



City of Richmond

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**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 28, 2002**

**1. Correspondence received on expansion of Gaming after Thursday, May 23, 2002 and prior to the Tuesday, May 28, 2002 Special Council Meeting**

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| <b>1</b>   | 55 Submissions received "In Support" of the Gaming Policy. (88 submissions received in total)    |
| <b>79</b>  | 76 Submissions received "In Opposition" to the Gaming Policy. (95 submissions received in total) |
| <b>191</b> | 5 Submissions received "Neutral" to the Gaming Policy.   |

## **SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON GAMING POLICY – “IN SUPPORT”**

### **Submissions received after Thursday, May 23, 2002 and prior to the Tuesday, May 28, 2002 Special Council Meeting**

1. Marius Popescu
2. Frank Tofin, #1406 – 6611 Minoru Boulevard, Richmond
3. Bob Ferguson  
Anne & Tony Hirsch, 5420 Granville Avenue, Richmond  
Ellen Krisby, 11671 Woodhead Road, Richmond  
Tiny & Vic Zarski, #3 – 9651 Dayton Avenue, Richmond  
Donna Ferguson, 10300 Springmont Drive, Richmond  
Pat, Gary & Ken Perkins, 8431 No. 2 Road, Richmond  
Nora Beale, 11731 Woodhead Road, Richmond
4. [REDACTED], Richmond
5. Edna Fullerton, 682 English Bluff Road, Tsawwassen
6. Form letter e-mail – with 4 names of Richmond residents
7. Elizabeth Connor, #905 – 6611 Minoru Boulevard, Richmond
8. Arthur Chin
9. Corinne Morgan
10. Dale & Joanne Spink, #25 – 11100 Railway Avenue, Richmond
11. Terrence R. Murphy, Richmond
12. Elham Kharazmi, 3980 Lockhard Road, Richmond
13. Jim Wilson
14. Norma Wilson, 6380 Constable Drive, Richmond
15. J.B. Krikler
16. Dale Floyd, #209 – 8680 Lansdowne Road, Richmond
17. Irene Dunlop & Ruth Coombes
18. June McGregor, 7280 Ledway Road, Richmond

19. V. Larry Hillman, Richmond
20. Cheryl E. Carpenter, #11 – 10200 Fourth Avenue, Richmond
21. Pushpa w Naidu
22. W. Kwantes, 17220 Fedoruk Road, Richmond
23. Frank & Marg Moore, Richmond
24. Bob & Diana Anson
25. Mare Breen
26. Kathy Fiddes, Richmond
27. Susan Pike, 11840 Montego Street, Richmond
28. Shirley Medd, 10880 Southport Road, Richmond
29. J.W. (Bill) Sorenson
30. Richard Goertzen, 8880 Moore Road, Richmond
31. J. Donaldson, Richmond
32. Form letter e-mail – with 72 names of Richmond residents
33. Form letter e-mail – with 16 names of Richmond residents
34. Elizabeth Groves
35. Donna McKinlay
36. Lorne & Patricia Baker
37. George & Nelda Woodward, 9491 Bridgeport Road, Richmond
38. Petition signed by 6 Richmond residents
39. Tony & Celia Severs, 6011 Christina Road, Richmond
40. Glenda Johnson, 10340 Reynolds Drive, Richmond
41. C.S.

42. Ran Rai
43. Richard Malsbury, Richmond
44. AFM Hospitality Corporation, 10211 St. Edwards Drive, Richmond, with accompanying petition signed by 33 Richmond residents
45. Petition from Dock Marlin's Pub & Restaurant signed by 239 individuals
46. Edward & Stella Tokarczyk, 10271 No. 4 Road, Richmond
47. Lynne & Dave Gregory, Richmond
48. 2 additional letters in support of the submission from Great Canadian Casino
49. Jim Howard, Richmond
50. Elizabeth Groves
51. Pauline Thompson
52. Anita Howard, Richmond
53. Don & Shirl Gelz, 9340 Pinewell Crescent, Richmond
54. Terry Lemon
55. Petition signed by 5 Richmond residents

May 24, 2002

Mayor and Council  
City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, B.C.  
V6Y 2C1

To Mayor and Council,

In preparation for the May 28<sup>th</sup> Special Council Meeting on Gaming Policy, our Company has forwarded to you a package containing problem gambling scientific research material, and other relevant information associated with the gaming issue.

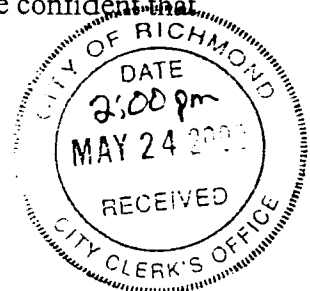
We aim to correct the misstatements and misconceptions that many have with the casino industry, and also set forth to ensuring that your decision on the gaming debate will be based on accurate and applicable information.

We respectfully ask the Mayor and Council to support our position to change the Municipal Gaming Policy to allow a casino to operate slot machines. Furthermore, the City of Richmond should not consider allowing more than one casino, as proven by our research into this issue. Material in the aforementioned package will indicate to you that this is the right economical and social decision to make.

Great Canadian Casinos is the casino pioneer in British Columbia and brings with it 20 years of operating history. Our Company is committed to working with the City of Richmond to promote tourism and economic development. We are dedicated to the community, as can be seen by our 15 years of business at the present site, in addition to the relocation of our corporate offices to Richmond 7 years ago. It has been, and continues to be, our intent to relocate and develop the casino at Bridgepoint Market.

In response to the April 12<sup>th</sup> letter from the Deputy Solicitor General's Office to your Policy Planning Department, Great Canadian has filed a writ in the Supreme Court of British Columbia to dispute the decision made by government with regards to companies who are eligible to relocate.

After careful consideration of the proper facts and information presented, we are confident that you will make the sound decision to permit a casino with slots.

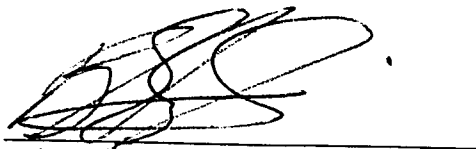


We thank you for your time and welcome you to contact us should the need arise.

Sincerely,

**GREAT CANADIAN CASINOS INC.**

Per:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Brian Egli", written over a horizontal line.

Brian Egli  
Executive Vice President

**RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL**

**BRIEFING MATERIAL**

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 28, 2002**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**PROBLEM GAMBLING**

**Synopsis**

A number of Canadian and British Columbia studies conducted during the past decade confirm earlier North American studies that approximately 2 ½ - 3% of those that gamble have a gambling problem.

They also confirm that the decision to gamble is a conscious one; that is, it is a deliberate entertainment decision where players are both psychologically and financially prepared to play. Studies confirm that where gaming devices (table games and slot machines) are not in a gaming environment like a casino, the addiction factor virtually doubles due to:

- the broader exposure and convenient availability of gaming devices to the general public; and,
- the spontaneous nature of the decision to game.

**Main Facts:**

- Between 82% and 87% of British Columbians gamble;
- Approximately 10% of the 2 ½ - 3% of problem gamblers game in casinos;
- The addiction rate is cut almost in half when gaming devices such as slot machines and VLT's are located in casinos or casino like environments (since players are more likely to be psychologically and financially prepared);
- Studies confirm that problem gamblers are attracted primarily to games that require skill and/or judgement such as certain types of VLT games (e.g video poker) and casino table games (slot machines possess neither characteristic).

By way of an anecdotal example, in 1996, the State of South Dakota decided to put gaming devices in convenience stores and other similar locations. Almost immediately, concerns began to emerge when reports of people paying \$100 for a loaf of bread began to surface and controls over minors playing were non-existent. The State very quickly removed these devices from these locations and consolidated them in gaming like environments. As a result, the addiction factor dropped significantly and has since levelled out at the North American average between 2 ½ - 3%.

The following are relevant excerpts from copies studies contained in this document.

**"British Columbia Lottery Corporation Consolidation - February 2002"**

- A consolidation of nine studies of gambling in Canada and specific Canadian jurisdictions.
- *Key Findings:*
  - 82% - 87% of the population gamble.
  - 74% on government lotteries, 39% non-government lotteries (i.e. ticket raffles), **17% in casinos and slot machines** and 12% on bingo. (*Note: Total exceeds 100% since a number of gamblers enjoy more than one type of gaming experience*).
  - 70% of Canadians believe VLT's should only be available in casinos and racetracks.
  - 92% - 96% of those that gamble are considered to be no risk (82%) or low risk (12%) to problem gambling.
  - less than 2% considered to be problem gamblers.
  - problem gamblers are:
    - most likely to participate in all forms of gambling activity except ticket raffles.
    - single or divorced low income earners;
    - most likely to be male aged 19 - 24.

**"Adult Gambling and Problem Gambling Gambling In Alberta, 1998 - Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission"**

- An annual review
- *Key Findings:*
  - 87.4% of the population gamble, a decline of 2.9% over 1994.
  - 75% participate in government lotteries, 63% in ticket raffles, 37% on instant win tickets, 21% on VLT's, less than 10% in casinos.
  - 4.8% were considered problem gamblers compared to 5.4% in 1994.
  - problem gamblers more likely to be male, under age 30, have a lower education and personal income.

**"Gambling In Canada - A Report By The National Council On Welfare - Winter, 1996"**

- Covers statistical information gathered from all ten Canadian provinces.
- Examines data gathered from independent studies commissioned by provincial governments carried out between 1989 and 1996 in eight provinces covering:
  - lotteries;
  - charitable gaming (gaming sponsored by charitable and non-profit groups including bingos, casino nights, ticket raffles, etc);
  - horse racing;
  - casinos; and
  - video lottery terminals.
- *Key Findings:*
  - most Canadians gamble without a problem (pp11);
  - between 67% and 97% of those surveyed gamble (Table 5, pp 12)
  - favourite gambling activity is lotteries (pp29);
  - 97% of British Columbians gamble (Table 5, pp 12);
  - 2.7% - 5.4% of adults had gambling problems, 3.5% in British Columbia (pp 11 and Table 6, pp 15);
  - **problem gamblers prefer games that involve a dimension of judgement or skill (pp29);**
  - typical problem gambler is an unmarried male under age 30 (pp18) with a probability of other forms of addictions (e.g. alcohol, drugs) (pp 33);
  - no definitive links between problem gambling and low income people (pp20);
  - no correlation between level of education and problem gamblers
  - believes that:

**"....casinos are an appropriate place for VLT's....."**
  - recommends:

**"Provincial and territorial governments should consider an outright ban on video lottery terminals in places except for casinos or casino like settings"**

**"British Columbia Problem Gambling Survey 1996 - Final Report - Angus Reid Group"**

- Compares survey results with those determined through a 1993 benchmark survey.
- *Key Finding:*
  - the number of potential problems gamblers remained virtually unchanged ( a slight increase from 2.4% to 2.8% attributed to possible statistical skewing).

**"A Description Of Problem Gamblers in Alberta -  
A Secondary Analysis Of The Gambling and Problem Gambling in Alberta Study - 1994/95"**

- A secondary study to the January, 1994 Alberta Gambling and Problem Gambling in Alberta study requested by the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission to determine the prevalence of problem gaming in the Province.
- *Key Findings:*

In comparison with non-problem gamblers, problem gamblers, representing approximately 5.4% of the gambling population:

  - are likely to be under age 35, single, not married and unemployed;
  - are highschool graduates or less educated;
  - participate in every form of gaming but especially those involving continuous forms of play (e.g instant win tickets, bingo, VLT's, horse races and local casino games);
  - are attracted to games involving skill and judgement.

## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Marius Popescu [husky1978@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** May 22, 2002 11:15 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** GAMBLING

HI...

I live in Richmond and nothing stops me from going anywhere else to gamble if i want to.  
SO may as well EXPAND CASINOS in Richmond and keep the money here. We need that extra revenue here and why have richmond residents go to new west when we can have residents from the entire lower mainland coming to our NEW Richmond Casino-possibly the nicest one around.

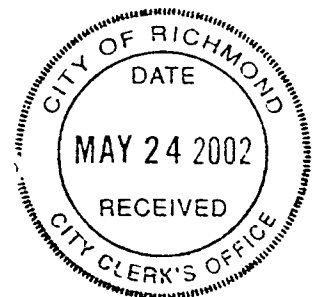
Make the right decision-i have friends outside richmond that would love to come here to gamble and it will benefit our community and u guys know it. People like me dont have time to spend hours at the cityhall listening to people with nothing better to do brag on and on about nothing and why this whole idea is bad.

Councillor Kumagai has the right idea!!!!

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**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Frank Tofin [tofin@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 23, 2002 2:08 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gaming policy

Gaming/gambling et al is inherent in most of us, and most of us respond civilly and sanely. To those others, we can't keep them within our city limits, and we can't dump them on others.

I know of none, I know of no others who know of them, so there may not be a host of them. There are some undoubtedly, but will anything we do tomorrow that will exacerbate the probability. Virtually every report alludes to the probability, but none recite or define any measurable degree, extent or cost.

We are all prone to "what if", it's our latent concern for others, and we do respond, and fortunately, our care can be born by simply enacting a contingency.

Let's let us not be moralists, but realists. Allowing slot machines have not destroyed our world - and never will - we know that - it's not a "what if". We mostly agree with the concept of "user pay". It is fair, equitable, and applicable.

If we truly believe something that we cannot prove, then let us enact a contingency fund to cover any "what if" cost. Let the users contribute to the fund - they will probably be glad to care for their kin. Heaven knows that the trade will bear cost with barely a blink.

Look at the universal acceptance of the concept of taking a chance for a good cause - and we are not addicted.

As mayor and council, you constantly weigh the good and bad having fairly heard the interminable for and agin', and you face the inevitable "what if". Your prudence suggests to embrace the net benefit - which in this case is money for mandatory good city management - with a cushion in a contingency funded by gaming.

Respectfully

Frank Tofin - 1406/6611 Minoru Blvd



## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Bob Ferguson [fergusob@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 23, 2002 6:37 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** slot machines

I am writing this letter on behalf of my parents, some of their friends and myself.

We all feel that there is nothing wrong with the addition of slot machines to the already existing gambling that goes on in Richmond.

We cannot understand how people can say that one type of gambling is any worse than any other. Why not have slot machines? It would mean more revenue for the city. Is it any worse than having several lottery terminals in the malls, gaming tables that benefit schools and charitable organizations that have casino nights, bingo and even raffles. What a double standard!!

Anne & Tony Hirsch	Ellen Krisby
5420 Granville Avenue	11671 Woodhead Road
Richmond, BC	Richmond, BC

Tiny & Vic Zarski	Donna Ferguson
#3-9651 Dayton Avenue	10300 Springmont Drive
Richmond, BC	Richmond, BC

Pat, Gary & Kent Perkins	Nora Beale
8431 No. 2 Road	11731 Woodhead Road
Richmond, BC	Richmond, BC



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** [REDACTED].net]  
**Sent:** May 23, 2002 9:32 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Full Serve Casino  
**Importance:** High  
May 23, 2002

To The Mayor and City Councillors for the City of Richmond, BC

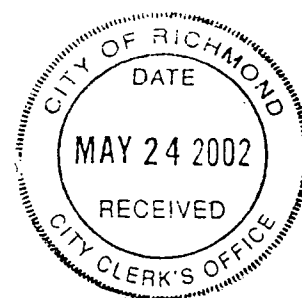
I am writing to you in **full support for a full service Casino** in the City of Richmond, BC. I feel that this city is missing out on valuable additional revenue that would be generated by a full service Casino. Yes, I currently go to the full service casinos that are located in other municipalities and would most definitely rather spend my entertainment money in my home town. The City of Richmond is missing out while the other municipalities are reaping the gains.

For those that are opposed to "slot machines", I would like to ask, "how many of you recently purchase Super 7 tickets for the 34 million dollars or how about those "scratch and wins". The only real difference is that you can purchase your lottery and scratch tickets at almost any corner grocery store or mall. I'm just not noticing a large increase in crime from all those purchasers that are scratching away to their hearts content!

**In closing, I ask that the Mayor and City Councillors for the City of Richmond support the bid for a full service casino in Richmond. Our votes go to YES for a Full Service Casino in Richmond.**

Regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Richmond



682 English Bluff Road  
Tsawwassen, B.C.  
V4M 2N4

May 23, 2002

City Clerk's Office  
Richmond City Council  
City Hall, 6911 #3 Road  
Richmond, B.C.  
V6Y 2C1

Dear Sir:

**Re: Richmond Recommendation for Full Service Casinos**

It has come to my attention that the above issue is to be addressed in Council, Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup>.

As a responsible, professional citizen of the lower mainland, I would highly recommend that you move forward in this regard and accept slot machines as part of the available services.

