

AZA 2024 Annual Conference



Hosted by [Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo](#)

The Annual Conference is the largest, most comprehensive zoo and aquarium professionals' event in the country. Attending the AZA Annual Conference provides opportunities to:

- Explore ideas and best practices with more than 150 education program sessions, poster presentations, and round-table topic discussions;
- Hear updates from and observe meetings of over 75 AZA Committees, SAFE, and Animal Programs (TAGs, SSPs, SAGs);
- Discover successes and lessons learned from a community of veterans and young professionals – large and small facilities alike;
- Experience new technology and services in a diverse Exhibit Hall featuring more than 150 companies and organizations showcasing their latest products;
- Connect with more than 2,000 dedicated colleagues at AZA-accredited aquariums and zoos who share a common vision to protect and save species.

Date & Time

September 14, 2024 - September 19, 2024

Location

Calgary, AB

Contact Information

Name: AZA Meetings Department

Email: azameetings@aza.org

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Schedule At A Glance

Schedule is subject to change. View the [Full Conference Schedule](#) for more detailed information.

All meetings, program sessions, General Session events, and Exhibit Hall events will take place at the BMO Centre on Stampede Park. Accreditation Hearings and Executive Leadership Development Program will take place at the Calgary Marriott Downtown.

Important! There are two Convention Centers located in Calgary. The AZA Annual Conference will take place at the BMO Centre on Stampede Park, not the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre. The BMO Centre on Stampede Park is located about a mile from the downtown hotels.

Saturday, September 14	
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Accreditation Hearings (closed)
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Executive Leadership Development Program (invite onl
All Day	Pre-Conference Tours (additional fee)

Sunday, September 15

7:00 AM - 5:30 PM	Registration Open
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Committee, SAFE, and Animal Program Meetings
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Accreditation Hearings (closed)
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Conference Workshop: Human Wellbeing Workshop: Learn How to Engage and Develop Leadership Practices to Support Your People (additional fee)
All Day	Pre-Conference Tours (additional fee)

Monday, September 16

7:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Registration Open
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Committee, SAFE, and Animal Program Meetings
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Accreditation Hearings (closed)
5:00 PM - 9:30 PM	Icebreaker at Heritage Park

Tuesday, September 17

7:00 AM - 5:30 PM	Registration Open
7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Light Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Opening General Session
9:30 AM - 6:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Open Grand Opening - 9:30 am-10:30 am
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Lunch
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Directors' Meeting <i>Open to directors of accredited and certified institutions only</i>
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Party-On-The-Floor Exhibit Hall Reception
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	The Evening Buzz
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Directors' Dinner <i>invitation only</i>

Wednesday, September 18

7:00 AM - 5:30 PM	Registration Open
7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Light Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM	General Session
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Concurrent Sessions
11:45 AM - 1:30 PM	Honors & Awards Lunch
1:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Open
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	AZA Board of Directors Meeting
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	Refreshment Break in the Exhibit Hall
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Poster Reception in Exhibit Hall

Thursday, September 19

7:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Registration Open
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Concurrent Sessions
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Refreshment Break
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Concurrent Sessions
12:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Zoo Day at Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo

