

The Devils In Danger Foundation Inc.

# **The Devil ARC**

Awareness, Research and Conservation Centre for Tasmanian Devils



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The Devils in Danger Foundation Inc. (DIDF) will be building and managing *The Devil ARC, the Awareness, Research and Conservation Centre for Tasmanian Devils*. This is the only Quarantine *No Injury* Devil Breeding and Research Centre to research, breed and care for captive Tasmanian devils while educating and involving the community. The Foundation and our corporate project partners take great pride in making a major contribution to the conservation of devils in Tasmania.

### **Our Mission Statement**

To work in partnership with Federal and State Governments and all other key stakeholders to increase awareness of the plight of the Tasmanian devil. We intend to facilitate or implement the appropriate steps to guard against extinction of the species.

### **The Devil ARC, the Awareness, Research and Conservation Centre for Tasmanian Devils**

The development incorporates a Devil Research and Husbandry training facility

- Training will include: Research programs, devil husbandry and general care.
- The *No Injury* Humane Breeding system, is not currently being done anywhere else in the world
- *This program has* 100% success rate compared to traditional programs of around 5-7% success
- Our program is superior in results and humane based criteria
- This year we bred incompatible devils, a first in devil breeding, which is imperative for genetic diversity
- Project ARC will become self-funding due to the visitor and tourism component of the project and allow DIDF to concentrate on its core businesses (saving the Tasmanian devils).

### **How will this program help the devil?**

- The Tasmanian devil, as our iconic species, is important to the community both economically and ecologically. Our integrity and ethical stand will help promote this important cause
- We are assisting private and government research teams working on the Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD)
- We are purchasing remote surveillance equipment for researching the progress and onslaught of DFTD in wild devil populations and other vital research programs unique to the Foundation

### **Awareness of DFTD and Benefits of the project to the Tasmanian and wider National community**

- The project will also help to raise awareness in Australia and worldwide about DFTD and what they can do to help
- Visitors will learn via the interpretation centre (incorporating Dreamtime interpretations) and tours, relax in the café knowing they are making a difference to the cultural heritage of Tasmania for our children and their children to enjoy
- Our goal is to contribute to our funding and running costs through the retail sector of the facility

### **Project Partners in the Foundation include:**

- KD Warehouse
- Something Wild Wildlife Sanctuary
- Tasmanian Zoo
- Tasmanian Bakeries
- Fairbrother
- VOS Constructions
- Freeform Designs
- Lester Franks
- Waratah Wholesaler
- Quad Trucks
- Tilford Ford
- Aldon mark
- SFM
- Meadowbank wines
- TasVacations
- Fruit Property

### **We believe:**

- In giving something back to the community by offering a project worthy of this state, by saving an iconic species
- That everyone can play a part in saving the species and that it's important to engage the community in active participation of becoming aware of their environment.

### **Directors**

- DIDF has a board of directors that make all decisions on the direction, activities and policies of DIDF
- The Committee brings a wide range of skills and resources to the *No Injury* Breeding Program, research and day-to-day activities of the foundation
- Members of our committee have diverse and highly regarded skills and experience in the zoological and captive animal arena both in Australia and around the world. These professionals have a range of 10 to 30 years practical and academic experience in wildlife management and related programs and other qualities to our board to assist in the success of the foundation

#### **Our board experience features;**

- Directors with over 30 years experience in charity organisation management
- Media representation from the most awarded wildlife documentary producer in Australia
- Extensive small business management and tourism marketing
- Indigenous elders of Tasmania for cultural input to highlight the cultural significance of Tasmanian devils
- Extensive wildlife camera surveillance experience in stealth camera technology and wide ranging medical expertise

### **What is different about Devils in Danger Foundation Inc. program?**

- The Devils in Danger program is the ONLY devil program to have achieved deductible gift recipient (DGR) status giving it maximum accountability and credibility with Federal Govt.
- The Devils in Danger program is the ONLY SUSTAINABLE breeding program offering a *NO INJURY* method of breeding devils for the future
- The Devils in Danger program is the ONLY program that does not need to continually supplement with animals from the wild
- The Devils in Danger program is the ONLY program with 100% success rate over the past four years
- The Devils in Danger programs is the ONLY program to successfully breed incompatible devils in captivity
- Due the decline of wild populations, this is the only SUSTAINABLE and HUMANE way forward. Essentially, **this is a sustainable the backup plan** if a cure for DFTD is not found
- Other programs are flawed on a number of levels including wild animals supplementation, much lower breeding success rates, inhumane breeding practices, stressful captive breeding and management of animals, and breeding stock being used as display animals in mainland zoos just to mention a few glaring differences

**The implications of this program not progressing are immense and catastrophic**

## Summary of the proposed project

- The project is vital to help prevent the extinction of a species, the Tasmanian devil. To undertake this project we have put together the most successful breeding program for devils ever developed. We have been granted a long-term lease on private land at Launceston and approval to build a facility and support of various organizations in the form of varied sponsorships.
- We have the vast expertise of our sponsor base for the breeding program, devil management, building and construction of the centre, design and set up of facility and ongoing running of the entire venture.
- The project involves the building and maintenance of a facility that will be the **only** Quarantine *No Injury* Breeding Facility for Tasmanian devils in the world. It will be the primary facility to train animal handlers and offer school and college based curricular studies with devils and to breed Tasmanian devils humanely with *No Injury*, which is currently not being done anywhere else in the world.
- This program has the highest success rate ever for successive captive breeding of Tasmanian devils. To date, our innovative program has had 100% success rate. Compared to traditional results, which have been around 5-7%, our program provides a superior method in both results and humane based criteria.

The Tasmanian devil, as our iconic species, is important to the community both economically and ecologically. Our integrity and ethical stand will help promote this important cause.

- Goals of the Foundation include assisting private and government research teams working on the Devil Facial Tumour Disease. Funds raised are also utilized to purchase remote surveillance equipment for researching the progress and onslaught of DFTD in wild devil populations.
- The project will also help to raise awareness in Australia and worldwide about the plight our Tasmanian devils faced with DFTD in Tasmania and to inform people of what they can do to help.
- Visitors who come to the centre will learn via the interpretation centre (incorporating Dreamtime interpretations) and tours, relax in the café knowing their contribution is making a difference to the cultural heritage of Tasmania for theirs and future generations of Tasmanians.

## Don't Let Our Devils Become Angels