As all Councils are perpetually seeking more funds from various sources, it is my sincere belief that adding slots would be a desirable decision. It would increase revenue painlessly. The over-taxed homeowners and business establishments would view this as making a substantial contribution to the ever-increasing problem.

The lack of accomplishment in those municipalities not allowing full service for Casinos only serves to line the pockets of Burnaby, New Westminster and Coquitlam. Also, in the eye of the tourist – it makes us look ridiculous.

The moral issue is not a concern; the horse is out of the gate. The slot machines, in my view, are a source of entertainment for most who wish to make that choice.

Yours sincerely,



Edna Fullerton



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From : "Margaret & Itsuo Ikegami" <ikegami@telus.net>

To : "Kiichi Kumagai" <kilchikumagai@hotmail.com>

Subject : Slot Machines

Date : Wed, 22 May 2002 17:14:17 -0700

Reply Reply All Forward Delete Put in Folder...

Printer Friendly Version

Tina Konst, 201 - 8600 General Currie Road, Richmond

Mits Sakai, 19 - 4111 Garry St., Richmond

Flo & Fusao Imai, 202 - 8500 Lansdowne Rd., Richmond

Bob & Hizzy Ikegami, 10111 Defoe St., Richmond

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905-6611 Minoru Blvd.,  
Richmond, B.C.  
V6Y 1Y9

Mayor M. Brodie,  
City of Richmond, B.C.

May 22/02

Dear Sir:

RE: Slot Machines for Richmond.

I wish to cast a vote of "YES" to slot machines for Richmond and all effort be made to bring horse racing back here. Not only will it be advantageous financially for Richmond but will employ many of our citizens.

I am 86 and have paid taxes in Richmond for most of those years. My parents also lived and paid taxes here.

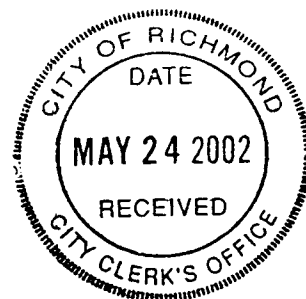
I am not a gambler and will not be patronizing their "dens." However I am not a "Dog in the Manger" and have no desire to prevent those who do enjoy this type of entertainment. Richmond can put the money this will generate to very good use.

Thank you

Yours truly

*Elizabeth Connor*

Mrs Elizabeth Connor



c.c. Richmond News

I support a full service casino

4080-04  
Page 1 of 1



Close

**From:** arthur chin [SMTP:artdchin@hotmail.com]

**To:** kkumagai@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Cc:**

**Subject:** I support a full service casino

**Sent:** 22/05/2002 8:46 PM

**Importance:** Normal

Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: [Click Here](#)



**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Corinne Morgan  
**Sent:** May 24, 2002 10:23 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gaming policy

I am a responsible adult. Just because the liquor store is at the mall, I don't go in there and purchase alcohol to take home and drink myself silly.

Because the 6/49 is down at the corner grocery, I don't go and spend all my earnings on 6/49 tickets.

And, because the church has Bingo on Wednesdays I'm not spending all my money there either.

I occasionally visit New Westminster or Burnaby for a quick bit of fun on the slot machines, followed by a bit of shopping and lunch. I sometimes take my Mom and Dad, they are in their 80's, but they aren't spending their whole pension cheques on the slots.

Can't we keep the money here in our beautiful city?. If my quarter on that slot machine buys another tulip for our beautiful medians so be it.

If slot machines are to be banned, then ban all gambling..... 6/49, pull tabs at the pubs, hospital lottery tickets, bingo at the church, raffle tickets that you buy from the school kid at the door. Either everything or nothing

Corinne Morgan



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Dale Spink [dspink@attglobal.net]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 10:42 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Richmond Gaming Policy

May 27, 2003      Re: RICHMOND GAMING POLICY

My wife and I would like to say that we strongly support expanded gaming for Richmond. What a good opportunity to relocate the present casino into the old Bridgepoint Market building. The location is easily accessible for all customers (including several nearby hotels), has more than adequate parking and would revitalize the area. The addition of slot machines would be wonderful and make it unnecessary for the many Richmonders to travel to Burnaby, New Westminster or Coquitlam to enjoy an evening of entertainment. Obviously, the increased revenues accruing to the city would be much welcomed.

Basically, it annoys us that a few organized, loud "spokespeople", both on and off the council, seem to be speaking for the general population by saying "Richmond doesn't want expanded gaming". Those of us who DO want expansion would like our voices to be heard also. Mark us down for YES to slots and expanded gaming in Richmond.

Yours truly,  
Dale and Joanne Spink  
#25 - 11100 Railway Avenue,  
Richmond, BC



## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** terrence murphy [terrytaurus@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** May 24, 2002 7:10 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Casino Approval

I apologise for not presenting this submission in person.

The Group in opposition to this resolution are well organised, and extremely vocal. However, I would suggest the volume of protest is grossly disproportionate to the Numbers involved. Might I suggest Council obtain creditable confirmation of the numbers involved. Perhaps this overwhelming concern for the Moral standards of OTHER people will lead this group to pledge and indemnify the Community for the Total of Forfeited Gaming Dollars. This should not exceed a few thousand Dollars per year, per person. Personally, I would then cease my objections to their shrill protests.

Casinos are LEGAL. Why is the whole issue treated as if it were an agreement to contract some dreadful Plague?

The benefits accruing to the Municipalities of Burnaby and New Westminster are massively larger than that in Richmond. (ie-\$ 5,884,648 to Burnaby versus \$1,920,000 to Richmond) Further note should be taken of the probable departure of Richmond's present Casino, thus reducing Richmond's share to ZERO. (Which share has already been spent!)

A large number of the patrons of the Casinos appear to originate in Richmond, but their contributions are made to other Municipalities!

The previous Councils appear to have been fiscally inept, expending our Reserves upon the Municipal "Taj Mahal", a Monument to Monetary Madness. I ask how many Fire Stations could have been erected for the outlay on this Monster?

Are the current Council willing to follow in the path of the previous incumbents? Are they willing to forgo an Annual rebate of 5 million dollars, (more or less). And if this path is chosen, do Council honestly feel that the 4% of problem Gamblers now resident in Richmond will Magically mend their ways, and join the Protest Group?

If the Council truly deliberates these questions, I feel the answer becomes evident. We must bring in a "Full Service" Casino, to help maintain our City, and consign to the Dustbin the proposed 4%(plus) annual increase in taxes, that we have been advised to expect in perpetuity.

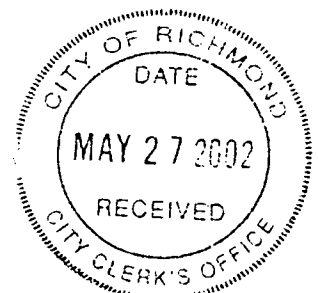
Thank you for your consideration.

terrytaurus@hotmail.com

Terrence R. Murphy  
Richmond  
604-278-9373

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<http://www.hotmail.com>



**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Ellie Kharazmi [ekharazmi@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** May 24, 2002 8:14 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Casino/Slot machines in Richmond

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As a resident of Richmond for the past 5 years, my family and I wish to express our support for a casino with slots in Richmond.

On occasion, we have visited other casinos around the lower mainland in search of an evening out for some entertainment. The casinos that have slots are more favourable because of the numerous extra choices we have for games we want to play and the added amenities as well, such as good parking and nice facilities.

I would prefer if Richmond allowed a casino here with slots so that we can keep our money in Richmond, and attract players from other jurisdictions, be they from the lower mainland or abroad! In addition, we would have somewhere locally to take our friends when visiting from out of town, apart from Steveston, Richmond Centre, the numerous Asian restaurants, and the walking trails of the dyke.

Thank you for the opportunity to let my voice and my families voice be heard.

Regards,

Elham Kharazmi  
3980 Lockhart Road  
Richmond, BC V7C 5E7

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Yahoo! - Official partner of 2002 FIFA World Cup



05/27/2002

## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Jim Wilson [haggis@shaw.ca]

**Sent:** May 25, 2002 11:41 AM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** Gaming Policy

Lets keep the tax revenue in Richmond. Bridgepoint Market is the perfect location



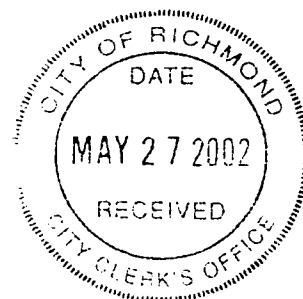
## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Norma Wilson [npwilson@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 25, 2002 12:21 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gaming

I am certainly in favour of increased gambling in Richmond. I would sooner spend my money at slot machines here than in Burnaby.

Norma Wilson  
6380 Constable Drive,  
Richmond, B.C.  
V7E 3Y5



05/27/2002

**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** krikler [kriklers@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 25, 2002 5:12 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Casino in Richmond

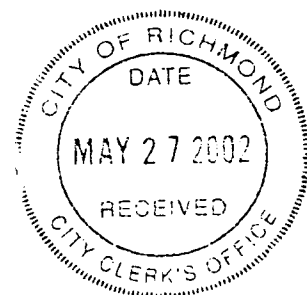
Dear Sirs

A great deal of debate and controversy is taking place at the moment on the subject of possibly opening a casino with slot machines in Richmond. Richmond residents who are interested in this form of gambling are currently travelling fairly long distances to swell the coffers and reduce the property taxes in other areas. Opening a casino in Richmond will attract the locals and at the same time attract visitors from around the city of Vancouver. Positioned with a close proximity to the airport it will also attract people who have time to kill between flights. Many businesses and restaurants in Richmond will soon be noticing increased sales and there will even be the chance that our property taxes will stabilize. So for all the people opposed to the possibility of a casino opening in our city they will win twice. Firstly they will not spend their money in the machines and their taxes will not increase. The city will become prosperous and this will result in a win-win situation.

What are we waiting for? Lets save money on gas which is expensive enough and stay in Richmond to gamble if we choose.

Thank you ang good luck

J.B.K



05/27/2002

**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** Dale Floyd [dalef@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 25, 2002 5:19 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gambling  
Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to voice my opinion on the gambling issue. I personally am wholeheartedly behind the additional gaming facility.

How many of the nay-sayers buy lottery tickets? Go to Bingo? Or even buy a ticket on that new car for one cause or another? These are all forms of gambling.

Those who oppose it fail to see that people who want to gamble will do it one way or another. Look at the busses going to Washington State every day, exporting our money. Problem gambling will happen whether we have casinos in our city or not, so why not get the benefits of having the casino? Who would be against job creation, increased city revenues, increased tourism, and the spin-off benefits created by the casino?

I would hope that the council is able to see the many benefits that would go with an additional casino complete with slot machines.

Please remember the basic premise that people who want to gamble will, so why not reap the benefits rather than exporting them.

Best Regards,

Dale Floyd  
209-8680 Lansdowne Rd  
Richmond



05/27/2002

## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** dunlop [cinrock@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 8:26 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gambling

In reference to gaming policy, we the undersigned wish to  
vote YES.

Irene Dunlop, Ruth Coombes.



## MayorandCouncillors

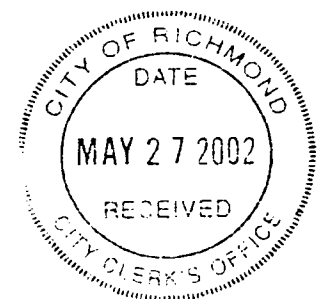
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**From:** June McGregor [junemcg@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 8:51 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gambling in Richmond

Attention: City Clerk

As I am unable to attend Tuesday night's meeting, I am stating my vote via E-mail. This is definitely a no-brainer. Of course Richmond should have gambling. None of my friends nor I have ever been polled regarding slots and we are all in favor. We all question exactly who has been polled!!! We are mostly seniors and enjoy a few hours at the slots and none of us have a 'social problem'. We all have to go to New Westminster or over the 'line' for a little fun - but we would much rather stay locally!!!. Richmond needs the money and we want the slots. GO FOR IT!!!!!!!

June McGregor  
7280 Ledway Road,  
Richmond, B. C.



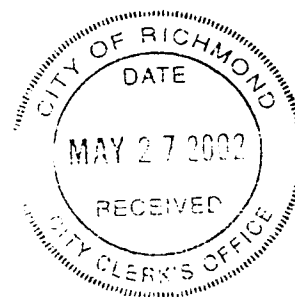
**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Larry Hillman [hillman2506@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 10:16 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gambling

I am a long-time Richmond resident-44 years-and do support slot machines in Richmond. Let us face it, people like to gamble, and we all know how many residents travel to Reno very often to do just that. We can keep such revenue here rather than have those who want to try their hand at a machine going elsewhere as had been the case in the past. The "do-gooders" who decry gambling have their heads in the sand, as if people wish to gamble-they will!!

V. Larry Hillman



05/27/2002

## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Cherylou Carpenter [cherylou@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 11:34 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Slot Machines

May 27/02 I wish to cast a "YES" vote for the addition of slot machines to casinos in Richmond.

Yours truly, Cheryl E. Carpenter #11 10200 Fourth Ave. Richmond V7E 1V3.



**MayorandCouncillors**

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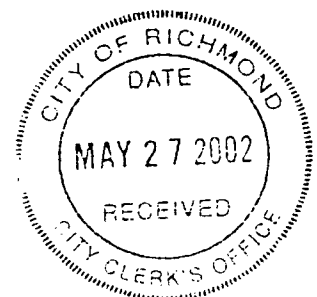
**From:** Pushpa Naidu [pnaidu@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 12:47 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Richmond's gaming policy

I think it would be a great idea to have 300 slot machines for gambling. Imagine how much business Richmond will get from the passengers who will be dropping by from the airport while they are waiting for their flight. Lot of jobs will be created due to this. Our house taxes, which is already high, will not be increased.

I would also like to say that the Bridgepoint location has been sitting unused for a long time. It has an excellent view and somewhat isolated and if it generates revenues for the Richmond Municipality, I am in favour of it.

Thanks.

Yours sincerely,  
Pusha w Naidu.



05/27/2002

## MayorandCouncillors

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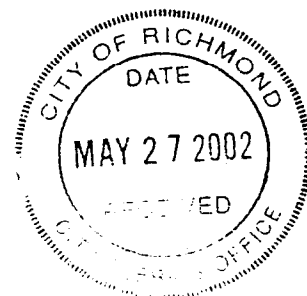
**From:** wilk kwan [wakts@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 2:09 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** yes for slots

Mayer and Councillors

We are richmond ressidents and are for slots in our city we like to spent our money in Richmond now we have to take it to an other city .No one tells you that you have to camble.!! No one tells you that you have to drink! No one tells you that you have to smoke!  
Yours Truly W.kwantes 17220 Fedoruk RD. Thank you.

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## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** moorefam@axionet.com  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 12:16 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** expanded gambling

As long time residents of Richmond, we would like to voice our opinion on the introduction of slot machines to our city. First of all, gambling is gambling, and anyone who has bought a lottery ticket, scratch ticket, pull tab, played bingo, and yes even bought the hospital lottery tickets that are so popular now, has gambled. Why not add slot machines? What is the difference? We occasionally go to New Westminster for a couple of hours of entertainment in the casino and while there have only noticed ordinary people like ourselves having a bit of fun, granted, a small percentage of people are addicted, but those will gamble no matter what and no-one can legislate against that. There seems to be a lot of money being spent outside of our city, not only in New Westminster, Coquitlam, and Burnaby, but also across the border, and I'm sure that these people are not only spending in the casinos, but in the restaurants and gas stations also. Why not keep this money in Richmond? It seems that the funds generated from the addition of slot machines would go a long way, and we trust the Mayor and Councillors would be responsible enough to use this money for the best benefit to the community, including any social consequences that may occur which, according to the cities of New Westminster and Burnaby didn't have much negative impact. Therefore why not trust the majority of the adult citizens of Richmond to be able to have a bit of enjoyment playing the slot machines in our own city, we think you will find that the majority of us are responsible enough to view it as "a bit of entertainment".

Thanks for listening, and we trust that whatever decision is made, it will be for the benefit of all the citizens of Richmond.

Frank and Marg Moore (604) 272-8794

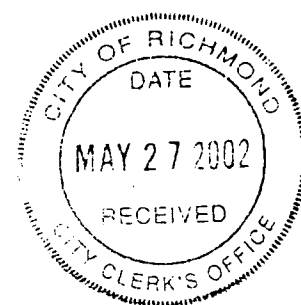


**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** diana anson [dranson@telus.net]  
**Sent:** April 17, 2002 11:53 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gambling

We are sending this e-mail to let you know that we are in favor of expanded gambling in Richmond. Why not keep the money in our community instead of sending it to other towns in the lower mainland or to the states. We enjoy spending a few hours once in awhile at a casino and therefore go somewhere besides Richmond to do it. We are not addicted to gambling but just enjoy a few hours of fun every once in awhile along with some of our neighbors. We hope you listen to the voice of the people and let us have some fun in our own community. Bob and Diana Anson



05/27/2002

## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Marjorie Breen [marjorie\_breen@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 4:38 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** CASINO - SLOT MACHINES

I agree with councillors Kiichi Kumagai, Harold Steves and Tilly Marxreiter's points of view on expanded gambling in the City of Richmond.

