

TORONTO ZOO

2009-01-21

MEDIA ALERT/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY



STARTING OUT STRONG - 2009 CHINESE YEAR OF THE OX

Who: Wood bison, Yaks, Gaurs, and Wisent.

What/Why: 2009 is the Chinese calendar Year of the Ox and the Toronto Zoo has some residents who are ready to celebrate:

- **Wood bison:** captive breeding at the Toronto Zoo has made possible the return of some of these endangered animals to the wild in protected habitats.
- **Yaks:** these animals come from central Asia and are known for their stamina.
- **Gaurs:** the largest cattlebeasts in the world, gaur are found in India where they are considered vulnerable. The Zoo's baby guar, Forrest, was born on March 25th, 2008.
- **Wisent:** this is Europe's version of the North American bison. Once considered extinct, captive breeding has enabled the return of some animals to the wild.

Where: Toronto Zoo
Take Hwy 401 to Meadowvale Road (Exit #389 east and westbound).
Go north to Zoo Main Parking.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Katie Gray, Supervisor, Public Relations
At (416) 392-5941**

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Current Zoo hours - 9:30 am-4:30 pm. Last admissions 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 subject to change without notice.** For general information call (416) 392-5929 or visit

torontozoo.com