

# **Cochrane Polar Bear Habitat making progress on redesign initiative**

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**Body**

COCHRANE - The Cochrane ***Polar Bear*** Habitat is making progress on its efforts to redesign some of its exhibits.

The habitat received a $75,000 grant in October to hire Science North for the project

The first phase of the project is developing a high-level concept plan which involving in-person workshops, development of key messages and goals and a review of existing exhibits and refurbishment opportunities, said Amy Baxendell-Young, the habitat's manager. She was at Cochrane council on March 12 to update members about what's been happening at the facility.

SEE: ***Polar bear*** habitat receives $75K grant

“And so we've kind of kicked that off straight away really. We're going to be having two brainstorming sessions with a few different stakeholders from the community in the area on what kind of concepts and themes we want to bring together,” she said.

Once that phase of the project is completed, she said they will begin connecting with donors and corporate sponsors, “some of which have already shown interest in supporting the project.”

The current exhibits in the facility are close to 10 years old, Baxendell-Young said.

“So we're really excited to get these upgrades done… There’s a lot that needs to be updated with what we've learnt. And it's really going to help to bring that tourism in as well,” she said.

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