I believe that the majority of adults are socially responsible and look upon slot machines and other forms of gambling as twofold....entertainment and a dream of winning. Addictions and other people problems have always been part of society worldwide whether or not a community has gambling facilities. They will simply travel to other communities who have them. The socially responsible adults will also travel to enjoy this type of gambling, spending the money that could be spent in Richmond.

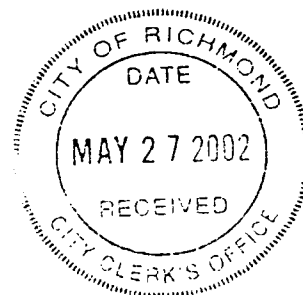
If the city's current gaming policy is expanded to allow for slot machines, the facility should be in the downtown core. To lease space in or have the facility close to our hotels would be a huge financial advantage for Richmond and would also create some spinoffs that I'm sure businesses would appreciate.

A casino should be non-smoking. Over the years I have spoken to seniors and other adults who have commented they would enjoy the casino scene if the facilities were to be smoke-free. The casinos in Vernon (near the Village Green Hotel) and Kelowna (in the Grand Okanagan Resort) are smoke-free and attract many players. It would not be a deterrent as smokers take a break outside. This is not the issue at the upcoming meeting but I make the non-smoking pitch now for your discussion if the expansion is to go ahead.

I do not believe that raising taxes on an annual basis to balance a budget would be a "money smart" decision. Yes, councillors could maybe come up with other innovative ideas but to transform them into the millions of dollars we need now and in the future is also a gamble.

Thank you for reading my input on this matter.

Marge Breen



**MayorandCouncillors**

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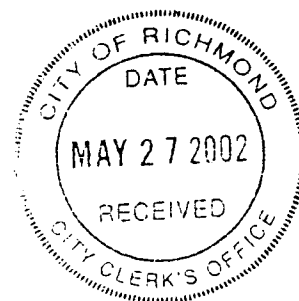
**From:** Kathy Fiddes [kathyfiddes1@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** May 26, 2002 6:18 PM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** Gaming Vote

I would like to cast and vote of Yes to the debate over whether or not slot machines in Richmond should be approved. Our city needs extra funding. People from Richmond are travelling to our areas so we may we well keep them at home. In addition, I believe that having a gaming facility at home discourages people from "chasing losses" because they know in only five or ten minutes they can return the next day. Whereas to have to go to New Westminster, Coquitlam or Burnaby for example, it is a time-consuming journey, and gamblers will be inclined to stay at that facility longer, and thus probably lose more money. K. Fiddes, Richmond



05/27/2002

**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** spike [s\_pike@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 6:35 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Expanded Gaming

I vote YES YES YES! I have a respectable job to go to every day. I pay my property taxes as well as other taxes and fees imposed upon my income. I have a budget for vacation, travel, and entertainment. I have traveled to Las Vegas, a few times to Reno, but with the exchange rate being extremely low, I prefer to stay in the lower mainland. So, why is it that I have no option but to travel to Coquitlam, Burnaby, or New Westminster to spend my "voluntary tax" dollars. By the way, I have met people from Richmond at all three of those locations.

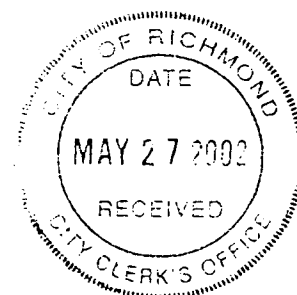
Your reasons for censorship and "saving" Richmond residents are misguided and outdated. It is time to keep our dollars in our own City. We are all aware of the benefits that these extra revenues from expanded gaming brings.

With Vancouver Airport being so close, expanded gaming may even bring some travelers with stop-overs or delays into our City. Our community may then be able to afford to fill in the ditches, upgrade and improve the roads, fire halls, etc.

In closing, I would like to suggest that BridgePoint would be an ideal location.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Susan Pike  
11840 Montego St.  
Richmond, B.C.  
V6X 1H4  
604-273-0609



05/27/2002

**Mayor and Councillors**

**From:** shirley medd [sdmedd@shaw.ca]

**Sent:** May 26, 2002 3:14 PM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** EXPANDED GAMBLING - Public Meeting May 28, 2002

I have been a resident of Richmond for 31 years and for the most part have been accepting of councils actions, good or bad. On the issue of SLOT MACHINES I feel I have to speak up.

Once again, the vocal minority is getting all the press and I would suspect, the attention of council.

I do not see the difference between SLOT MACHINES and "Paper" Slot Machines that we have had for years - Pull Tabs and Scratch & Win Tickets.

Several articles in our local newspapers told of the hardships brought to families by a gambling addiction. It's a small percentage who are addicted to gambling. I find it hard to believe that the majority of hard core gamblers with a problem play the slots.

Most slot players are me - a middle aged lady who enjoys the occasional evening being entertained playing slots. I have never set foot in our only casino as it does not have slots. I play pull tabs at pubs instead. I do however occasionally drive to visit our neighbouring cities who have FULL SERVICE CASINOS. They enjoy my money as they well should.

Many people are addicted to Alcohol yet it is still sold in Liquor Stores, Bars and Restaurants. It brings in good revenue and Slots would bring in more revenue. I would rather contribute to increased city revenue by having an evening out at the Casino where I get entertainment for my dollars than by having my taxes go up which I don't find entertaining at all.

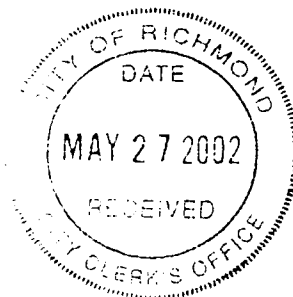
I might also point out that most major centres in Canada have full Casino's and they are probably all better off financially than we are.

Bridgepoint Market is the ideal location for a new Casino - anything will be better than having it sit there empty all these years

I hope you make a fair decision and, perhaps, a REFERENDUM is the way to go to end this debate once and for all. Please think long and hard. The "Bleeding Hearts" and a small percentage with a problem shouldn't make everyone else lose out. If we can't have Slot Machines then we shouldn't have Table Games either.

Thank you

S. Medd  
10880 Southport Road  
Richmond, B. C. 604 274 4236



## **Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Bill and Melvena Sorenson [bill\_mel@uniserve.com]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 6:59 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gaming Policy

First let me say that I think it is unfortunate that our governments at all levels started down the slippery gaming/lottery slope, because once governments start to rely on funds from any source, they rarely give them up. Wasn't Income Tax supposed to be a temporary tax? It isn't that many years ago you had to buy an Irish Sweepstakes ticket if you wanted to gamble. However, it is now apparent gambling in one form or another is here to stay. Moving the race tracks from Richmond to Hastings Park didn't stop Richmondites who like to bet on the ponies from continuing to pursue this interest. At this point I think it would be foolhardy for the City of Richmond not to reap the benefits available to them from the share of gaming proceeds derived from Casino's operating in this community. Why should Burnaby or New Westminster take the gaming share from Richmond residents who wish to participate in an evening out playing blackjack, slot machines, or poker? Gambling is not my cup of tea (of course Bingo and 6/49 aren't gambling are they?)

At this point in the evolution of gaming in our community, I would suggest we approve expanded gaming to include slot machines. If the current casino operator is going to be allowed to expand, I would suggest council try and influence a change of venue to say Bridgepoint. This location is away from a busy intersection, has ample parking, and has the potential to develop an attractive complex with other amenities such as restaurants, maybe a show lounge, etc.

I am concerned that our governments have become too dependent on gaming revenue, and these funds are being used for general operating purposes. Develop a long term capital plan to replace aging infrastructure in the City and use gaming proceeds as a significant source of funding to meet these needs. I believe the Irish Sweepstakes Lottery proceeds were earmarked for hospitals? Then budget for operating purposes from traditional revenue sources, taxes, fees, etc. In Richmond it appears to me Council has to get a tighter rein on the cost of delivering services. More attention needs to be focused on how the cost of local government can be managed so that residents continue to receive the services they expect and taxes, fees, etc. don't have to be forever increasing almost out of control. Of course, if capital projects could be financed from gaming revenue it would be easier to fund operating costs from traditional sources.

Respectfully submitted,

J.W. (Bill) Sorenson



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Nancy Goertzen [dcu@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 11:38 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** gaming policy

Ladies & Gentlemen:

I rarely get involved in local politics or policies for that matter. However, after hearing a debate between Mr. Brodie and Mr. Kumagai, and the given the opportunity to make my views known I could not resist. In my opinion Mr. Brodie is trying to ram his morality down my throat and I don't like it one bit.

I do go to the Casino from time to time and quite enjoy it.

Any time I have been there it is usually quite well attended and there are waiting lists to get on certain games.

I hear the people saying that crime is going to run rampant if slot machines are allowed to be brought in and that people are going to spend their welfare money in the casino playing slots. What utter nonsense!!!

If that were the case these aforementioned people would be burning up the roads to go to New Westminster to play the slots in their casino, and I don't see that happening.

What I do see however, is that if gaming is not allowed to expand and even move location within Richmond it will close as it did in Surrey and then:

1. The natives are going to build a casino on Sea Island.
2. Richmond is going to have to pay for its services.
3. Richmond will receive no taxes but will ultimately wind up spending money that is so hard to come by these days.

Therefore not only do we spend money on these services but we lose any taxes that are derived from the casino-WE LOSE BOTH WAYS.

I own a small business in Richmond and have lived in Richmond since 1966,

It makes my blood boil when I hear some do gooder trying to take the moral highground and have everyone pay for it rather than do what is fiscally responsible.

One last thing: Of all the things that I have read and heard about gaming in a casino setting, there has not been any mention of increased crime among the patrons who use the casinos services.

Thank You for your indulgence.

RICHARD GOERTZEN  
 8880 Moore Road  
 Richmond, B.C. V6Y 2J1



May 25 2002

Fax # 604 278 5139

Attention City Clerk  
6911 #3 Road  
Richmond  
B.C.

I have read your ad in one of the Richmond newspapers under Special Council Meeting on Gaming Policy. I am unable to go to your meeting but I would like to cast my vote "Yes" for changing the gaming policy to include slot machines. If you do not allow this type of gambling into the city, the patrons will go elsewhere and spend their money. Why shouldn't we keep this money in "Richmond"? The other subject to be questioned is why do we not have a lottery to help our Richmond Hospital to grow into a more efficient health care centre.

J. Donaldson  
Richmond B.C.



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From: "Burman Henry" &lt;burmanandkaren@mail.com&gt;

To: kiichikumagai@hotmail.com

Subject: Casino in Richmond, British Columbia

Date: Sun, 26 May 2002 15:01:54 -0500

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We, the following, suport a full service casino in Richmond.

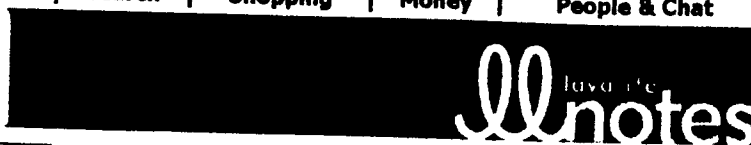
Mr & Mrs Ken Toyoda, 10280 2nd Avenue, Richmond, BC, V7E 1V7, 271-3757  
 Mr & Mrs Jerry Toyoda, 10671 Granville Ave., Richmond, BC, 278-3778  
 Mr & Mrs Nobby Yamamoto, 6140 Williams Rd, Richmond, BC, 274-2761  
 Mr & Mrs Scott Campbell, 8720 Carrick Rd, Richmond, BC, 275-2069  
 Mr & Mrs George Maede, 4491 Garry St., Richmond, BC, 277-0397  
 Mary MacInnes, 3651 Hunt St., Richmond, BC, V7E 2M1  
 MaryAnne MacDonald, 11920 Dunavon, Richmond, BC, V7E 3Y1  
 John MacDonald, 11920 Dunavon, Richmond, BC, V7E 3Y1  
 Catherine Weeks, 11920 Dunavon, Richmond, BC, V7E 3Y1  
 Neil MacInnes, 10200 Aintree Cres., Richmond, BC, V7A 3T8  
 Rebecca MacInnes, 10200 Aintree Cres., Richmond, BC, V7A 3T8  
 David MacInnes, 10200 Aintree Cres., Richmond, BC, V7A 3T8  
 Bonnie MacInnes, 10200 Aintree Cres., Richmond, BC, V7A 3T8  
 Jim MacInnes, 3651 Hunt dt., Richmond, BC, V7E 3M1  
 Angus MacInnes, #83-3031 Williams Rd., Richmond, BC, V7E 4E9  
 Faye MacInnes, #83-3031 Williams Rd., Richmond, BC, V7E 4E9  
 Kelly Robinson, 9320 Railway Ave., Richmond, BC, V7E 2B6  
 Tami Robinson, 9320 Railway Ave., Richmond, BC, V7E 2B6  
 Ian Robinson, 8871 Demorest Dr., Richmond, BC, V7A 4N5  
 Cathy & Ron Rocinson, 8871 Demorest Dr., Richmond, BC, V7A 4N5  
 Misayo Mizuyabu, 11135 - 6th Ave., Richmond, BC, V7E 3C7, 277-2864  
 Fumiko Yoshida, 11751 Dunford, Richmond, BC, V7E 3M5, 277-8841  
 Kinuyo Omae, #101-7560 Moffatt Rd, Richmond, BC, V6Y 1X8, 276-0866  
 Vince Fukuyama, #304-7600 Francis Rd, Richmond, BC, V6Y 1A2, 272-2508  
 Peter & Louise Doi, 3226 Regent St., Richmond, BC, V7E 2M6, 277-5127  
 Karen Henry, 5237 Hollywood Dr., Richmond, BC, V7E 4V3, 271-2477  
 Patricia Chan, #124-8580 General Currie, Richmond, BC, V6Y 3B5, 278-7118  
 Barry Higo, #231-8880 Jones Rd, Richmond, BC, V6Y 3 1, 231-0646  
 Cathy & John Gilfillan, 3511 Rosamond, Richmond, BC, V7E 1A6, 273-3884  
 Alan & Chris Omae, 5237 Hollywood Dr., Richmond, BC, V7E 4V3, 271-2477  
 Michael Omae, 5237 Hollywood Dr., Richmond, BC, V7E 4V3, 2271-2477  
 Mr & Mrs Ogawa, 11240 Cutter Place, Rmd, BC, V7E 4R2, 277-6902  
 Mr & Mrs Terry Taylor, 3-11771 Kingfisher Rd, Rmd, BC, V7E 3T1, 277-8400  
 Mrs Kay Toyoda, 3580 Pleasant St, Rmd, BC, V7E 3T1, 277-7274  
 Mr & Mrs L. Nakade, 3871 Richmond St, Rmd, BC, V7E 2P5, 275-7939  
 Ron & Hiromi Higo, 10191 Springhill Cres, Rmd, BC, V7E 1W7, 272-3556  
 Larry & Ruby Stevens, 3791 Springfield Dr, Rmd, BC, V7E 1Z3, 241-0003  
 Denny & Linda Morishita, 10720 Trepassey Dr, Rmd, BC, V7E 4K7, 275-9252  
 Mr & Mrs Steve Morishita, 4531 Bonavista Dr, Rmd, BC, V7E 5B2, 275-9252  
 Mr & Mrs D. Yoshida, 5300 Lapwing Cres, Rmd, BC, V7E 4E6, 274-8627  
 Mr & Mrs Jeff Shewfelt, 5579 Hankin Dr, Rmd, BC, V7C 5N5, 244-9331  
 Mr & Mrs Don Murray, 5111 Merganser Rd, Rmd, BC, V7E 3X8, 274-8994  
 Mr & Mrs B. Morimoto, 5520 Cantrell Rd, Rmd, BC, V7C 3H1, 241-0004  
 Dennis & Brends Nakatsuru, 8711 Doulton Place, Rmd, BC, V7C 5A3, 275-8959  
 Mr & Mrs Teko Kumagai, 11560 Kingfisher Dr, Rmd, BC, V7E 3N6, 448-0551  
 Mrs. Nancy Shyojii, 139-7651 Minoru Rd, Rmd, BC, V6Y 1Z3, 244-1705  
 Art & Kathy Clement, 3751 Lamond Ave, Rmd, BC, V7E 1E2, 277-2758  
 Davw & Brenda Toyoda, 4720 Duncliff Rd, Rmd, BC, V7E 3N1



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From : "Mike Georgelin" <m\_georgelin@telus.net>

To : <klchikumagai@hotmail.com>

Subject : Support for Full Service Casino

Date : Sun, 26 May 2002 10:37:55 -0700

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May 24, 2002

The following persons are in support of a full service casino in Richmond

	Name	Address	Phone
1			
2			
3			
4			
5	Lorraine Matsuo	8251 Elsmore Rd Richmond	604-277-4058
6	Hisao Matsuo	8251 Elsmore Rd Richmond	604-277-4058
7	Jeff Matsuo	8251 Elsmore Rd Richmond	604-277-4058
8	Cathy Morimoto	5520 Cantrell Rd Richmond	604-241-0004
9	Mike Williams	6591 Dunsany Pl Richmond	604-275-3154
10	Barb Williams	6591 Dunsany Pl Richmond	604-275-3154
11	Robert Williams	6591 Dunsany Pl Richmond	604-275-3154
12	Linda Williams	6591 Dunsany Pl Richmond	604-275-3154
13	Larry Funk	8531 Rosehill Dr Richmond	604-274-2219
14	Linda Funk	8531 Rosehill Dr Richmond	604-274-2219
15	Nancy Chow	4055 Regent St Richmond	604-275-5864
16	Peter Riddell	4055 Regent St Richmond	604-275-5964

Reply

Reply All

Forward

Delete

Put in Folder...

