



November 26, 2007

**Prepared by S/Sgt. Fred PINNOCK
NCO i/c IIGET**

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INDEX

Tab "A"	Agenda
Tab "B"	Minutes from Board Meeting from 07JUL25
Tab "C"	IIGET Semi Annual Status Report
Tab "D"	IIGET Mid Level Initiatives - An Overview

INTEGRATED ILLEGAL GAMING ENFORCEMENT TEAM (IIGET)

Consultative Board Meeting

**Monday, November 26th, 2007, 1 - 3pm
Police Services Division, 405 – 815 Hornby Street, Vancouver**

Meeting Agenda

- 1. Adoption of Minutes/Agenda**
- 2. IIGET Status Report**
- 2. IIGET Effectiveness Review (in camera: Consultative Board members only)**
- 4. Renewal of the IIGET MOU**
- 5. Other Items**

INTEGRATED ILLEGAL GAMING ENFORCEMENT TEAM (IIGET)

Consultative Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 25th, 2007, 1 - 3pm
Police Services Division, 405 – 815 Hornby Street, Vancouver

Meeting Minutes

Attending:	Kevin Begg, Chair	Police Services Division
	Curt Albertson	Police Services Division
	Lisa Godenzie	Police Services Division
	Graeme Hooper	Police Services Division
	Derek Sturko (by video)	Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch
	Joe Schalk	Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch
	Jamie Graham	BCACP
	Dana Hayden	BC Lottery Corporation
	Dick Bent	RCMP
	Ward Lymburman	RCMP
	Russ Nash	RCMP
	Fred Pinnock	RCMP, IIGET
	Randy Mortensen	RCMP, IIGET
Absent:	Larry Vander Graaf	Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch
	Terry Towns	BC Lottery Corporation

1. **Adoption of Minutes**

- Derek Sturko noted that a change that had previously been requested via email had not yet been made. The minutes will be updated and re-circulated.
- The minutes were otherwise adopted.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

- The agenda was adopted.

3. **IIGET Status Report** (Fred Pinnock)

- Fred Pinnock provided a summary of the IIGET status report.
- IIGET received direction at the last Consultative Board meeting to focus on mid-level targets. In June, following this shift, a number of mid-level targets were taken down.

- IIGET is producing two DVDs to distribute to police agencies across BC to increase awareness about illegal gaming. It is anticipated that these will lead to an increase in the number of tips being provided to IIGET.
- IIGET and GPEB issued 2200 warning letters to all liquor licence holders, informing them about illegal gaming, particularly Texas hold'em.
- IIGET returned \$313,000 in unspent funds from the 2006/07 budget.
- Fred indicated that BCLC, GPEB and IIGET had established an informal media protocol. Media requests on issues of common interest will be treated on an individual basis, with communication between parties. Fred would forward all information to Dick Bent, who would forward to PSD.
- Derek Sturko suggested that BCLC, GPEB and IIGET need to coordinate how they present issues, such as loan sharking, to ensure consistent messaging. He suggested that the police agency of the jurisdiction should be the agency speaking regarding a specific investigation.

Action: Derek Sturko to set up meeting between BCLC, GPEB and IIGET regarding common messaging and themes.

- Jamie Graham noted the importance of putting information on websites. Derek Sturko suggested that IIGET and GPEB should have links between their respective websites.

Action: GPEB and IIGET to set up links between their respective websites.

- Jamie Graham expressed interest in having VPD members seconded to IIGET. Dick Bent said that there could be up to 3 positions available for municipal secondments, depending on vacancies. These openings would be sent out to BCAMPC, who would notify all independent police agencies.

Action: Jamie Graham to discuss VPD secondments to IIGET with VPD human resources, who will contact the RCMP to discuss the matter.

4. Renewal of the IIGET MOU (Kevin Begg)

- The IIGET MOU expires in 8 months. The MOU requires that the Consultative Board arrange for an effectiveness review after 2 years of operation. This review should be completed before the MOU is renewed.
- **Action: GPEB and PSD will coordinate to produce terms of reference for the effectiveness review, and circulate.**

5. Other Items

- Dick Bent suggested that if the MOU is renewed, the BCACP rep should be changed to a BCAMPC rep, as there is already representation on the board from the RCMP.
- Jamie Graham acknowledged that this was his last IIGET meeting before retiring. He suggested that the next BCACP rep should also be from VPD, given the proliferation of illegal gaming in Vancouver.

Action: Jamie Graham will discuss this matter with the BCACP.

- There was some discussion about pursuing a dedicated prosecutor for IIGET/gaming offences. This has been raised in the past. It will be revisited if the MOU is renewed.

6. Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be scheduled for the fall.

IIGET STATUS REPORT

07NOV26

At the last IIGET Consultative Board Meeting held on 07JUL25, the commitment to continue to focus upon mid level enforcement targets for the next reporting period was endorsed by the Board.

