



No Magic North for Aquarium Captives

In stark contrast to the Vancouver Aquarium's "Magic of the North" advertisements the captives at the Vancouver Aquarium are isolated from their families and deprived of their freedom in the wild. For example, for 2.5 years the father and companion beluga, "Imaq", has been confined in a barren holding tank out of public view. The Aquarium will soon be sending this father of "Tiq" to a US Sea World for breeding bucks. Right now he is with another but they have been isolated too. They are surrounded by numerous caged sea lions who are subjected to inhumane experiments. As 2-week old babies they were abducted from their moms in the wild.

Lifeforce opposed the "Imaq" permit on the grounds that US dolphin imports must not be a result of cruel captures. Lifeforce laid Cruelty to Animals charges after the Aquarium's 1990 capture of "Imaq" and 2 others near Churchill, MB. Charges were stayed but the Federal government banned future captures for exports.

The warehousing of belugas out of public view is due, in part, to the Parks Board's/Aquarium's 1988 broken promise that the present pool would be built for the existing 3 belugas to give them more space. However, when one died they captured 3 more. Confinement led to abnormal social structure (some males separate into bachelor groups in the wild) and abnormal aggression problems. The Aquarium didn't foresee the problems. One male was shipped to Sea World then a female. The issues:

1. The Aquarium may claim that Sea World is better for "Imaq" but a tank is a tank." Imaq" may be bullied and kept in small separation pools. Incompatibility issues created by captivity will continue. He will not see his family whom he has been with for 20 years.
2. If it isn't humane to keep him at the Vancouver Aquarium then why did this continue for over 2.5 years? Imaq and Kavna were moved to the research tank prior to "Quila's" birth in 2008.
3. In addition to forced tricks on cue, he will be food deprived for medical tests and subjected to masturbation for artificial insemination experiments.
4. How much longer will the female, Kavna, who has been imprisonment since 1976, be isolated again?
5. What remains with the Aquarium's claims of a beluga "conservation" program now that no males remain?

Captivity is a Crime Against Nature!

While friends and families enjoy the holidays we must remember the captives at the Vancouver Aquarium and the thousands of others whom suffer from being exploited by the aquarium and zoo entertainment industry. Remember that they are not free in their natural ocean homes. **Think about their plight! Help phase out captivity! Please Email the Vancouver Parks Commissioners (pbcomment@vancouver.ca) and the Mayor and Councillors (mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca) to tell them: Dolphin Captivity Must End! Stop the \$120 million Aquarium Expansion that Means More Animals and More Destruction of Stanley Park Green Space. The Aquarium didn't have the money to build by the 2010 Winter Olympics as they stated so the previous Parks Board's approval should be null and void.**

Read the new December 23, 2010 Georgia Straight article:

"Peter Hamilton is concerned that the land occupied by the children's farmyard in Stanley Park may eventually go to the Vancouver Aquarium."

<http://www.straight.com/article-365716/vancouver/activist-fears-fate-pettingzoo-land>

Lifeforce, (604)649-5258, lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com; www.lifeforcefoundation.org

Vancouver Aquarium's Cruel 1990 beluga capture:



Rope Wounds of beluga who was released. Belugas kept in 3' water and forced to eat dead fish.



It's A Zoo

VAN AQUA

ZOO

It's a Zoo in the Vancouver Aquarium
Birds and bats can't fly freely, reptiles and amphibians are in glass boxes, individual species, and more. All continuously caged at the abuse centers because Aquarium plans include: tiger, leopards, beaver and ... ?
The social and behavioral needs of wildlife are not provided for in zoo prisons. ZOOS ARE A FOUR LETTER WORD.
Vancouver owned "NO Zoo" in Stanley Park where there is a diversity of wildlife being held for the viewing.
Tell the City of Vancouver **NO MORE ZOOS!**

For further Information:

"Belugas: Far From Home" http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_play.php?id=25

"Dolphins: Freedom NOT Captivity!" http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_play.php?id=38

"Sea lions: Freedom NOT Captivity!" http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_play.php?id=39