

405-815 HORNBY

**INDEX**

- Tab"A".....Agenda
- Tab"B".....Semi-Annual IIGET Status Report
- Tab"C".....Final Expenditure Report
- Tab"D".....IIGET Performance Report (since inception)
- Tab"E".....Combined IIGET Statistical Reports by fiscal year

### **IIGET STATUS REPORT**

At the last IIGET Consultative Board Meeting held on 06DEC01, direction from the Board was as follows:

**- IIGET will maintain its commitment to an ongoing international investigation targeting at the high level.**

**- IIGET will focus the bulk of its resources upon the enforcement of identified mid level targets. Mid level illegal gaming activity consists of:**

- a) possession of video gaming machines (VGMs)**
- b) common gaming houses**
- c) animal fighting**
- d) pyramid schemes**

**- IIGET will not take on additional high level targets in the short to medium term, subject to further review by the Board.**

**- The Board is at liberty to revise and adjust these terms as necessary.**

IIGET has followed this direction.

1. It is acknowledged that IIGET's current establishment of twelve regular police officers will not permit effective targeting of high level organized crime groups without significantly impacting enforcement efforts focused upon more visible illegal gaming activity such as common gaming houses.

2. IIGET will continue to support our U.S. law enforcement partners in a joint international investigation focusing upon **V3: Operational File - Current** a strong Canadian component.

**V2: Police Investigative Technique**

. They have taken the position that they will support an asset sharing agreement with our provincial government, given the contributions made by this unit. It is anticipated that the U.S. will indict this **V3: Operational** company in **V3: Operational**

3. The foundation documents leading to the creation of IIGET clearly refer to an expectation that the investigation and enforcement of high level activity such as internet gaming and bookmaking will be part of the IIGET mandate. During previous reporting periods, it has been clear that targeting at this higher level has been at the expense of more visible, mid level targeting. The recent shift back to mid level targeting is reflected in the attached statistical report, with a total of sixty five criminal charges being prepared for review by Crown Counsel from the last quarter. This is the result of a recent enforcement blitz which has seen eight common gaming houses being shut down throughout the province in recent weeks. GPEB contributed significantly to this successful initiative.

4. As a further demonstration of IIGET's commitment to mid level enforcement, a province-wide intelligence probe is being coordinated by our North District office. Focusing upon all policing jurisdictions within British Columbia, IIGET is utilizing a number of mechanisms intended to have patrol officers throughout the province act as our "eyes and ears" in identifying all locations where VGMs and illegal poker rooms are operating. Through the use of an "electronic briefing" to be circulated among municipal and RCMP detachments it is anticipated that scores of enforcement opportunities will surface for IIGET. When one considers IIGET's founding tenets of intelligence, education and enforcement, this five minute audio visual communicate satisfies all three requirements. Production is complete and circulation to all police agencies throughout the province is imminent.

With the assistance of the RCMP Strategic Communications Unit, "E" Division, additional training and intelligence gathering processes are being developed. The result of these parallel initiatives will be an organized and strategic plan to interdict these venues in all four regions, once we plot their specific locations. IIGET's goal is to identify one hundred venues utilizing these various mechanisms, with a view to follow up enforcement.

5. Another mid level enforcement success was recently realized by IIGET resulting from the conviction of a Vancouver Island man for the operation of a pyramid scheme. This scheme targeted over 3700 victims, primarily residents of British Columbia. All money has been recovered on behalf of the investors and, after a five week trial in BC Supreme Court, Martin Blackwell was convicted of Fraud in addition to two lesser criminal offences. He was fined \$40,000.00 as part of his sentence. Best investigative practices were developed in this case, and tremendous contributions were received from both GPEB and Industry Canada throughout.
6. IIGET is immersed in a lengthy investigation into animal fighting, in partnership with the SPCA. It is anticipated that enforcement will result within a month or two once the requisite evidence is gathered.
7. Other mid level projects are underway, with no specific takedown dates identified.

#### **IIGET OFFICE RENOVATION - Progress Report**

This renovation is nearly complete, with a few minor repairs outstanding. A few IIGET investigators have been occupying the space since February on a full time basis in support of several ongoing projects. In anticipation of the GPEB hirings in the LMD office, the rest of the RCMP IIGET contingent moved to the new space, creating room for these new employees. The IIGET space has the capacity to house twenty-two employees, with work stations available to accommodate several GPEB investigators where required..

This move to the new space has had no chilling effect upon the working relationship between agencies. Dialogue is ongoing on a daily basis. This is seen not only at the managerial level, but at all ranks.

#### **BUDGET**

**Filling of RCMP Vacancies.** Eleven of the twelve Regular Member positions are occupied, with the Sergeant vacancy to be resolved by way of promotion in August.

#### **Budgetary performance for the 2006/07 fiscal year.**

\$313,985.00 of the \$1.9 M budget has been returned to the provincial government upon conclusion of fiscal year 2006/07. Final expenditure report is attached.



