

For Immediate Release: Friday, May 13th



## VANCOUVER AQUARIUM WELCOMES NEWBORN GOELDI'S MONKEY

**Vancouver, B.C.** – The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre recently welcomed a new addition to the Graham Amazon Gallery. Ginger, our female Goeldi's monkey, gave birth on the morning of April 16, 2011. This new addition makes it a family of four members.

"Mother and baby are doing very well," says Dr. Dennis Thoney, director of Animal Operations. Staff and volunteers, have been closely monitoring the baby since birth to ensure the newborn was nursing and bonding properly.

The family now consists of the new baby, Ginger (mother), Fred (father), and Diego (older brother). Typically, when Goeldi's monkeys give birth, the mother is known to be protective of her offspring and spend the majority of time bonding with it first. She carries it on her back and the minuscule baby blends in with the mother's fur. As time progresses, she will allow the other members of the family to bond with it and participate in the rearing of her young.

Ginger has been allowing Fred, the father, to carry the baby for short periods. "Over the next week or so, we expect her to allow Diego, the older brother, to come closer and examine the new baby, providing more interactions between them as the baby grows more independent," Thoney adds. "It's certainly is an exciting period for us as we have only been home to this family for a few months. The entire family has settled in nicely and is a great addition to the Amazon exhibit."

### **About the Vancouver Aquarium**

The Vancouver Aquarium is a global leader in connecting people to our natural world, and a self-supporting, non-profit association dedicated to effecting the conservation of aquatic life through display and interpretation, research and direct action. Learn more at [www.vanaqua.org](http://www.vanaqua.org)

-30-

**Note: Footage and stills are available to media.**

### **Media Contact:**

Roxanne St-Pierre  
Communications Advisor  
604-659-3752  
[roxanne.st-pierre@vanaqua.org](mailto:roxanne.st-pierre@vanaqua.org)