

Ministry of Finance
BRIEFING DOCUMENT

To: John Mazure
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Finance

Date Requested: Jan 23/2017
Date Required:

Initiated by: Len Meilleur
Executive Director
Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch

Date Prepared: Jan 24/2017

Ministry
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[Cliff #]

TITLE: Police Presence in BC Casinos – Start Date January 28, 2017

PURPOSE
 FOR INFORMATION AWARENESS – LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE – NOT FOR RELEASE BEYOND ADM LEVEL GPEB.

COMMENTS: This note is to provide awareness of a planned police presence in BC casinos outlining the agencies involved, who has been briefed and a planned communication strategy subsequent to the event.

Executive Director approval: _____ ADM approval: _____ Associate DM approval: _____

DATE PREPARED: 2017 January 24

TITLE: Police Presence in Lower Mainland Casinos – January 28, 2017

BACKGROUND: Police have suspicion, on reasonable grounds to believe that cash is allegedly entering Casinos as the proceeds of crime. Police will, under the Authority of the Criminal Code, and specifically the Proceeds of Crime Part XII.2 Criminal Code of Canada, enter, observe and with gathered evidence conduct an investigation that may include the seizure of cash. All efforts will be utilized to be respectful of the business operations being conducted at each location of these investigations. Police will be in plain clothes, meaning non-uniformed.

DISCUSSION:

The operation which was devised by police is planned to commence on January 28, 2017 which is within the period which Chinese New Year is celebrated and is a historically a busy time for casinos in the Lower Mainland.

The Parties involved in the operation will primarily be the Police – principally the Joint Illegal Gambling Investigation Team (JIGIT) of the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU) along with the Police of Jurisdiction, Richmond Detachment, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch (GPEB) will provide support as required and to a limited degree BCLC security staff.

The briefing of all involved is ongoing including police senior management, BCLC and gaming services providers. As an awareness approach the following entities will also be briefed as to the objectives and methodology of these potential investigations:

- British Columbia Lottery Corporation
- Designated Service Providers
 - Great Canadian Gaming Corporation – River Rock & Hard Rock Casino
 - Gateway Casinos & Entertainment Limited – Starlight, Cascades & Grand Villa Casinos
 - Paragon Gaming – Edgewater Casino

Post Event Strategy: At present there is no immediate intended media presentation planned. Should there be any media enquiries they will be managed through the CFSEU Media Relations Office and the Executive Director of GPEB Compliance will be engaged prior to ensure GPEB is informed. GPEB staff will be on site during this operation and will update the Executive Director of any seizures being made.

This is and remains a police investigation of some sensitivity. Information in this note was provided by Manager Ken Ackles, i/c of GPEB members seconded to JIGIT.

John Mazure
Assistant Deputy Minister

Date