Previous Next Close



42

MSN Home

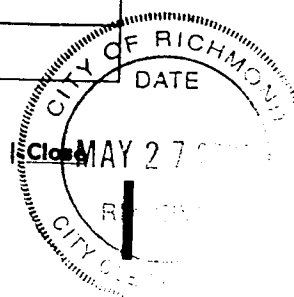
My MSN

Search

Shopping

Money

People & Chat

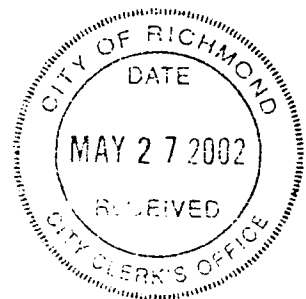


## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** elizabeth groves [groves@island.net]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 11:14 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** slot machines

I am all in favour of having slot machines in Richmond for the people who enjoy this kind of entertainment. It will create employment and also help reduce our taxes. It should not be left up to one ethnic group to make the decision for all other citizens of Richmond.



05/27/2002

**MayorandCouncillors**

---

**From:** donna mckinlay [dmckinlay@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 11:43 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gambling

I plan to attend the meeting on Tuesday evening but I prefer to make my comments in writing so here goes.

I am in favor of Slot machines in Richmond. I think we should try to keep the gambling money here at home. Why let it go to other cities? I think most people would rather play the slots locally instead of across the Line in American money!!!

I would like to see a daytime Bingo at Bridgepoint even if only a few days a week. People from Richmond have to travel to Vancouver, Burnaby or New West. if they wish to play during the day.

As a person who has fun gambling once in awhile I hope the slots will be allowed.

Sincerely, Donna McKinlay



05/27/2002

**MayorandCouncillors**

---

**From:** MANAASKA@aol.com  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 11:25 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gaming Policy

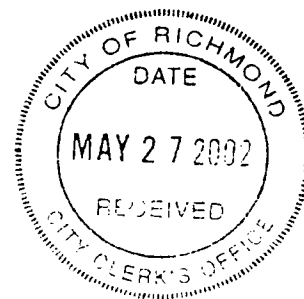
Sir

Since my wife and I will be unable to attend the council meeting at City Hall on May 28th, I would like to express my concerns in this email. My wife and I enjoy to spend our leisure time playing the slots and this involves trips to Coquitlam to the new Casino as well as many trips across to Washington State. We are also planning a trip to Reno in September. It doesn't make any sense to me for you people on council to be turning a blind eye to all the revenue that is draining from the City of Richmond's coffers. Who says that because we enjoy playing slots we are addicted!

We are no more addicted than the person running to purchase several Government sponsored lottery tickets every week. WHATS THE DIFFERENCE?

Please reconsider and lets open a Casino at Brigepoint in Richmond that we can all be proud of and reduce the heavy tax load that we are now facing.

Lorne & Patricia Baker



05/27/2002

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	DW	
	KY	
	AS	
	DB	
	WB	

4040-c

May 26th., 2002.

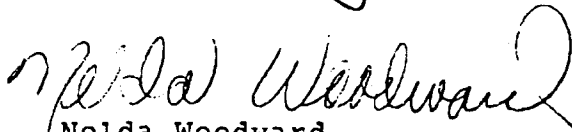
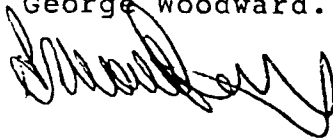
RE: Gaming

We are in favour of the expanded gaming facilities in Richmond because it would be a good tourist attraction and the various hotel guests that drive to where they can gamble would be more prone to stay in Richmond and spend their disposable monies in our community.

People who are afraid of addictions must learn that we are faced with the possibility of addiction all our lives. Does this mean that we should ban alcohol because we could become addicted?

Lets keep the money in Richmond!!!

George Woodward.



Nelida Woodward.

9491 Bridgeport Road,  
Richmond, B.C.



ATT. COUNCILLOR K. KUNAGAI

MAY 20/02

WE, SUPPORT A FULL SERVICE CASINO IN Richmond

THANK YOU.

ROBERT LUGY - 6084 - GRANVILLE CREW.

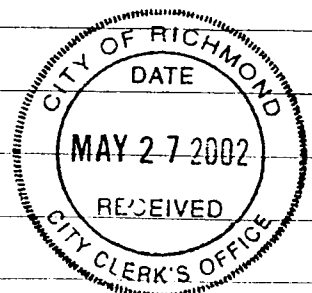
郭子明 6044 " "

Kam Kwong Loon 6044 " "

Yin Leung 6044 " "

Agnes Campbell 604-274-6523

George Langland " " "



Sony & Belia Severs  
6011 Christina Rd  
Richmond V7C2P7

Dear Mayor & Council,

Having lived in Richmond for over 30 years, and hoping that I can afford to spend the rest of my life here, if expanded gambling brings some relief to my taxes — So be it.

I see buses every day, almost on the hour, leaving with people ready to spend their money in other communities.

With the slots here in a nice location they would support our tax structure not some one else's.

I'm also convinced our tourist industry would also improve.

Wake up Richmond

Sony & Belia Severs



**To:** City of Richmond - c/o Clerk's Office  
.....  
**Fax:** (604) 278-5139  
.....  
**From:** Glenda Johnson  
.....  
**Date:** May 28, 2002  
.....  
**Pages:** 1 page(s) including this page.  
.....

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to submit my YES vote for expanded-gambling (slot machines) to be allowed in Richmond. I don't usually play the table games.

I would rather keep my money in Richmond - not just the money I spend at the Casino in New Westminster but the money I spend at a restaurant prior to the evenings entertainment.

Lately, I've been going down to the new Silver Reef Casino in Ferndale, WA. It's lovely down there, but smoky. It's been so long since I've been in the Richmond Casino I can't remember if it's smoke free now or not?

Yours sincerely,

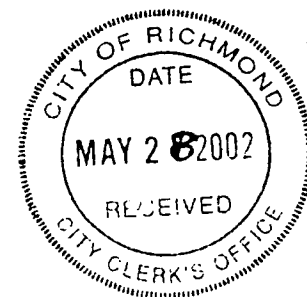
Glenda Johnson  
GlendaJohnson@shaw.ca

From the desk of...

**Glenda Johnson**

Johnson's Creations  
10340 Reynolds Dr.  
Richmond B.C.  
V7E 4B4

(604) 275-2323  
Fax: (604) 274-0484



APR 27/02

I THINK SLOTS SHOULD COME TO RICHMOND

WHY GIVE OUR MONEY TO COGNITION NEW WEST

BRIDGE POINT WOULD BE PERFECT

PUBS & BEER & WINE STORES DIDN'T MAKE ANY

EXTRA PROBLEMS WHY SHOULD SLOTS

C.S.

RICHMOND TAX PAYERS

FAX 604-278-5139



## MayorandCouncillors

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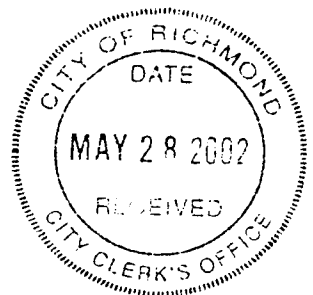
**From:** Ran Rai [ran@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 6:30 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** FW: Casio

Dear sirs

I would like you to allow expand gambling in Richmond, because

- 1) it would increase revenues for the city.
- 2) more people would spend money in the city.
- 3) people who want to gamble , will gamble wherever the Casio's are.
- 4) I would benefit form gambling - less increase in my taxes.
- 5) we are next to the airport, lets keep the tourists money in Richmond.

Ran Rai



## Mayor and Councillors

**From:** Richard Malsbury [Richard\_Malsbury@telus.net]

**Sent:** May 27, 2002 11:09 PM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** Expanded Gambling- Get On With It!.

Mayor and Councillors:

Let me state that I am all for Slot Machines in Richmond. Note that this is my second email on this subject.

**I do not believe you can babysit us so-called adults.** Yes, there may be Problem Gamblers, but I believe there are far more people out there with alcohol problems (Have you outlawed the selling of alcohol in Richmond?). There are also a lot of people with financial problems ( You allow stores to entice shoppers with slick advertising to make a sale). And those sales-people don't care if your credit is nearly maxed out!

If one is opposed to gambling, don't go there. Nobody is forcing anyone to go near or in a casino. Same as no one forces you into a Pub. I am sick of these holier-than-thou types trying to dictate what is good for the citizens of Richmond.

Those who cry that money will be taken away from business by the expanded gambling are plain fearmongers. If you buy that, then you must also stop any new business from opening in Richmond as they too will take away potential revenue from the existing merchants. Will you hear the same people making that argument if Wal-Mart comes to town? Nope.

And on that note, what makes them so sure that if I have a spare \$100 that I'm going to spend it in Richmond?. Maybe save up for a vacation(not here), go to a Canucks or Lions game (Vancouver), skiing (Whistler/N. Van) -you get my point. It's entertainment, same as going to a movie, golfing, or bowling. Set your limit and leave when you've reached it. We're adults and have to make those decisions for ourselves.

In January I cruised on the Sea Princess, which had about 150 slot machines. Its casino was open 24hrs except while in port. It was fun for a while; if there wasn't a show or something else going on. Again , if I hadn't gone to the casino, it does not mean I would have spent my money in stores in Mexico. (Actually I came out ahead- and still didn't buy much in Mexico).

In closing I hope to see slot machines in Richmond. I like living here but as E. Kwan said in Sunday's Review "Richmond is a dead city after dark...". I think it would be a good addition for entertainment and may draw in visitors from outside, especially south of the Fraser or Vancouver. I also feel the added revenues are needed. I don't want my taxes to continually increase.

Richard Malsbury  
Richmond



05/28/2002

05/17/02 MON 11:10 FAX 004

# AFM HOSPITALITY CORPORATION

"Great Hospitality Opportunities" SM

Stephen H. Phillips, CHA  
Vice Chairman &  
Chief Executive Officer  
May 27, 2002

City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, B.C.  
V6Y 2C1

To whom it may concern,

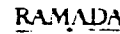
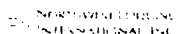
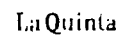
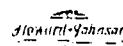
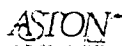
This letter will serve to confirm AFM Hospitality Corporations full support for the approval of the license for a full service Casino for the City of Richmond.

The overall positive financial impact, tourism related job creation and of course the municipal tax increase that will result for the City should make the decision to approve the license a YES.

Yours Truly



Stephen H. Phillips



36 Toronto Street, Suite 750 Toronto, ON M5C 2C5 Phone: (416) 361-1010, 1-800-249-4656 Fax: (416) 361-9050  
10211 St. Edwards Drive, Richmond, BC V6X 2M9 Phone: (604) 276-1358, 1-866-363-1358 Fax: (604) 276-1168  
www.afmcorp.com (TSE:AFM) email: sphillips@afmcorp.com

MAY-21-2002 12:02

P.01

216-1168

# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Richmond Address	Signature
HENRY LEUNG	13-22711 NORTON COURT, RICHMOND	[Signature]
Wisa Lam	6852 No. 3 Road, Richmond	[Signature]
kg KLEVA	10211 St. Edward Dr. Richmond	[Signature]
Stephen Phyll	10251 ST EDWARDS DR RICHMOND	[Signature]
CHARLENE ZENTNER	10211 ST. EDWARDS DRIVE RICHMOND	C. Zentner
T. STOCKHART	11451 #2 Rd RICHMOND BC	[Signature]
J. Hunt	10500 GRANVILLE AVE, RICHMOND BC	[Signature]
N. Semerowich	10251 St Edwards Drive	[Signature]
E. Stecher	10251 St. Edwards Drive	[Signature]
Bird Nakagawa	10251 St Edwards Drive	[Signature]
L. McCrossin	10251 St Edwards Drive	[Signature]
SUE BARTLETT	10251 ST EDWARDS DR	[Signature]
Tom Hunt	10500 Granville Ave, Richmond	[Signature]
J. Lee	107-97751 Minoru blvd Richmond	[Signature]
C. Tam	9771 Ashwood Dr.	[Signature]
Jimmy Hong	10251 St Edwards Dr	[Signature]
S. Wong	10251 ST EDWARDS DR	[Signature]
W. Wong	10251 ST EDWARDS DR	[Signature]
Wendy Chan	10251 ST. EDWARDS DR	[Signature]
FRANK CHAN	#235-8877 ODUN CR. RICHMOND	[Signature]
Edmond Cheng	#235-8877 Odlin Cr. Richmond	[Signature]
WAI FAN LAM	#235-8877 ODUN CR. RICH	[Signature]
JIMMY LAU	#235-8877 ODUNCR. RICHMOND	[Signature]
Paul Wong	#235-8877 ODUN CR RICHMOND	[Signature]
Charles Li	6511 NO. 2 RD. RICHMOND	[Signature]
DONALD SHIN	10695 MCKETSOCK PLACE RICHMOND	[Signature]
TERRY CHENG	#235-8877 ODUN CR.	[Signature]

TOTAL P.01

**"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond having slot machines."**

TOTAL = .01

## Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

The attached 239 name petition was obtained as follows:-

Location: Dock Marlin's Pub & Restaurant  
BridgePoint Complex, River Road

Time : Primarily during lunch hours, the week of May 18 – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002

Note : Patrons were approached informally and asked if they supported slots in Richmond with the associated financial benefits.

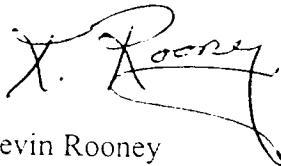
No mention of operator or location was made.

No incentive to participate in the petition was offered although a number of signees requested a free drink.

A number of signees were not from Richmond but work and/or eat in Richmond.

Finding: The surprising result of this initiative was the overwhelming support for slots in Richmond. Less than 10 customers declined to sign.

We do not imply this sample statistically represents the entire adult population of Richmond, but it does give pause to the assumption that there is a majority of Richmond voters against slots.



