

To: Board of Management

From: John Tracogna
Chief Executive Officer

Subject: **ELEPHANT TRANSFER DUE DILIGENCE**

Date: 2012-12-10

Summary:

This report explains the outcome of the Elephant Transfer decision considered by Executive Committee and City Council, following the last update to the Board of Management on 2012-09-25. On 2012-11-27, City Council reaffirmed its previous decision to transfer the Toronto Zoo elephants to the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

Background:

At its meeting on 2012-09-25, the Board of Management was updated on the current status of the transfer the three elephants (Iringa, Toka and Thika) to the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) sanctuary in northern California. The Board directed that the status memorandum and related material be forwarded to the Executive Committee and City Council for consideration.

The City Executive Committee considered the Elephant Transfer Status Update item on 2012-11-05. The Executive Committee recommended that the three elephants be moved, as soon as possible, to a facility that Toronto Zoo staff determine is the best location. The Executive Committee requested the Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto Zoo to:

1. report directly to Council setting out the results of the due diligence review of the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) facility; and
2. attend the City Council meeting to answer Questions on the Due Diligence Review of the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) facility.
3. report on other options.

City Council met on 2012-11-27 to consider the Toronto Zoo's Due Diligence Review and recommendations. The Toronto Zoo recommended against sending the elephants to PAWS, as explained in the attached report. City Council did not accept this recommendation and reaffirmed its previous decision to send the elephants to PAWS. In rendering its decision, Council considered a report from Dr. Susan Cork and Dr. David Abraham on the PAWS facility. For the information of the Board, Attachment 1 is City Council's motion, Attachment 2 is the Toronto Zoo's Due Diligence Review and Attachment 3 is the report from Dr. S. Cork and Dr. David Abraham.

John Tracogna
Chief Executive Officer

List of Attachments:P

1. Council Motions re Elephant Transfer Status (2012-11-27)
2. Elephant Transfer Due Diligence Review (2012-11-20)
3. Report from Dr. S. Cork and Dr. D. Abraham

BRDGRP/2012/DEC/Elephant – Due Diligent Report/elephant due diligence cover