Acknowledging the three founding principles of education, intelligence and enforcement which led to the creation of IIGET, the Board was informed of an ambitious education blitz scheduled for the next few months. With a target of one hundred 'in person' presentations set for the period between 07SEP01 and 07DEC31, in addition to broad dissemination of the previously discussed DVDs throughout the province, the IIGET message is "out there" as never before. To date, eighty-six presentations have been directed primarily at law enforcement (both municipal and RCMP), but also to partner agencies such as LCLB and CRA.

It is anticipated that this will result in thousands of police officers and regulatory officials acting as "eyes and ears" for IIGET, providing new intelligence on mid level target locations throughout the province. The primary offences to be targeted are:

1. Common Gaming Houses
2. Video Gaming Machines

Other initiatives within this education blitz are:

1. DVDs added to regular curriculum on a number of investigative training courses held at the Pacific Regional Training Centre in Chilliwack.
2. A Divisional Advisory (internal).
3. IIGET's internal website was created.
4. IIGET's external website is linked with that of Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch.
5. Operational policy was published to elevate internal awareness of the IIGET Program.

AGBC Support for IIGET Initiatives -

Leading up to the enforcement blitz conducted in June of 2007, dialogue between IIGET's unit commander and AGBC was considerable. Fifty-seven people were brought before the courts and eight common gaming houses were shut down by IIGET. Since that time, Criminal Code charges have been approved with consistency, and disclosure is nearly complete in all cases.

It is clear that these preliminary conversations between IIGET and AGBC contributed significantly toward preparing the various Regional Crown offices for the incoming volume and unique complexities of Part VII of the Criminal Code which pertains to illegal gaming offences.

IIGET is pleased with the response of Provincial Crown Counsel to our enforcement efforts to date. Several significant mid level enforcement initiatives are nearing completion, and IIGET can be expected to forward between sixty and eighty additional mid level criminal charges for approval through AGBC between December 2007 and February 2008 as a result of current ongoing projects.

STATISTICS -

See Effectiveness Review

BUDGET -

As of 07NOV20, IIGET is confirmed to be on track for a small budget surplus at the end of fiscal year 2007/08.

PARTNERSHIP between RCMP and GPEB -

GPEB continues to uphold their commitment to deal with low level illegal gaming enforcement. Restricted from assisting the RCMP in some forms of law enforcement activity, GPEB personnel continue to provide excellent service during takedowns of mid level criminal enterprises targeted by the RCMP.

GPEB is consistent in expressing a desire to assist more fully with IIGET initiatives in partnership with the RCMP, however, resource limitations are such that they are unable to meet their commitment as set out within the MOU.

RCMP IIGET understands the GPEB position, and is supportive of their desire for expanded resourcing in furtherance of the partnership.

Mid Level Enforcement - A three year synopsis:

Mid level illegal gaming offences consist of the following four criminal categories:

- common gaming houses
- VGM locations
- pyramid schemes
- animal fighting

A detailed written summary was provided as part of the IIGET Report to the Board in advance of the 07JUL25 meeting. Thirteen mid level projects have been completed by IIGET between 2005 and 2007, with the following results:

- twelve (12) common gaming houses taken down.
- eight (8) VGM locations taken down.
- one pyramid scheme taken down (all money recovered /3700 investors protected)
- one animal fighting ring (with a betting component) is scheduled for takedown in December.

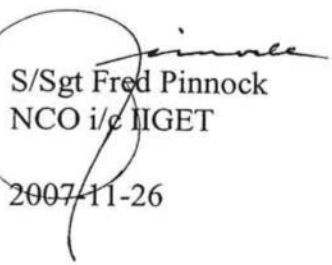
NOTE: In terms of high level targeting, IIGET remains committed in support of the international internet gaming case being led by V3: Operational File - Current [REDACTED]. The bulk of 2006 was consumed with IIGET gathering a significant volume of evidence on Canadian soil in relation to this matter. This commitment had been previously endorsed by the Consultative Board. V3: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Operati

Projected Outcome if Resourcing Model remains unchanged:

As identified by NCO i/c IIGET in previous submissions to the Consultative Board, this unit's present capacity to target at both mid and high levels is extremely limited. Foundation documents leading to the creation of IIGET refer to activity such as bookmaking, internet gaming, money laundering, loansharking, and VGM distribution as offences to be targeted. This unit did attempt to respond at this level in 2006, which resulted in reduced production at the mid level that year. IIGET's resourcing model is sufficient to address only mid level illegal gaming activity at this time.

In an effort to address this incapacity, a Business Case was submitted on 07JUL20 to Deputy CROPS (Contract), which identified resourcing options for consideration. Included within the recommendations was a municipal policing component within an expanded model, as a result of the volume of intelligence pertaining to target locations within municipal policing jurisdictions.

While maintaining a focus upon mid level targets is more than manageable, IIGET is foreclosed from achieving significant results in higher level illegal gaming investigation at current resource levels.



S/Sgt Fred Pinnock
NCO i/c IIGET

2007-11-26