

Boreal Discovery Centre

Sturgeon Aquarium

Thompson Zoo, Manitoba, Canada

Total Area: ~2,400 sf

Animal: Sturgeon at various life stages

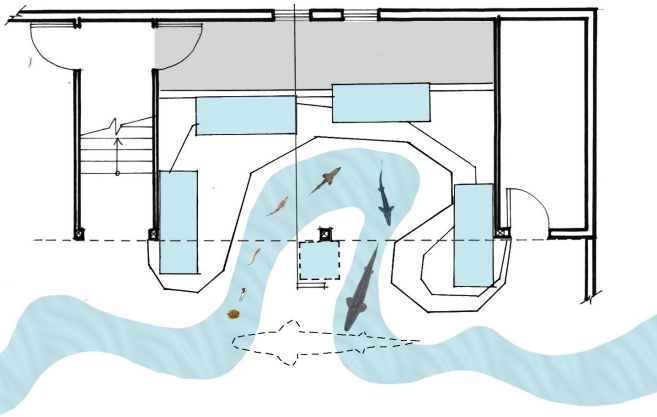
Time frame: May 2015- present

Sturgeon Fish

Concept Design

Along with the Boreal Discovery Centre Master Plan, Zoo Design Inc designed a Sturgeon Aquarium for the Thompson Zoo. This aquarium follows the life history of sturgeon, tracing them from their early embryonic and larval stages all the way to their full grown adult size of up to 13 feet. A touch tank gives visitors the opportunity to get up-close and personal with young sturgeon. Keeping these juvenile sturgeon on rotation between on/off exhibit time will ensure their well-being.

While the aquarium space is not large enough to support full grown sturgeon, a life-size replica will hang above the visitors and as a stunning educational piece - Sturgeon the fish dinosaur. Playing off of the adjacent Burntwood River, visitors follow a journey of a river on the floor that teaches them about each life cycle stage as they see it unfold in five real life aquarium tanks in front of them. Dramatic lighting will make the tanks glow in the room and draw visitors along the river and through the life stages.



Touch tank displaying young sturgeon
a snapshot from animation created by ZDI

