

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Catherine Donnelly Foundation Invests 100K to turn poo into power**

TORONTO – ZooShare, the company building North America's 1<sup>st</sup> zoo-biogas plant, has received an investment of \$100,000 from The Catherine Donnelly Foundation. The biogas plant will recycle manure from the Toronto Zoo and food waste from Canada's largest grocery chain into renewable power for the Ontario grid.

After divesting from fossil fuels late last year, the Catherine Donnelly Foundation (a lay-religious alliance that supports ecological balance and environmental sustainability) was determined to re-invest in sustainable alternatives. ZooShare was suggested as an impact investment opportunity. Jason Dudek, the newly elected Chair of the Foundation, says "[We were] attracted by the prospect of supporting...a waste-recycling, sustainable energy project complementary to the Foundation's environmental focus."

ZooShare aligns with the Foundation's environmental values. "We strongly believe there is no such thing as waste, only wasted resources," says ZooShare's Executive Director, Daniel Bida. "We are grateful to the Catherine Donnelly Foundation for helping us close the loop in energy production, and we are impressed by their impact investment leadership. They are paving the way for other institutional investors to make the choice of supporting high-impact, local projects."

ZooShare is also selling bonds to individuals, and has raised \$1.5 million from less than 300 investors. The bonds earn an annual return of 7% each year for 7 years. To learn more, please visit <http://www.zooshare.ca>

### **About ZooShare**

The ZooShare biogas plant will recycle manure from the Toronto Zoo and food waste from Canada's largest grocery chain into renewable power for the Ontario grid. This process will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of removing 2,100 cars from the road each year, and will return valuable nutrients to the soil in the form of a high-quality fertilizer.

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