



## MEMORANDUM

### CONFIDENTIAL

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2013 November 20

**TO: Joe Schalk, Senior Director**  
**Investigations and Regional Director, LMD**  
**Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, Investigations and Regional Operations Division**

**FROM: Derek Dickson**  
**Director of Casino Investigations, LMD**

**SUBJECT: Organized Crime Groups operating at or near LMD casinos.**

As a result of ongoing and now further recent intelligence received from different police agencies, it is confirmed that the influence and existence of several Organized Crime (OC) groups in Lower Mainland (LMD) casinos is expanding. All casinos in the LMD have had known associates of OC groups within their venues, however the situation has become an increasing and even more significant issue at the River Rock Casino in Richmond.

GPEB Investigators have identified a number of loan sharks and associates of loan sharks that have been confirmed as affiliated to different OC groups, who are primarily supplying large sums of cash to a significant number of predominantly Asian patrons. These OC associates have criminal backgrounds that include:

- Kidnapping
- Forcible Confinement
- Possession of Restricted Firearms
- Human Trafficking
- Prostitution/Bawdy House
- Drug Trafficking
- Marijuana Grows
- Fraud
- Sexual Assault
- Illegal Gaming House
- Illegal Cigarettes, Counterfeit Merchandise
- Home Invasion

These individuals and other unidentified associates operate in the area of a casino and are also known to utilize local businesses as meeting points where large sums of money are exchanged with the Asian patrons. It is also common for some patrons to remove one or more bags of money from a vehicle at or near a gaming venue and then enter the venue to gamble. On other occasions patrons can be seen entering a vehicle as it drives up to, or is already parked in front of, a venue and then drive away. Within a few minutes the same vehicle returns and the same patron who previously got into the vehicle now exits and enters the venue carrying a large sum of money contained in a bag.

Recent troubling information was received regarding two known patrons. One was identified as an international drug trafficker who is known to carry a firearm. The second is a known member of an OC group and has frequented numerous casinos in the LMD during the past few months.

### Public Interest Immunity


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Police of jurisdiction confirmed that they were aware that this type of activity was occurring in and around the venue and that members of Organized Crime groups are involved.

### Conclusions

1. It is believed that the presence of Organized Crime groups in and around LMD casinos and intervention by our GPEB Investigators involved in investigations related to these types of people could present a safety hazard to them and others. As an organization, GPEB Investigations is not equipped to investigate or interact with known members and associates of OC groups. The criminal backgrounds and levels of violence employed by these individuals, in my opinion, completely rules out any interdiction strategies directed at curtailing the flow of suspicious currency/loan sharking/money laundering activities in LMD casinos.
2. The amount of suspicious cash being brought into the LMD casinos continues to increase. In conjunction with this, the increasing presence of OC groups in and around the venues also continues to increase the risk posed to the overall integrity of gaming in the Province.

This information is being provided for consideration in our ongoing processes in relation to Money Laundering issues associated with gaming in British Columbia.

  
Derek Dickson, Director, Casino Investigations  
Investigations and Regional Operations Division  
Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch

*Joe*  
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*minutes*  
*Thanks*  
*Just comment in*  
*conclusion #1*  
*Shuebs*