

# It's a "Wildly Interactive" Family Day Long Weekend at RBG

Wildlife Rescue exhibition features live animal shows, expert speakers and interactive games

**Burlington ON, February 13, 2020**– Families looking to explore the animal world this long weekend for something both fun and educational this long weekend need not look far beyond their own backyard as Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) will host three days of Family Day programming (from February 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>) as part of *Wildlife Rescue: The Exhibition*. On Family Day (February 17) RBG will open its doors to visitors one hour early, at 9 a.m.

Wildlife Rescue explores the rehabilitation of different species that share Earth with us, and how we, as individuals, can make a difference! RBG's own interpretive programming takes the exhibit home and empowers visitors to recognize how everyday actions can have an impact on their own "backyard", fostering a respect for nature and an understanding of the responsibility that rests with all of us.

Through interactive stations, interpretive programs and simulations, visitors to Wildlife Rescue will witness rescue efforts to experience and learn the innovative science involved in wildlife rescue, then experiment with techniques and tools used by rescuers through hands-on exhibits and multimedia experiences. These include taking a simulated flight to guide young whooping cranes along their first migratory route and journeying to Africa and Indonesia to witness efforts to successfully raise and release young elephants and orangutans to the wild.

Special weekend programming includes visits by Speaking of Wildlife who will be introducing visitors to a variety of Ontario wildlife. Special guests include Rob Porter of the Hamilton Naturalist Club who will sharing some cool recordings of Hamilton's natural areas, and RBG's Felicia Radassao, who will be teaching visitors about how pets and wildlife can co-exist

Wildlife Rescue will be taking place at RBG through April 13, is developed by Science North and toured by Little Ray's Nature Centre. This exhibit is sponsored by CHCH Television.

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#### FAMILY DAY WEEKEND PROGRAMMING

**MEET THE ANIMALS Speaking of Wildlife**, February 15 to 17 Meet a variety of native Ontario wildlife and learn about what makes each special.

#### SPECIAL GUESTS

Do you hear what I hear? February 15

Rob Porter, Hamilton Naturalists' Club and host/creator of "Songbirding" podcast. Discover recordings of natural spaces around Hamilton in the last year — birds, coyotes, thunderstorms and more!

Keeping Pets and Wildlife Safe: Animal Guardians Unite! February 16.

Felicia Radassao, Ecological Assistant, RBG.

Outdoor/free roaming pets wreak havoc on local wildlife and can also face dangers to their wellbeing. Learn how we can coexist.

### ADMISSION

Adult	\$18
Youth/Student*	\$15
Senior**	\$15
Child age 4 to 12	\$10
Child under age 4	FREE
RBG Members	FREE

## HOURS

Saturday, February 15	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday, February 16	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Monday, February 17	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For more a full schedule of activities, visit <u>www.rbg.ca/wildliferescue</u>

<u>Wildlife Rescue Video</u> <u>Meet our friends from Speaking of Wildlife</u>

# For media inquiries, please contact:

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