Kevin Rooney  
BridgePoint



# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Richmond Address	Signature
Stu Fane	*112-221 7th St. N. West	Stu Fane
W. Hunt	100 9800 Van Horne Way	W. Hunt
Mark Chouet	5645 FOREST ST B69	Mark Chouet
Long - D	11760 River Rd.	Long - D
HERMAN DROBES	2611 Smith St Rich	Herman Drobos
TERRY AUSTIN	9311 RIVER DR Rm	Terry Austin
Rob Williams	1880 Jo 4 Rd Richmond BC	Rob Williams
R Bates	1880 #4 Rd Richmond	R Bates
NANCY Seymour	1880 #4 Rd Richmond	Nancy Seymour
ED. HILLMAN	9311 RIVER RD. RMD.	Ed. Hillman
JENNIS COMPO	13 7240 MOFFATT RD Richmond	Jennis Compo
Nike Talone	210-11811 Voyager Way	Nike Talone
TOM PEDERSEN	2220 ARBUTHUS ST	Tom Pedersen
ROBERT FITZPATRICK	8960 River Drive Richmond B.C.	Robert Fitzpatrick
Trena Marsh	112-8777 HUCKLEST Van	Trena Marsh
GREG CROMPTON	10351 THIRLMERE DR. RICHMOND	Greg Crompton
GARY CROSS	*105 6611 MIDWAY BLVD Richmond	Gary Cross
ALAN BEAULT	6391 #6 RD RICHMOND	Alan Beault
BOYNE BEAULT	6391 #4 RD RICHMOND	Boyne Beault
EUGENIE NISHI	6644 BROADWAY B69	Eugenie Nishi
Andrew Maxwell	8531 Coughlin St. Rich.	Andrew Maxwell
Justin Hill	6087 Calverth Cres	Justin Hill
Greg Orr	23 MARELY CRT. WHITBY	Greg Orr
DANA SHERIDAN	106-7 MARLBOROUGH CRT, VAN	Dana Sheridan
KERRY ROBERTS	" " " VAN	Kerry Roberts
ALIFF KING	109 7070 EAST KENT AVE VAN	Aliff King
MIKE GUTHRIE	8380-117 ST. W. Delta	Mike Guthrie
MARSH ELLIOTT	2403 1011 BRACHAUS VAN	Marsh Elliott
J. DAVIE	5296 St Andrews BC Richmond	J. Davie
RILEY TONGH	4955 DEWIND RD BC Delta	Riley Tongh

# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Address	Signature
Finn Jensen	#146 11738 River Road	[Signature]
RICK BALL	1005-388 DRAKE ST.	[Signature]
BE. MAUTA	24953 - ORION PL., Delta BC	[Signature]
Bill Scambler	6439 meadow Place Delta	[Signature]
LAUREN THOMPSON	11435 87th Ave Delta	[Signature]
GEORGE BAL	5191 ROWLING PLACE RICHMOND	[Signature]
BOB AULAKH	5864 48 A AVENUE	[Signature]
DAVE BUDDY	#28-11160 Kingsgrove AVE	[Signature]
Johnie Falbo	#27-11160 Kingsgrove AVE	[Signature]
GRANT PEARSON	#3-7240 LANGTON RD RICHMOND	[Signature]
HARLOTTE SPEARMAN	WORK IN RICHMOND	[Signature]
MANNY KURSAN	" "	[Signature]
Glen Steski	10551 Swinton Cres Rich. B.C.	[Signature]
Bryan Steski	" " " "	[Signature]
ROD NATYNA	4181 Amundson Pl	[Signature]
TODD ATTRELL	14771-54TH AVE SURREY B.C.	[Signature]
Vikian Attrell	14771-54TH AVE SURREY B.C.	[Signature]
AND JESSOP	5871 MURCHISON RD RICH BC	[Signature]
Debbie Reid	4602 56th Street Delta BC	[Signature]
CAROL HARRISON	1423 BURDEN ST PE BC	[Signature]
DARREN ORSAHL	6703-185TH STREET SURREY	[Signature]
Barter Wilson	7580 Buckenille Crt Richmond	[Signature]
Maria Trotteness	6091 #3 Byle Rd Richmond	[Signature]
Richard Pite	2820 ST ALBANS RD Richmond	[Signature]
JAN ENGH	#23-3500 CUNNINGHAM DR	[Signature]
MURIEL JENSEN	#23-3500 CUNNINGHAM DR	[Signature]
JUDY BARLOW	24 STERWOOD PL DELTA	[Signature]
Michelle Oton	1079-57th St Delta	[Signature]
Scott McPherson	4442 6 Ave Delta BC	[Signature]
John Antares	1031 PACIFIC DRIVE	[Signature]

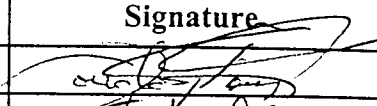
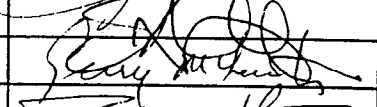
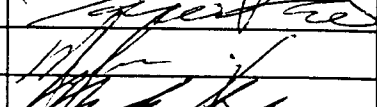

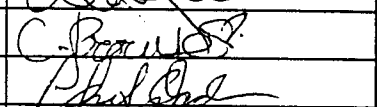
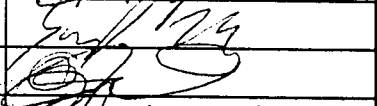
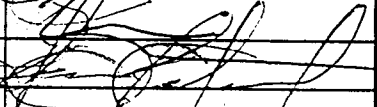
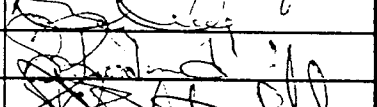
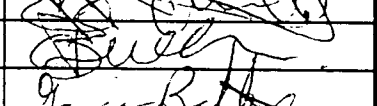
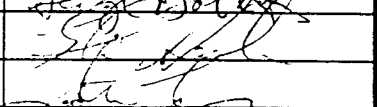
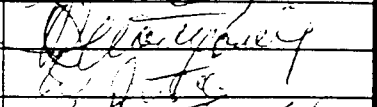

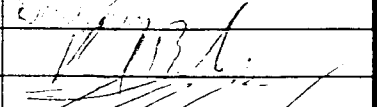
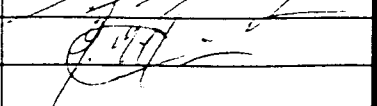

# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Address	Signature
Jim Davis	3531 JESMONDAVE, RICHMOND B.C.	
RADY KAISEN	5531 GAVE DELTA B.C.	
Robert Redmond	1425 55th St Delta, B.C.	
Sonny PLATE	2491 McLEOD Richmond, B.C.	
DIN MARTIN	12500 Trilux Rd Pund BC	
Bryan Miles	41704 Cannery Cres	
ABRAR MANKAT	4744 River Rd west	
Michelle Guilfoyle	#104-8380 Jones Road Richmond.	
Vlad Kharukh	108-6411 Gilbert Rd, Richmond	
DAVID D'AMICO	11151 CAMPBIE RD	
STEVE WILKES	5831 RIVER RD	
Barbara Rossell	10131 Finlayson Dr.	
Elizabeth Rossell	" " "	
G.P. MAGUIRE	3526 WEST STAVE VANCOUVER	
JOHN MAGUIRE	3526 WEST ST AVE VANCOUVER	
R. JANCZURA	#1607-6631 MINORU BLVD RICHMOND	
BOB MONTES	11399-87 AV. DELTA	
Shay Watchorn	8980 River rd.	
PHOEBE MEYER	124-8860 NO1 RD RICHMOND	
HARVEY PECKENACH	314F 2082 WESTMINSTER Hwy	
CRAN. EDVILLE	5510 19th St VANCOUVER	
Brod Thomson	419 Nelson St. Coq. BC.	
IRISH PECKENACH	11620 HARGESING WAY RICH	
Susan Hogarth	#27-11160 Kingsgrove RIND	
Rob CLARKE	*38-12055 GREENLAND DR RMD	
Rob Collins	9171 Diamond Rd. Richmond	
Shelly Dale	11738 Caribou Ln N Delta	
John Henry	900 - Ferry Road	
Julie Dale	3273 E. 44TH AVE, VAN	
LINDA CLARKE	38-12055 GREENLAND DR	

# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Address	Signature
DOUG KERRY	217 2660 Greenville Ave	
S ASHCROFT	" " "	
GERRY McLEISH	10400 WESTMINSTER	
Jamie Haine	7295 #117 Moffatt Rd	
MIKE FUND	#104 COLONIAL DR	
MIKHAEL BEKA	337 EAST AVE New West	
COLIN SPERLING	10760 ANGLESEA DR. RICHMOND	
Alana Mackenzie	#7-22111 Shore Ave Richmond	
Courtney Prowse	8080 FOSTER RD. RICHMOND	
PHIL OGDEN	8120 COLONIAL DR RICH.	
SCOTT MILLER	9460 GLADSPING AVE "	
GLEN STELSKI	4471 4th	
B. Jim Smith	140-13471 VULCAN WAY RMD	
DONALD BRATTON	140-13471 VULCAN WAY RMD	
G. MOONEY	7080 River Road Richmond B.C.	
St. Edmund	10640 Seaburn Cres RMD	
BRIAN ELLIOTT	10780 ROSECROFT CRES RMD	
MARK BUCHANAN	2403 1011 Beach Ave	
George Ballen	#47-3211 Springfield DR	
GLEN HOBAN	5780 GIBBONS DRIVE	
STEVE LIVESLY	280 BLOOMING COO RD	
M. MATTHEW	12340 BARNES DR RMD	
D. Judd	12340 BARNES DR RMD	
Sukh Jindal	425 East 64 AVE Van	
AMAN ATWAL	153 S.W. MARINE DRIVE	
RAE PEARSON	6531 GARDENBOURGH DR	
Paul Bahia	2051 Harrison Dr Van	
GEN NIELSEN	9371 #5 RD RICHMOND	
GERRY MATTHEW	319-8510 CANTON DR. Richmond	

# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Richmond Address	Signature
EUNICE SALT	17-8640 BENNETT RD RICHMOND BC	Eunice Salt
HELEN JACKSON	42-8640 BENNETT RICHMOND	Helen Jackson
ION MCEWEN	4131 MABLETON PL RICHMOND	ION MCEWEN
STEVE JORDAN	10600 RIVER DRIVE (RMT)	Steve Jordan
DAVID ATKINS	DELTA	DAVID ATKINS
TOMMY OREGARD	#230-8211 SEA ISLAND WAY RICHMOND	TOMMY OREGARD
DEBBIE MASON	230-8211 SEA ISLAND WAY, RMD	DEBBIE MASON
KEN KOONSTED	12113-244TH ST MAPLE RIDGE	KEN KOONSTED
LEILANI PETERSON	#111-3300 OAK ST. VANCOUVER	LEILANI PETERSON
NICKI BORTELLI	2434 CORNWALL AVE VANCOUVER	NICKI BORTELLI
Astrid Penders	210-5888 Dover Crescent RMD	Astrid Penders
David Speltz	6578 Belsen St Van BC	David Speltz
NEAL BOYLE	FRANCES ROAD	NEAL BOYLE
JENNIFER FRASER	NO. 5 & Cambie Rd.	JENNIFER FRASER
PETER VILSON	" " " "	PETER VILSON
ROU ERDAHL	Richmond B.C.	ROU ERDAHL
MARK CARSON	Richmond BC	MARK CARSON
STEVE MARSHALL	- " - " -	STEVE MARSHALL
Alfred Fable	5891 Fernside	Alfred Fable
DAN MOORESEN	#110-2910 #3 RD. RICHM.	DAN MOORESEN
STEPHEN MORRIS	1307-10620-150 ST. SURREY	STEPHEN MORRIS
Janet Haraldsen	101-820 Colonial Dr Rid	Janet Haraldsen
SHARPE	9511 NEILL PL RICHMOND	SHARPE
JUCE PATTEN	4600 Michaud Dr Rich	JUCE PATTEN
Mike Vigeland	9571 Bates Rd. Richmond	Mike Vigeland
Doug Atken	#120 15100 River Rd	Doug Atken
Denise Kremer	#120 15100 River Rd Richmond	Denise Kremer
Donna Davies	"	Donna Davies
BOB HUNTER	13200 MITCHELL RID	BOB HUNTER
RON MESS	10820 SWANSON DR RICHMOND	RON MESS

# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Address	Signature
M. MARCHUK	10640 Seaham Cr. Richmond	M. Marchuk
D. Passy	"	D. Passy
P. KURJ	NORTH VANCOUVER B.C.	P. Kurj
M. CHAN	RICHMOND	M. Chan
BOB BOURDEAU	RICHMOND	Bob Bourdeau
J. TECTAN	N. VAN	J. Tectan
Ryan Bells	202-8100 JONES RD RICH. BC.	Ryan Bells
Eric Chua	6280 Danube Rd. Richmond BC	Eric Chua
T. DONALDSON	13200 MITCHELL RD	T. Donaldson
HARRY SMALLWOOD	16780 RIVER RD Rich.	Harry Smallwood
Pat Oksunk	6140 Udry Rd Rich.	Pat Oksunk
Debbie Reed	4602 56th St Ladner	Debbie Reed
Don JESCO	5871 MURCHISON Rd RICH.	Don Jesco
Ilart Ruiz	9500 Van Horne Way - 80	Ilart Ruiz
W. Napa	South Surrey V4A 9K5	W. Napa
Long McGugin	4522-206th St Surrey BC	Long McGugin
CHIN RUDLEY	448 SHANNON WAY	Chin Rudley
STAN BAH	10540 BEND ROAD	Stan Bah
BOB DACHSEL	9500 Van Horne Way	Bob Dachsels
DAVEN BAH	10540 BEND RD	Daven Bah
BAL JIHAL	10568 BEND RD	Bal Jihal
NAR JIHAL	10568 BEND RD	Nar Jihal
AMAN GILL	10520 BEND RD	Aman Gill
SHEV GILL	10520 BEND RD	Shev Gill
HART JIHAL	10568 BEND RD	Hart Jihal
CURRAY LOCKMAN	5945 ONTARIO ST	Curray Lockman
SANDY LOCKMAN	5945 ONTARIO ST	Sandy Lockman
LES MCBAIN	1536 KERRIST RD VANCOUVER	Les McBain
Betty McBride	34175-141st Surrey	Betty McBride
Tammy Brown	Apt 209, 1549 Kitchener St. Vancouver BC, Canada	Tammy Brown

# Petition for a Full Service Casino in Richmond

"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond  
having slot machines."

Name (Print)	Richmond Address	Signature
Tom Hunt	10500 GRANVILLE AVE	[Signature]
JULIE HUNT	"	[Signature]
STEVE HUNT	"	[Signature]
Biddy Marchuk	10640 Seasham cres PMND	[Signature]
BARB Oger	102-8120 COLONIAL DR. RICHI	[Signature]
GARY WOODS	# 9-11720 VOYAGEUR	[Signature]
BRUCE BURNS.	# 9-11720 VOYAGEUR WAY	[Signature]
Kenn You	# 9-11720 VOYAGEUR WAY	[Signature]
Andy McBowen	310-10188 155th St Surrey	[Signature]
Mina Kharzouso	#108-6411 Gilbert Rd Richmond	[Signature]
SHILYN FENSKE	8600 Garden City Rd	[Signature]
D Rensers	6600 Garden City Rd	[Signature]
WALTER KADCE	#100 Moffat Richmond	[Signature]
SUSAN KRAISER	# 100 Moffat Richmond	[Signature]
KEN STEWART	#110 8591 WESTMINSTER HWY RMD	[Signature]
ROB PRIER	6415 WINDSOR ST VAN BC	[Signature]
TARYN ROSS	1253 PACIFIC DR	[Signature]
GARRET GRIFFITH	100-8831 River Rd V6V1Y6	[Signature]
ROBERT D Taylor	7100 FRANCIS RD RICH. I.C.	[Signature]
Carl Sturt	# 310 8460 Lechford Rd.	[Signature]
NEEDS WOODWARD	9491 BRIDGEPORT RD RICH. I.C. V6V1G3	[Signature]
Danielle Atkins	1308 Denwest Way Delta	[Signature]
TERRY SAYERS	# 24 1016 W13TH VAN	[Signature]
KRANK LUKACS	145-4620 dining way RICH	[Signature]
Laura Grabher	11431 Seaford Rd RICH	[Signature]
A Langbell	7411 No 2 Rd Rmd	[Signature]
K. Nicolson	10th N HALL BLV	[Signature]
WENDY DAVIDOFF	907-1135 QUAYSIDE DR NWEST	[Signature]
ION FANNING	4489 N ISLAVE VANCOUVER	[Signature]
DON HARSON	1720 PETERS ROAD N. VAN	[Signature]

**"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond having slot machines."**

64

**"I am in favour of a full service casino in Richmond having slot machines."**

65

May 27, 2002

E & S Tokarczyk  
10271 #4 Rd  
Richmond, B.C., V7A 2Z5



To Mayor & Councillors  
6911 #3 Rd.  
Richmond, B.C. V6Y 2C1

via email

Dear Mayor & Councillors,

We are writing in support of allowing expanded gaming in this City, in particular, to allow slot machines.

What we can't understand, is that allowing this expanded gambling, is a win win scenario, for the City and the residents, and yet you and council still hesitate. You certainly have the nerve to vote to increase our taxes by 22% over the next 5 years, yet when given the opportunity to possibly soften that blow, or at the very least, to help stabilize it at the end of the 5 years, you hum and haw and decide to hold another meeting. Enough is enough. The few residents that believe expanded gambling will corrupt our kids, will corrupt the public, and/or will increase crime & drugs, are perfectionist dreamers. If gambling causes all or any of these things, do you not think that New Westminster, Burnaby and Coquitlam would have done something about it by now. Instead, they reap the benefits.

