan's objectives of renewable energy development and demonstration. The exhibit visually illustrates both the use of renewable energy and of the most efficient heating and cooling system available.

The Toronto Zoo has a long history of environmental protection and awareness, and of innovative action towards sustainable operations. Our collective dedication stems from a deep appreciation for biodiversity preservation and animal welfare.

As Canada's premiere zoo, the Toronto Zoo is committed to continue to demonstrate leadership in all aspects of our operations, including sustainable growth and maintenance.

The lion-tailed macaque exhibit is located immediately south of the Zoo's Indo-Malaya Pavilion. For more information about the Zoo's Green Plan and other environmental initiatives at the Toronto Zoo visit torontozoo.com/conservation.

**For more information, please contact
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Current Zoo Hours and Admission Prices

Current Zoo Hours: 9:30am to 4:30pm. Last admission is one hour before closing. General Admission 13-64 incl. is \$20, Children 3 and under are free, Children 4-12 are \$12 and Seniors 65+ are \$14. Parking is FREE until March 1st. Events and admission prices are subject to change without notice. The Zoo is located at Meadowvale Road and Hwy. 401, Exit 389 east and west bound. For general information, call (416) 392-5929. The Toronto Zoo is open year round (except December 25th).

torontozoo.com