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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### ZOOSHARE AND OSHAWA PUC ENERGY SERVICES PARTNER IN BIOGAS INITIATIVE

**OSHAWA, November 6, 2019:** ZooShare and Oshawa PUC Energy Services (OPUCES) have partnered to facilitate the construction of Canada's 1st zoo-based biogas plant. ZooShare's groundbreaking biogas plant transforms zoo manure and local food waste into renewable power for the Ontario grid. In support of this initiative local, provincial, and federal dignitaries, including Zoo management, will be in attendance.

**What:** ZooShare and Oshawa PUC Energy Services launch biogas plant construction.

**Who:** Executive team members and political representatives from the Toronto Zoo, ZooShare, Oshawa PUC Energy Services, The City of Oshawa, The City of Toronto, government and various sustainable NGOs.

**When:** November 12, 2019 at 1:30 pm

**Where:** Toronto Zoo Wildlife Health Centre, 361A Old Finch Avenue.

Members of the media are invited to join the partnership launch event, held at the Toronto Zoo.

For interviews or more information please contact Janet Taylor, 905-723-4626 ext 5249, jtaylor@opuc.on.ca.

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*Oshawa PUC Energy Services (OPUCES) is an unregulated subsidiary of Oshawa Power and Utilities Corporation (OPUC). OPUCES is an energy service business that operates a portfolio of clean energy projects across Ontario. OPUCES take a holistic approach to addressing the electricity and thermal energy needs of Canadian businesses and institutions to provide them with sustainable and resilient futures. OPUCES's goal is to partner with these customers to provide integrated, turnkey solutions that support the transition to a more efficient, resilient and sustainable future. For more information please visit [www.opuc.on.ca/energy-services-innovation](http://www.opuc.on.ca/energy-services-innovation).*

## **Backgrounder**

### *Who is ZooShare?*

ZooShare is a non-profit renewable energy co-operative with members across Ontario. Its mandate is to partner to develop an innovative zoo-based biogas plant that transforms zoo manure and local food waste into renewable power for the Ontario grid. This will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 10,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each year while also creating high-quality nutrient-rich agricultural fertilizer.

### *Who is Oshawa PUC Energy Services?*

Oshawa PUC Energy Services is an unregulated subsidiary of Oshawa Power and Utilities Corporation (OPUC). The ZooShare project represents OPUC's first investment in the biogas sector. This strategic investment advances OPUC's low-carbon blueprint, contributes to its portfolio expansion across Ontario, and provides leverage for additional investments in renewable natural gas (RNG) and alternative fuels.

### *Who is Toronto Zoo?*

The Toronto Zoo's mission is to be a living centre for education and science, committed to providing compelling guest experiences and inspiring passion to protect wildlife and habitats. The Zoo's vision is to be Canada's national leader in saving wildlife to ensure the rich diversity of nature for future generations.

### *Next steps -*

ZooShare will benefit from Oshawa PUC Energy Services' valuable experience as a developer, owner and operator of energy projects. The partnership creates additional investment at a time where ZooShare is celebrating its own milestone – plant construction is now underway! Nine years since the co-op was started, its vision is now achieving reality. The plant is expected to begin operations in 2020.