Your own staff has reported to you that it is a win win scenario with little if any, negatives. And if your not going to listen to the recommendations of staff, what the hell do you ask them to report for in the first place. You freely spend our money on items that some of us would consider a waste. Half a million given to the Olympic bid, up to half a million might be spent on the tall ships, voting on supporting a non profit organization 100%, while other organizations get partial or no support at all. These are all swifties that you have pulled of recent. Are they nice, yes. Are they necessary, no. Should they have happened, considering the tax increase we're about to face, no! Enough is enough.

Well enough is enough. Its important enough to us, that we have now decided to write this letter. A certain councillor decides we need tall ships and was going to go it alone, because he thought it was a nice idea and pushed it without consulting the residents of Richmond. How much time and money has already been spent on this? Enough is enough. Its time to actually do something for the taxpayer. Its time to get off of your mighty horse mayor & council, and bring in something that will help the people. Councillors that have had our support in the past, will no longer have our support. We are part of the silent majority that have patiently been waiting and hoping for years, to have expanded gambling in Richmond. At the start, it was only for the sake

of convenience, so that some of us do not have to go all the way to New West, or Burnaby, or to the states. But now, we have a greater reason. To help fill the City coffers, so that you don't hit us so hard on taxes. And we absolutely dare, any councillor, to try and tell us that gambling money wouldn't make a difference to the budget.

Keep pushing Councillor Kumagai, there's a hell of a lot of people who very much appreciate and support what you are doing. And it'll show in this year's election. Speaking of this fall's election, if mayor and council want to play it safe and really get a good overview of the people's will, hold a gambling referendum with the election. Even us who are completely for expanded gambling, will hold our tongues, smile and bend to the will of the people, if a referendum vote turns out to be against gambling.

Just one piece of advise, use simple, straight forward questions. Don't pull a provincial referendum.

Yours Truly

Edward Tokarczyk

&

Stella Tokarczyk

**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Dave and Lynne Gregory [dlgregory@shaw.ca]

**Sent:** May 27, 2002 3:04 PM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** slots or not?

We are not able to get to the meeting Tuesday night at City Hall, and would like to put our vote in **FOR** slots in Richmond. Although we are not gambling people ourselves, we agree with the folks that say, "Why not keep the money in Richmond?" We know several people who travel to Burnaby and New West now, and they spend considerable money in those locations, why not keep it here? The perfect place to have a casino of this type is the now defunct BridgePoint. It is the ideal location, no housing near, lots of parking, and the building is already there! Makes sense to us, so, add our vote for a **YES**, please. Folks that gamble, are going to gamble, if they have to drive, they will drive, or fly. Keep the money here we say.

Sincerely,

Lynne & Dave Gregory, Richmond BC.



05/28/2002



## **FACSIMILE/MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City of Richmond Mayor & Councilors

**FROM:** Becky Kiselbach

**DATE:** May 27, 2002

**SUBJECT: LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

**3 PAGES INCLUDING COVER PAGE**

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If you do not receive 3 pages in total, please call Becky Kiselbach at 604-303-1000.

Yours truly,

  
Becky Kiselbach

05/24/2002

16:05

NANAIMO HRCOORDINATOR → 16042337099

NO. 447

P02



# HARBOUR PARK MALL

#42 - 650 South Terminal Ave., Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5E3

Telephone: (250) 753-3545

Fax: (250) 753-3540

May 24, 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

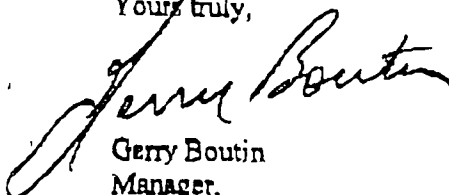
Re: Great Canadian Casino location adjacent to Harbour Park Mall, Nanaimo, BC

Since the Great Canadian Casino's inception in 1998 we have found the Casino to be good corporate neighbors.

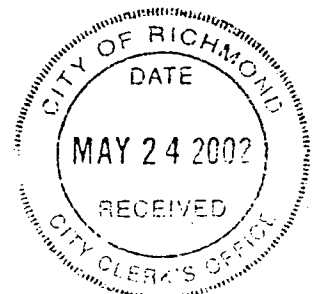
They take a proactive approach in making their business neighborhood a better place for all customers.

The Casino responds quickly to any of our requests and provides their best efforts to work together with us to resolve issues that may arise.

Yours truly,



Gerry Boutin  
Manager,  
Harbour Park Mall





May 22, 2002

Great Canadian Gaming Corporation  
350 - 13775 Commerce Parkway  
Richmond, BC  
V6V 2V4

Attention: Mr. Howard Blank

Dear Mr. Blank

This letter will confirm that the Great Canadian Gaming Corporation is a member of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce in good standing and has been a member since the year November 10, 1997.

If we can be of further service, please let me know.

Yours truly

Florence Gordon  
President



**BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTRE**

150 - 5890 No. 3 Road, Richmond, B.C. V6X 3P6  
<http://www.chamber.richmond.bc.ca>

Tel: (604) 278-2822 Fax: (604) 278-2972  
Email: [rec@chamber.richmond.bc.ca](mailto:rec@chamber.richmond.bc.ca)

100/100 P. 6567 #

RICHMOND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MAY 24 2002 13:24 604 278 2972

**Mayor and Councillors**

**From:** Jim Howard Consulting [profma2@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** May 28, 2002 10:58 AM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** Gaming Policy

Mr. Mayor and City Councillors:

As a long time resident/home owner (approximately 18 years), it is always a concern for me regarding the city I live in. As an active volunteer in the areas of community policing, crime watch patrol and now telecommunications for the Tall Ships.....shows my willingness to be involved in the advancement and growth of our community as a whole.

I truly believe that we are missing the boat when it comes to the current gaming policy by not being able to capitalize on the use of these profits fully. Many of our residents venture elsewhere to gamble....especially where the slot machines are present.

Furthermore, lotto booths (as you know) are everywhere....people gamble or will find a way to "take a chance" no matter what restrictions the city puts in place.

The citizens of Richmond should have the "Right to Choose"....to buy a lotto ticket...(which we do)...to purchase a raffle ticket (from a group fundraising...which we do)....play a hand of cards (which we do).....Slot machines (being allowed) and the gaming policy must be revamped to allow us individually, the freedom of choice in how we wish to spend our recreational dollars....

Enough said.....I want the policy to be changed so our City can increase its revenue to improve the standard of living for the majority of the residents.....here. and the elected officials not to bow down to the noisy few....for fear of losing votes at election time.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Howard

(a Richmond Home owner)

Telephone (604) 272-5235 (do not publish my telephone number please)

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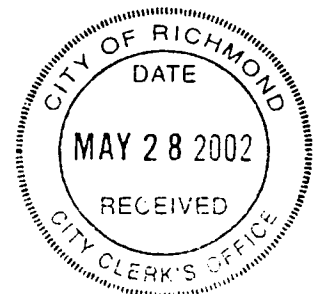
**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** elizabeth groves [groves@island.net]  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 10:13 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** slots

I am all in favour of slot machines in Richmond for the people that enjoy this kind of entertainment. It will create employment and also help reduce taxes. It should not be left up to one ethnic group to make the decision for all citizens of Richmond.

Elizabeth Groves



05/28/2002

## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** thompp@tdbank.ca  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 6:15 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** expanded gambling

I was at one time against the slot machines because I myself like to play them. But I was thinking I go out to the other places why not have them in Richmond, at least it would be benefiting our City not someone elses. We go out to New West, Burnaby and Coquitlam. Richmond should allow them so we can benefit from monies made on them. People are going to gamble whether someone else likes it or not.

Pauline Thompson



## **MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** heyitsme2@webtv.net  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 8:31 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Slot machines in Richmond

Dear folks,

Just want to express my opinion on "slot machines in Richmond"....I wont take up your time by repeating all the good results for Richmond these would have. I will just say.....Go for it!!!!!!!!!!  
Thanks for your attention.

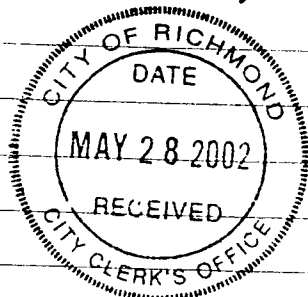
Sincerely,  
Anita Howard  
Richmond citizen



9340 Pinewell Cres.  
Richmond, B.C. V7A2C6  
May 21/02

Dear Sir or Madam -

As residents of the above address  
for 44 years, please put us down for  
2 votes FOR slot machines & the use of  
the Bridgeport Market "White Elephant" for  
something useful & usable there. If people are  
gamblers, they will & all this "goody  
two-shoes" Council protection won't stop  
them. Those that will, will & those that  
won't - won't. So why not get the  
revenue for things we need here in Richmond as  
they did in New Westminster - where we  
now go to gamble about twice a year.  
Would rather help Richmond than them.



Yours truly,  
Don & Shirl GELZ.

Dear Sir,

Once a month I go to a casino and I see no harm in having one a bit closer to home.

Some say I am not a real gambler but like the machines say "Play with your head - not over it."

My vote is yes we should have casino with slots.

Thank you

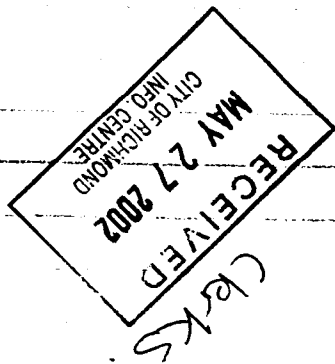
Derry Lemon



MAY 17/02

ATTN: COUNS KICH, KUMAGA,  
WE SUPPORT A FULL SERVICE CASINO IN  
RICHMOND.

Opaline Dent 4191 Granville Ave. Rich.  
Robert Dent. 4191, Granville Av, Rich.  
Burdley 8860 #1 Rd Richmond  
Ruth Lowry 329-8860 No 1 Rd Rich.  
Lynda Dyer - 229-8880 No. 1 Rd. Rich.



## **SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON GAMING POLICY – “IN OPPOSITION”**

### **Submissions received after Thursday, May 23, 2002 and prior to the Tuesday, May 28, 2002 Special Council Meeting**

1. Stephen Day, 5595 Lackner Crescent, Richmond
2. Shawn Jiang & Family, Moffatt Road, Richmond
3. Elizabeth Buck, 11246 Kingcome Avenue, Richmond
4. Cindy Crawford McPherson, 9480 Finn Road, Richmond
5. Gordon Wainwright
6. Bill Buck, 11246 Kingcome Avenue, Richmond
7. Barbara G. Buck, 8380 Heather Street, Richmond
8. James Green, 10320 Whistler Place, Richmond
9. Toni-Marie Norman
10. Karen Nitta
11. Tony Wah
12. David & Lily Louie, #14 – 6331 No. 1 Road, Richmond
13. Anjum Hashmi, 9260 No. 4 Road, Richmond
14. Peter Biggs, Emmanuel Christian Community, Richmond
15. Stephen Snelgrove & Christine Tsou
16. Donald & Kathy Moir, #4 – 10660 Springmont Drive, Richmond
17. Peter Hung
18. Jean Empey, #4 – 9820 Haddon Drive, Richmond
19. Margaret Rogers, #4 – 9820 Haddon Drive, Richmond
20. Sid Matheson

Fred Ursel, 3091 Saltspring Court, Richmond (2<sup>nd</sup> submission)

21. Laura Prescesky
22. Dorothy Milburn
23. Yvette & Vincent Yip
24. Brigitte Moore
25. Gigi Leung
26. Margaret Sherwood
27. David
28. Nick Loenen, 5611 Jaskow Drive, Richmond
29. Jayne Loenen, 5611 Jaskow Drive, Richmond
30. M. Croucher, 4960 Webster Road, Richmond
31. Erika Simm, 4991 Westminster Highway, Richmond
32. J. Becker, 4991 Westminster Highway, Richmond
33. Margaret Mah, 9320 Auburn Drive, Richmond
34. F.W. & N.W. Lytwyn
35. A.J. & J.R. Price, 8511 Pigott Road, Richmond
36. Garth & Sandra Robertson, 9411 Francis Road, Richmond
37. Larry Robertson, 9411 Francis Road, Richmond
38. Stephen & Glenis Todd, 9771 Pinewell Crescent, Richmond
39. Eileen Abercromby, 11620 Thorpe Road, Richmond
40. Fred Harwood, Richmond
41. Petition signed by 18 Richmond residents & 1 Vancouver resident

42. Petition signed by 21 Richmond residents
43. E.I. Haapamaki
44. P. Dermot & Grainne Murphy, #11 – 5111 Maple Road, Richmond
45. Joan Webb
46. Jeanette Amundson, 3260 Springford Avenue, Richmond
47. Alfred Lu, Richmond
48. Howard & Esther McIlveen, #3 – 3051 Springfield Drive, Richmond
49. Jenny Fung, #58 – 12500 McNeely Drive, Richmond
50. Rod Robertson, 9411 Francis Road, Richmond
51. Amy Robertson, 9411 Francis Road, Richmond
52. Roberta J. Kirby, 9460 McBurney Drive, Richmond
53. Yvonne Boram, 8811 Heather Street, Richmond
54. Richard Boram, 9840 Seagrave Road, Richmond
55. Al Connolly, Richmond Mental Health Team, #200 – 6061 No. 3 Road, Richmond
56. David Boram, 8811 Heather Street, Richmond
57. P. Chu, Richmond
58. Mary Louise Hiebert, #23 – 8631 Bennett Road, Richmond
59. Ken & Sylvia Thomas
60. Bill Wiedman
61. Derrick Kutny
62. Fred & Ruth Krause, Richmond
63. Joan McDermott
64. Deneanne Quamme, 9917 Ashwood Drive, Richmond

65. Joan Webb
66. Robin Oakley, Ainsworth Crescent, Richmond
67. Warren L. Dueck, 3640 Blundell Road, Richmond
68. Kevin Miller
69. Orval Chapman, #226 – 8880 Jones Road, Richmond, with accompanying petition signed by 14 individuals
70. Craig & Linda Boram, 9055 Dayton Avenue, Richmond
71. Allan & Pearl McHaffie, 8411 Lunen Road, Richmond
72. Chiu Kow Tam Leung, #812 – 6631 Minoru Boulevard, Richmond
73. Kwong-ling Leung, #812 – 6631 Minoru Boulevard, Richmond
74. David J. & Helen Anne Green, 1011 Douglas Crescent, Richmond
75. William W. & Nadine A. Steinman, #40 – 6600 Lucas Road, Richmond
76. Rev. Stuart W. Appenheimer, Brighthouse United Church, Richmond

## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Stephen Day [daystephen@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** May 23, 2002 9:12 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Special Council Meeting on Gaming Policy, May 28, 2002

To City Clerk's Office  
City of Richmond

I will be unable to attend the above meeting but I am providing my view on this matter by email.

I am strongly opposed to expansion of gambling in Richmond.

I am very concerned about the addictive effects of gambling on families and particularly children. If one child is adversely affected by an increase in gambling by irresponsible adults, the money obtained by the City will not be worth it. The studies clearly show this will happen.

I urge Council to find ways of raising money other than gambling with our children's welfare. I am in favour of higher property taxes if that is what it takes.

Stephen Day  
5595 Lackner Crescent  
Richmond, B.C.



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Shaodi Jiang [shaodi\_jiang@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** May 23, 2002 10:46 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** No Gambling, please!

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I'm a newcomer to Richmond and I currently live on Moffatt Road nearby the City Hall. I attended the hearing in early May and was not happy because it seemed to me some councillors were in favour of the gambling expansion. Please keep in mind that gambling is not ethical because it encourages the greediness in people's bad nature and the lust of becoming rich overnight, without hardworking. Relying on gambling for more revenues is not a healthy idea. Please vote for the goodness of the people who voted you in your office.

For your information, a colleague of mine got one divorce, one split with a lady who lived together with him for two years, because he couldn't help going to the casino. He has a girlfriend who is studying in England and is waiting for him to go and marry her in July. I'm afraid he wouldn't be able to go because he still visits the casino and lost more than \$4,000 last month. His salary is \$27,000 a year.

More seniors will contribute most of their pension to the slot machines, which the Chinese call it "Tiger Machine," machines that can eat people. I don't want my fellow residents to be eaten by the Tiger Machines and I don't want my son to be lured by it. Please help vote against it.

May God Bless Richmond.

Thank you for voting against gambling expansion.

Sincerely,

Shawn Jiang & Family

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Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: <http://messenger.msn.com>



11246 Kingcome Ave  
RICHMOND B.C V7A 4W9  
604-275-5044

May 23/02

Dear Sirs:

4040-04

WE DO NOT WANT SLOT MACHINES IN RICHMOND

Gambling is addictive.

It has brought much sorrow to families - wives, husbands, parents, children & friends.

A young man I knew, lost everything through it - his wife & family, his house, his car and finally his tools for the job he was trained for. He couldn't work. If he did take up some job, money was taken to pay of his debts, leaving him nearly destitute.

