

Listed 16 Mar 2017

Advertiser: Zoo and Aquarium Association Australasia

## Executive Director

The Zoo and Aquarium Association Australasia (ZAA) is committed to harnessing the collective strengths of member zoos and aquariums to protect biodiversity and influence community attitudes.

We are looking for an experienced Executive Director, who shares our vision and values, has the expertise to provide strategic internal and external leadership and who will provide our members with strong representation and advocacy.

This is an opportunity to work with a great team in an amazing environment with a membership of people who are passionate about animals, community action and wildlife conservation.

The role requires a leader with a track record of enhancing teams and delivering results. Reporting to the President of ZAA and the ZAA Board, the successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management and performance of the Association. Specific responsibilities include developing and implementing strategies for the regional zoo and aquarium sector; budget, financial and staff management; providing advocacy and advice on wildlife conservation and animal welfare; and effectively managing member, community and government relations.

To be successful in the role, you will need to demonstrate strong skills in team management and a drive for results in member services, the operation and development of regional species management programs and the ZAA member accreditation program. Knowledge of best practice in zoo and aquarium strategy and operations is needed to support the members to collectively enhance healthy and sustainable wildlife and zoo and aquarium populations, promote positive community attitudes towards zoo and aquariums and provide strategic advice to stakeholders, particularly government.

The challenges for this role include:

- Leading strategy development and implementation for a complex and diverse membership organisation.
- Developing a strategic plan that can address the opportunities and challenges of the members in a complex operating environment.
- Influencing the perception of the Zoo and Aquarium sector and ensuring that the community and government understand the importance of the work we do.
- Maintaining Animal Welfare accreditation standards across the membership.

- Influencing global issues impacting progressive zoos and aquariums.
- Developing and managing government relationships.
- Inspiring, creating, building and sustaining teams to achieve outstanding results.
- Dealing with Media, NGO and community issues as they arise.

The successful candidate will be required to utilise outstanding communication and stakeholder management skills to influence our community and the regulatory environment to assist with our efforts to conserve species. You will also need to be able to demonstrate your ability to manage budgets, plan and prioritise workloads, monitor and report on progress against plans and develop a high performing team. You will be asked to communicate to various groups including the media on issues as they emerge.

The Executive Director and majority of the ZAA team are based in Sydney's Taronga Zoo with one ZAA Team member based in New Zealand. For further information *contact Bettina Sammut on 61-2 9978-4596.*

To apply, please email your CV and covering letter addressing how you meet the criteria for the role to ***Bettina Sammut - Bsammut@zoo.nsw.gov.au***

**Applications must be received by 17 April 2017.** We are planning to interview shortlisted candidates in late May.