July 2, 2019

Ms. Margaret Redmond

President and CEO

Assiniboine Park Conservancy

55 Pavilion Crescent, Winnipeg, MB R3P 2N6

Dear Ms. Redmond,

I write to you today to respectfully ask the Assiniboine Park Zoo to permanently close its temporary exhibition “Stingray Beach” given the loss of 10% of the population, and the stress and harm moving stingrays from city to city cause in any wildlife creature.

This past June, Canada made a progressive step with the passing of Bill S-203, banning the captivity of dolphins and whales. While not cetaceans, stingrays deserve the same consideration and treatment.

Cownose rays travel very far. [The Smithsonian Institute is studying their migration patterns](https://serc.si.edu/tracking-cownose-rays-improve-understanding-behavior-and-migration) and after two years they have seen tagged Cownose rays go from Chesapeake Bay to Central Florida and back in an annual cycle. That is over 740 miles or over 1,000 kilometres each way. So confining a wild animal which is hard-wired to swim long distances is simply wrong. Touching a wild animal does not advance education, not with current technology allowing us to enter virtual realities and materials which can mimic the texture of any skin.

[Insert your personal thoughts or message]

Sincerely,

[your name]