Another man, my husband worked with, whenever he got his paycheck would head off to gamble. His poor wife & family never knew if there would be food on the table.

Do you not see? - instead of quick funds for Richmond, the long term will be a dreadful debt - welfare costs, court costs, policing costs, increased medical needs.

With gambling, comes burglaries, drug trafficking, and violence.

Please accept the message that Richmond has already given -

NO SLOT MACHINES IN RICHMOND

Sincerely

Mrs. Elizabeth Buck



Cindy Crawford McPherson  
9480 Finn Road  
Richmond, BC V7A 2L4

May 24, 2002

To: Mayor and Council  
City of Richmond:  
604-278-5139

I am faxing with this note, a letter sent to the Richmond to the Richmond Review last fall and subsequently published. Please review the statistics for the popular vote for Mayor Brodie and realize that the election was an open and democratic process, which reflected the will of the people of Richmond.

Let's keep Richmond a good place to live,



Cindy McPherson

	OW	OW
	KY	
	AE	
	DE	
	WE	

4040-04



Cindy Crawford McPherson  
9480 Finn Road  
Richmond, BC V7A 2L4

October 15, 2001

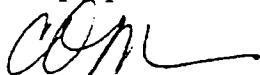
To: Bhreandian Clugston  
Editor, Richmond Review

Great work on your prompt coverage of the Richmond Election. It was nice to have the results on our front door on Sunday.

I would like to address this issue of a Public Referendum on Gambling in Richmond. Many candidates for public office were supporting this idea and one candidate, Malcolm Brodie clearly stated that he did not think that the revenues from gambling in Richmond would offset the social costs. I would like to suggest that the election on Saturday should be considered our referendum. The people of Richmond gave Mr. Brodie more than 61% of the popular vote. Let's save money and regard this as our referendum. As was commented last year when Mr. Chretien held his early re-election, "You've already got the job, Jean, just do it." Mr. Brodie, you have the support of the people of Richmond and let's look at healthier ways of revenue generation in Richmond other than gambling.

One final note, a friend who is a social worker connected with a local senior citizen's group told us that Mr. Brodie was the only one to show up at their "All Candidates Meeting." Her comment, "Anyone who has time for Senior Citizens has my vote."

Keep up the Good Work,



Cindy McPherson

*Published  
October 18 in the  
Richmond Review*

## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Gordon Wainwright [gjwainwr@sfu.ca]  
**Sent:** May 24, 2002 12:23 PM  
**To:** mayoradncouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gaming Policy - Opposition against Gaming in Richmond

to the Mayor, City Councillors via City Clerks Office - Richmond, B.C.

This is a note to you to express our total opposition in having any gaming facilities in Richmond. These types of establishments do NOT contribute to the betterment of society and in fact costs us greatly....in terms of gambling addictions, alcohol and drug abuse, poverty, crime, theft and the abuse of many children and breakup of families.

Only the tycoons who "spin doctor" their positions win and our wonderful City of Richmond will end up the big loser if gambling is approved here. In fact, I encourage you to shut down the No.3 Road and Airport Way establishment by not renewing their business license.

Thanks for your consideration.....from someone who NEVER writes in or comments about these types of matters.....so carefully consider this. If you'd like further information or a personal appearance, kindly contact me.

Regards

Gord Wainwright



11246 Kingcome Avenue

Richmond, B.C.

VT A 4 W 9

May 23/02

Richmond City Council

c/o City Clerk

6917 No. 3 Road

Richmond, B.C.

Re: Special meeting on Gaming Policy, May 28/02

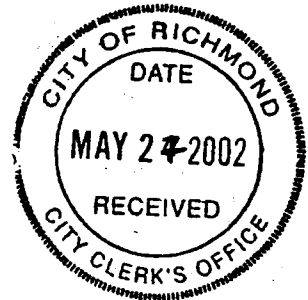
Dear Council:

I write to register my view on the above issue. I am against allowing expanded gaming in Richmond. The whole thing is complete folly and bespeaks ruination of individuals and families. For persons to use their earnings in this risky way was never in mind. The ground has been well covered already. These slot machines would be very tempting to young adults as well as all ages.

It is well known that it is harder to reform a gambler than an alcoholic.

Please vote against changing Richmond's policy to support full service gaming.

Yours truly,  
Bill Buck



8380 Heather Street,  
Richmond, B.C. V6Y 2R4  
May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002

THE MAYOR,  
City Council,  
c/o City Clerk,  
City of Richmond, B.C.

Your Worship the Mayor:

Re: Expanding Gambling Proposed in the  
City of Richmond.

As a land owner and tax payer in the City of Richmond, I object to the proposed expanding of gambling in the City of Richmond. It has proved a major detriment in other places.

I am a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ who has shed His precious blood for me at the Cross and I cannot condone gambling nor the proposed expanding of it.

Sincerely,

*B. G. Buck*

Barbara G. Buck



James J. Green  
10326 Whistler Plce  
Richmond B.C.  
V7E 4C5

To whom it may concern,

(The Richmond Mayor and council)

It is with great concern that I would implore you to not extend gambling in this city. What exists is bad enough. A gathering place for every kind of corruption and mixture.

To promote this kind of thing for monetary gain is the fulfillment & promotion of what scripture speaks against. (Timothy chap 6 Verse 10) "For the love of money is the root of every evil." The root of evil is not the money, but the love of it. To provide a means to entice persons into such places is evil. Good government would not do this.

Yours truly  
James Green



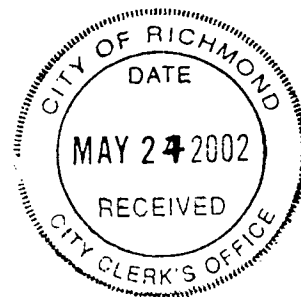
## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Phillips, Marylou  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 10:17 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncillors  
**Subject:** Anti-Gambling

Toni-Marie Norman, 273-4998, (Richmond resident) telephoned the Mayor's Office this morning, wanting to let Council know she is against gambling.

Mary Lou  
Receptionist/Clerk, Administration  
local 4153



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Vince [nittakristensen@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 24, 2002 8:56 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gaming Policy

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

I will not be able to attend the May 28 special council meeting on Gaming Policy due to work but just wanted to add my voice to those opposing expanded gambling as a means to raise revenues for our beautiful city. I've lived in Richmond all my life (46 years) and plan to live out my days here. It is very troublesome that some want to depend on revenue from gambling, and that some want to make Richmond more attractive to tourists by expanding gambling here. I'm sure we can all think of fabulous tourist destinations all over the world that are visited for many reasons other than gambling. I wish I could offer some sure-fire solutions to the city's financial problems but I can't. I'm sure it is very difficult in these days to produce, manage and maintain the city's budget. However, I agree with those who state that expanding gambling could bring more problems than solutions. I don't want to take that gamble. Do you?

Respectfully,

Karen Nitta



## Mayor and Councillors

From: tony.wah@shaw.ca  
Sent: May 24, 2002 10:18 PM  
To: mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
Subject: Gaming Policy in Richmond

Mayor and Councillors,

I am a long time resident of Richmond (over 10 years).

I oppose to:

- (1) proposal to add slot machines in Richmond;
- (2) excuse that adding slot machines will stop increase taxes in next 3 years.

The first one is obvious, gaming is no good to anybody, causing social problem.

The second one is an extortion, threaten or blackmail to Richmond residents. The role of city council is to carry out the wishes of residents. That's why we cast vote to you Mayor and Councillors. If we are running out of budget, it is the residents to tell councillors how to deal with it - increase taxes, or cut jobs or cut expenditure. It is not a mean for a "brainless" councillor to threaten residents that if we are not agree with adding slot machines, they will raise taxes without consulting residents.

I am glad Mr. Kumagii only visited Las Vegas, not red light area in Holland or Germany. If not, when he returns, he will propose to setup a red light area in Richmond too. Does that make sense?

How about license to grow pots, then we can get a guarantee for next 10 years without any tax raise! Or if we license to break-in or carjack, then may be we will get a guarantee for 50% deduction in tax for the next 5 years! Hey may be let the injection house setup on No.3 Road then we will get money from provincial and federal government! Then a lazy councillor don't need to find ways to cut budget. The person who said something like this is insulting the intelligence of Richmond residents.

I hope the city election will come very soon, so that we can vote out those brainless, lazy candidate(s).

Mr. Mayor and Councillors, this is the time you represent your voters! Anyone who is not fit to the job is the "weakest link" and will be vote out in next election!!!

Tony Wah



## Mayor and Councillors

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From: Dave Louie [mrdavelouie@yahoo.com]  
Sent: May 24, 2002 10:29 PM  
To: mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
Subject: No to Expanded Gaming in Richmond

May 24, 2002

To: Mayor and Councillors: City of Richmond

RE: No Further Expansion to Gambling Facilities in Richmond

We want to say a clear "NO!" to expanded gambling facilities in Richmond. Although some people may point to potential economic benefits and increased tax revenues for the community, the social and economic costs for this gain would be too great.

Increasing the amount of gaming facilities will increase the potential for a variety of problems. General problems affecting the community include higher theft crimes that will result in higher policing and security costs and eventually property insurance costs.

Of greater concern is the damage to individuals and families. Casual gambling with increased opportunity may lead to pathological gambling. Depletion of family savings, large accumulations of debt, bankruptcy and bad credit are some of the financial problems. Families of pathological gamblers may suffer from additional physical and emotional problems including physical and emotional abuse, anger and depression. Family members dealing with these problems may resort to drinking, smoking, overeating and drug use. The potential costs to our health and social services to treat these problems would be very significant.

My wife and I have a young family here in Richmond. We love the community, the parks, the recreation facilities and the amenities. We would hate to see the families of friends, neighbours and our son's friends fall apart because of gambling.

As two voters and taxpayers in Richmond, we hope you grant some consideration to our views.

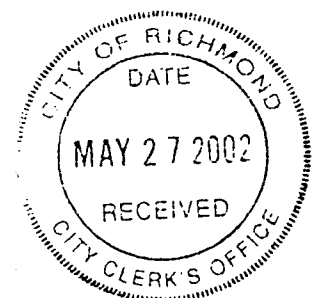
Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

David & Lily Louie  
#14 - 6331 Number One Road, Richmond, BC V7C 1T4  
E-mail: mrdavelouie@yahoo.com

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## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Anjum Hashmi [ahashmi2599@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 25, 2002 9:11 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Special Council Meeting on Gaming Policy.

Respected City Council Members,

To me this is a very important issue to which we all should voice our concerns, so the our opinion is reflected in the Gaming Policy making process.

I am totally against allowing any Casinos, Slot Machines or any other form of Gambling facility in our city. The reason being as follows:

1. There disadvantages of gambling are much more than the tax money that City / Government makes. In the end government will end up paying more to the community needs resulting from the evil of gambling.
2. We all know, Gambling is not an economic activity which would generate money or boost the economy of the city. It is merely an act of collecting money from lots of people (the losers) and dishing it out to the organizers of the show (the Casino owners). Yes a little part goes to the government as taxes and a very negligible amount goes to the so-called winner.
3. It is a known fact that gambling is addictive and once you indulge into it, no matter you win or loose, you tend to play more and more. It is an illusion, that there are some winners and some losers in gambling. The plain fact proven by mathematics is that, if you infinitely gamble, the odds are set in favour of organizers in a way that you will always loose.
4. From the above explanation, it is clear that gambling is not an economic activity, rather, it is a process which generates "Losers" in the society.
5. When the losers are left with nothing more to loose, they start hurting other members of the community (increase in crime rates) or become dependent on social welfare (parasite on social system) depriving the actual deserving members of community.
6. Increase in Casinos and Gambling centres in our community will give wrong message to our younger generation. Instead of developing habits of hard work and earning "bread and butter" through real work, they will rely on swindling money.

Yours truly,

(Anjum Hashmi)  
9260, No.4 Road  
Richmond, B.C.  
V7A 2Y7



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Peter Biggs [pdazs@familynet.bc.ca]  
**Sent:** May 25, 2002 11:20 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gambling Expansion

I am a Richmond Resident - I love our city and I am very appreciative of the good work of councils through the years.

I have never spoken out in this way... However I am DEEPLY concerned and OPPOSED to the current proposal to expand gambling in our city.

My reasons are many...

It is simply morally questionable to use dollars that come from many who can ill afford it. The philosophy of getting rich without work, the escapism and dream of "winning", coupled with the ridiculous odds.

To use a machine that promises a "win" when it is programmed to not do so, to garner public funds is immoral. Not to mention the issues of youth values, addiction... And crime increase.

Respectfully Submitted

Peter Biggs - Senior Pastor - Emmanuel Christian Community - Richmond, BC.

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I would like to invite you to visit our Emmanuel Web Site...  
<http://www.emmanuelchristiancommunity.com>



**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** Stephen [steve1@direct.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 9:46 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Special Council Meeting on Gaming Policy

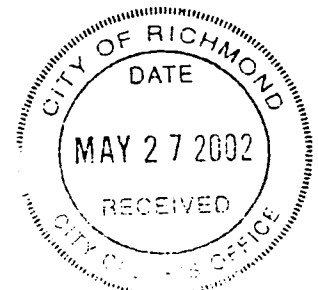
We very much wish we could be present for your meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2002 but we are working at that time. Thank you for allowing us to express our views this way. I do appreciate it.

My family and I have very definite views on this subject. In a word: NO.

We do not want any further expansion of gambling in Richmond. We will not vote for any councilor who supports such a policy. In fact, we would like to see the present gambling that is here already, to be removed immediately. See,... that is **the** problem. Once gambling is allowed in, it is next to impossible to get rid of.

Sincerely,

Stephen Snelgrove  
Christine Tsou



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Donald L. Moir [moirlaw@axion.net]  
**Sent:** May 21, 2002 10:17 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Cc:** Kathy Moir  
**Subject:** Gaming

Dear Mayor and Council,

This email is in lieu of our attendance at the upcoming community meeting. Neither of us likes those sorts of environments (shudder!).

**We oppose the expansion of gaming in our community.**

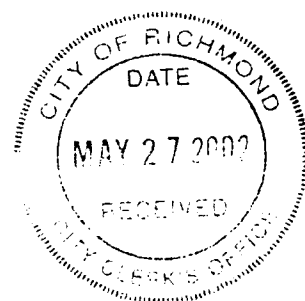
We moved to Richmond over ten years ago to raise our daughter because of the family oriented and relatively safe nature of this community. We think this is a wonderful place to live and raise our child.

We appreciate the dog off leash areas where we daily enjoy our dog and the community of dog owners that live here in Richmond. Everyday on the drive to work, we admire the handiwork of the City's gardeners and the many displays in our parks and along our boulevards. Every week we visit the library. We know these things cost money and that they have come because of the choices previous Councils and perhaps yourselves have made on behalf of we citizens. We understand quality of life costs something. While none of us likes increased taxes or fees for city services, we are prepared to see an increase in our taxes rather than see the diminishment in our quality of life that we feel certain would come with an increase in gaming activity in our City.

Let those who wish to participate in gaming activities or to profit from gaming business do so elsewhere. Let Richmond continue to be a City that celebrates families, community, nature and beauty. Let's be different and attract those who would be different with us. **Please oppose the expansion of gaming in our City.** It doesn't have to make sense (by other peoples' standards of sense), it only has to be what we want as community.

All the best,

Kathy Moir and  
 Donald L. Moir  
 4-10660 Springmont Drive  
 Richmond BC  
 V7E 1W1  
 (604) 277-7723



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05/27/2002

**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Peter Hung [psmhung@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 3:47 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Fw: Expanded Gambling

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Peter Hung  
**To:** [mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca)  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 25, 2002 10:07 PM  
**Subject:** Expanded Gambling

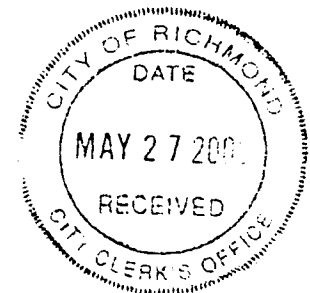
As you can see many letters of opinion expressed in the Richmond News and other media, opposed to the expanded gambling in Richmond. Comments from editor's desk of the papers, etc. strongly condemned the councillors who suggested raising money from gambling without considering the controversial consequences. I would say the majority of the Chinese community in Richmond opposed to gambling.

Councillor Kiichi Kumagai said "The community will not go down in flames". But, I want to tell him that the community will certainly be burned down gradually. By the time deterioration of this community is observed, he would be gone already!

I strongly oppose to the gambling proposal of re-introduced by Kumagai.

Resident of Richmond for 26 years.

Peter Hung



## MayorandCouncillors

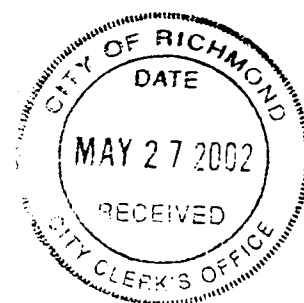
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**From:** Margaret & Jean [marjean@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 3:55 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Re Casino

Dear Mayor and councillors;

I am **VERY** much opposed to any expansion of gambling in the city of Richmond. I have a friend who is a compulsive gambler and he has caused great distress in the family. They are on the verge of losing their house because of his gambling and the debts that he has incurred. The cost of his rehabilitation is another strain on the family and finances.

Sincerely Jean Empey a Richmond taxpayer. #4-9820 Haddon Dr.



**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Margaret & Jean [marjean@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 4:24 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Expanded gambling

Dear Mayor Brodie and Councillors,

I am very strongly opposed to expanded gambling in Richmond. I have seen first hand in my family what havoc gambling can have in a family as my nephew is a compulsive gambler and it has torn his immediate family apart. The stress level is unbelievable and has caused a financial strain not only on the family but into the community as well.

The dependence on gambling to increase funding was definitely not an option when you were voted into power. May you not be coerced into thinking this will solve all ills. Through proper decisions on your part and even increased taxes, if needs be, I'm sure you will be given the wisdom to come through this crises without resorting to such a destructive means of revenue as increased gambling.

Thank you. Sincerely, Margaret Rogers, #4, 9820 Haddon Drive. V7E 6K2.



**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Sid Matheson [shido-san@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 6:10 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Richmond News article Gambling vote isn't a moral issue

According to the Richmond News article that appeared Sunday May 26th 2002 in their Upfront news section a special meeting is to be held Tuesday in the council chambers at 7, and correspondence is welcomed from those who are unable to attend. This is my correspondence regarding the idea of increased gambling operations within Richmond.

I stand firmly against this activity. It was not in the will of the people when members were voted in to support increases in gambling. There are no limitations that can suitably assuage the present concern. People do not wish the corruption that attends these events in their neighbourhoods. The recreational speeding that is occurring and drive-by shootings are too much already. Casinos are just elevating the trend. Please desist in this support.

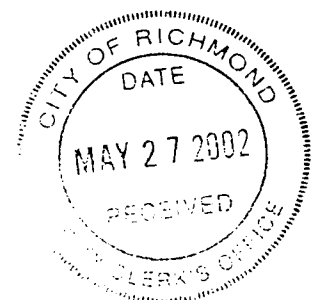
I understand the temptation to raise capital for the city in the face of increasing costs but somethings cannot be considered as a way of bringing in revenue and this is one - selling body parts, for example, would be another. Both are objectionable.

Thank you for your time.

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05/27/2002

# STOP EXTENDED GAMBLING!



IN RICHMOND

FRED URSEL  
3091 SALTSPRING COURT  
RICHMOND, B.C.  
V7C 1W3  
PH.:604.274.4808



**Mayor and Councillors**

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**From:** Laura Prescesky [laura\_prescesky@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 7:50 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Expanded Gambling in Richmond, a student's opinion

May 26, 2002

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

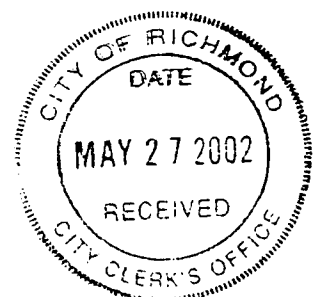
As a youth I'm just shocked and wary for what the future holds especially when those in leadership of our community are considering expanded gambling. Maybe I'm just naïve but is government really just as fickle as it seems? In 1997, the issue of expanded gambling was put to rest and now, only 5 years later, it is back on the table! What has changed? City council is just like a young child. It keeps pushing the issue until it eventually gets what it wants.

Obviously, there is a lot of resistance and animosity towards expanded gambling in Richmond. The worst part is that the people of Richmond have already spoken a definite and resounding 'no' on this issue. I am proud that Richmond is a place with excellent facilities and a low crime rate. What does the city council want Richmond to become? The joke among my friends is that Surrey was created to keep the 6 o'clock news interesting. Expanded gambling has no place in Richmond and I don't want to have the future generations grow up in a place that accepts gambling, an activity that is morally wrong. Yes, it is all well and good to say that revenue from casinos benefit the community by providing extra funding for schools and community facilities. However, we cannot honestly expect that vision of the future! Any extra money that is generated for the City of Richmond *will* go directly back into the community but not to help the children and those programs that really need financing. Instead, the extra money will be necessary to combat an increased crime rate that will surely result.

Laura Prescesky, Grade 12 Student

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Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: [Click Here](#)



**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** Dorothy [dot@pro.net]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 9:20 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gaming policy

*As was decided a few years ago - gambling casinos are not welcome in Richmond. That decision should remain and not be allowed to change by a few who do not have the best interests of the city in mind.*

*They are just another means of corruption to many.*

*I vote 'NO' to allowing them into our city.*

*D.Milburn <[dot@pro.net](mailto:dot@pro.net)>*



05/27/2002

## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Vincent Ip [v\_ip\_1@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 10:00 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Cc:** editor@richmond-news.com  
**Subject:** Gaming in Richmond

Dear Mayor Brodie and Members of Council:

We would like to clearly convey to our Mayor and Councillors that we, as residents of Richmond, have not changed our attitude towards gambling and Richmond's limited gaming policy over the past few years. We have been very proud of the previous Council's position that this City does not support the expansion of gaming and will not consider new gaming facilities.

As parents of two children, we are seriously concerned about and definitely opposed to the recent proposal to change the above gaming policy. Three reasons were cited for a review of the policy in the May 8, 2002 Report to Council from the Manager, Policy Planning regarding Gaming in Richmond. Instead, we consider these reasons as evidence that we do NOT need changes to our existing policy:

1. No Occurrence of Negative Implications

As far as Richmond is concerned, this lack of negative implications should, for the most part, be attributed to the wisdom of the previous Council, with the support of Richmond residents, in keeping gambling as well as the associated negative implications under effective control by upholding the limited gaming policy.

On the other hand, in New Westminster, there are indications that incidences of criminal activities are linked to the expansion of gaming, according to the May 8 Staff Report. Again, this report quoted other studies which show that increased gaming has led to corresponding increases in problem gambling and crime.

2. Internet Gaming Opportunities

The Police's comment regarding the increasing gambling opportunity available to people through the Internet is a good observation. With increasing opportunity for gambling already provided by the Internet, we do not need expanded gaming facilities in Richmond.

3. Richmond Residents Going to Other Municipalities to Gamble

We do believe that distance is an effective deterrent, that is, the longer the travelling distance, the more deterrent effect it has on the frequency of visiting a casino. To have a full service casino close by in Richmond will increase the number of casino visits by Richmond residents, thus encouraging a behaviour which has far-reaching negative social and economic impacts.

We do not need to change our policy which is working fine today. We do not need to create a social problem, which will require additional resources to cure, control and monitor, and even to prevent its manifestation into further problems.

Without promoting a gambling culture, Richmond still has many other potentials, including its hardworking population, to stay economically healthy and competitive.

We would be interested in receiving a reply from you.

Yours truly,  
 Yvette and Vincent Ip



## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Rodger/Brigitte Moore  
**Sent:** May 26, 2002 10:08 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncillors  
**Subject:** Gaming Expansion  
To the Mayor and Councillors,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

since I will not be able to attend the public meeting about "Gaming Expansion" on Tuesday, May 28th I am sending you an e-mail regarding my views.

I am, like many others, opposed to gaming expansion. If there was no addictive component to gambling - why does there exist a "Gamblers Anonymous" group in Richmond?

As an ordinary citizen I of course have not done any case studies on the effect of gambling, but I know, that there are case studies out there, and the effects are overwhelmingly negative.

That is why I appeal to you - please don't allow any gaming expansion. Please don't bring 300 slot machines to Richmond.

There might be a temporal monetary gain but the cost to society, the ruin of lives, is much higher!

Sincerely yours,

Brigitte Moore



## MayorandCouncillors

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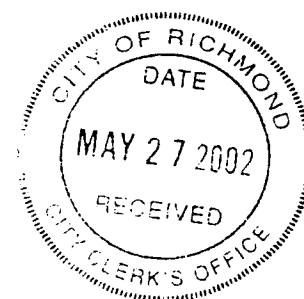
**From:** Gigi Leung [ggleung@shaw.ca]

**Sent:** May 27, 2002 12:31 AM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

As a Voter, I strongly disagree with the slot machine motion. I'm against every kind of gambling! I don't want Richmond poisoned.

Regards,  
Gigi leung



05/27/2002

## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Margaret Sherwood [msherwood@richmond.sd38.bc.ca]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 7:37 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gaming policy

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Councillors:

Just a note to let you know that I am opposed to the proposed new gaming policy regarding expanded gambling. I have not changed my mind since the last time this issue was brought forward, as stated by some councillors and I specifically voted for the Mayor and certain councillors because of their stance against expanded gambling. Thank you for your time.

Yours truly,  
Margaret Sherwood



## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Amazing Grace [psalm@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 12:29 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** oppose expanded gambling  
To the mayor and councillors:

I never saw a gambler enjoy family life or really getting rich . If Richmond City hall tried using slot machines to get rich, it would impact family values. I think it's just like a vampire sucking blood on individual families.

David



05/27/2002

112

*Nick Loenen*

5611 Jaskow Dr., Richmond, B.C. V7E 5W4 Tel. 604-274-3868 Fax 604-274-3867  
E-mail [nloenen@attcanada.ca](mailto:nloenen@attcanada.ca) Visit Fair Voting BC [www.fairvotingbc.com](http://www.fairvotingbc.com)

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May 26, 2002

By Fax 1 page

RE: GAMBLING

Dear Mayor and Council:

There is much we do not know about gambling because we lack the data, research and studies. But one thing we do know – those who can least afford it spend a disproportionately large part of their income on gambling.

When government preys on the poor in my behalf, it makes me feel like a pimp. I prefer a tax increase.

Also, the argument in favour of expanded gambling is full of holes. For example, the Great Canadian Casino claims it creates 60 jobs. They want us to think these are brand new jobs that would not otherwise exist. Nonsense! There is only so much money to go around. Money spend on gambling might otherwise be used for theatre, or golf, or feeding the kids.

Similarly, the claim that the City will get \$6 million more in revenue is bogus. How much of that amount would come to the City anyway via increased activity in other forms of recreation? We don't know. The staff report makes no mention of it. The most pertinent facts are missing.

Why place a tax on the poor, court more crime, and increased marital and family stress, addictions, bankruptcies, and lower job productivity when the benefits are so dubious?

Sincerely Yours,

Nick Loenen



*"The Glory of God is a person fully alive" Ireneus*

Jayne Loenen  
5611 Jaskow Dr., Richmond,  
B.C.  
V7F 5W4

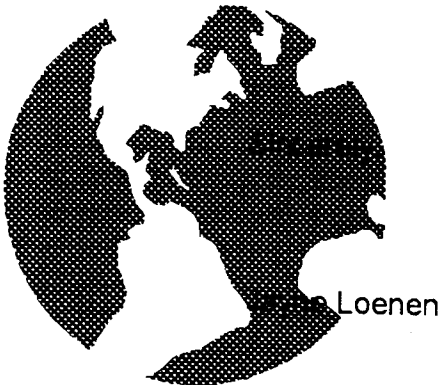
May 26, 2002

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Gambling

Three hundred one armed bandits, and expanded gambling?  
Don't even think of it.

I am a mother and grandmother, maintaining strong family values is  
important. Please do not gamble with the future of my children.



604-278-5139

May 27-2002

NO

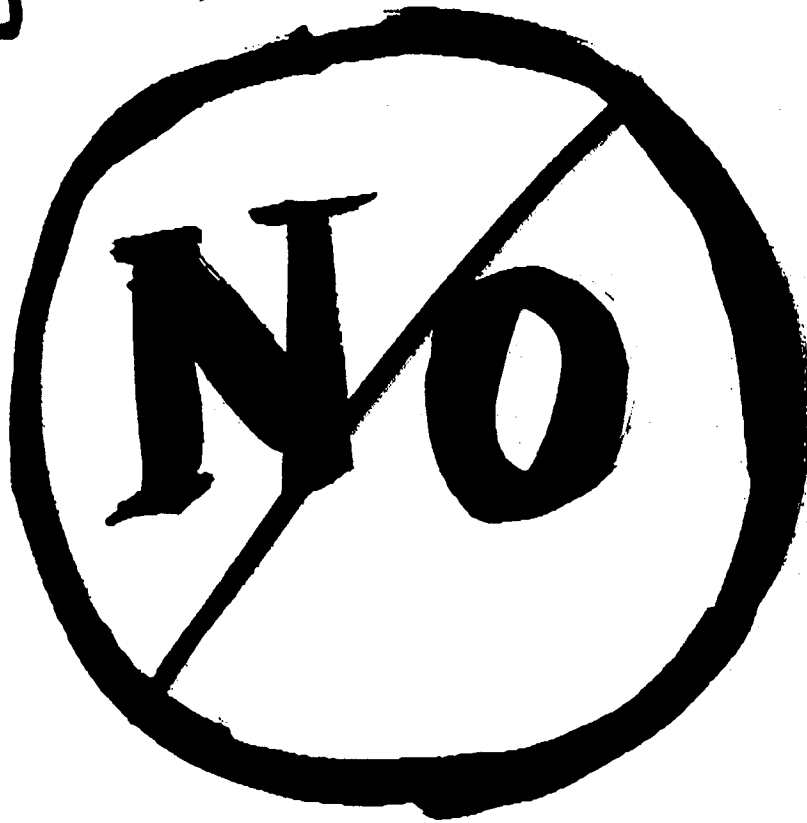
EXPANDED GAMBLING

M. CROUCHER  
4960 WEBSTER RD.  
RICHMOND, B.C.  
V7C 1L3

*M. Croucher*



May 26 / 2002



EXPANDED GAMBLING

Erika Simm  
4991 Westminister Hwy.  
Richmond, V7C 8T7

E. Simm



# No

to expanded  
gambling!

J. Becker  
441 Westminister Hwy.  
Richmond, B.C. V7C 1B7

\* T. Boh.



May 27/02

To: Mayor M. Brodie

FROM: Margaret Mah  
9320 Auburn Dr  
Richmond, BC  
V7A 5A8

I am still not in favour of expanded gambling in Richmond. I would rather pay increased taxes to maintain at least our current quality of life, which I believe would be greatly harmed by expanded gambling. Thank you for holding on to your moral stance in the face of increasing pressure from the 'other' side.

Yours truly,  
Margaret Mah

118



May 27, 2002

Richmond Mayor and Council:

In response to council again revisiting expanded gambling in our city, we are definitely still opposed to any expansion. The issue of gambling is controversial but the social implications are far worse than any suggested benefits.

Advocates of expanded gambling are only looking at the dollar signs! They say it will draw tourists, reduce our taxes and fund local charities. Bus loads of tourists. I think not. With the ever increasing downloading of costs from more senior levels of government our taxes will inevitably rise. Only a small portion of gambling revenues go towards charitable causes, with the bulk of the profit going to the owners of the casino. Proponents seem to overlook the fact that this \$6 million isn't "new" money. It would come from other areas such as restaurants, entertainment facilities, shopping malls and rent payments. Do we want to sustain our many current community businesses, or make one business, Great Canadian Gaming Corp., richer?

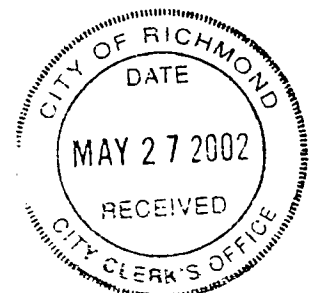
Saying we've already got the problem, but we don't get the benefits of the money is no good reason for inviting higher social costs. Slot machines are extremely addictive. Access is a barrier to gambling. Baring slots would reduce the number of new players of slot machines. Let those who are already gambling in Coquitlam, New Westminster, Burnaby and the U.S. continue to travel to lose their money.

Mayor Brodie has said boosting the economy of the city should be done the "old-fashioned" way, through hard work and initiative. "It's not the easy way, but it's a good way". We agree. We need a responsible council who will protect the welfare of the citizens. VOTE NO.

F. W. Lytwyn



N. B. Lytwyn



8511 Pigott Rd  
Rmnd B.C. V7A2C  
May 25/02

Rmnd City Council  
M/c Mayor

Dear Sir & Madam

My wife and I, John & Jessie Price  
do not approve of increased gambling  
slot machines etc. in Rmnd. as we  
believe it only adds to proliferation  
of evil & crime, and many sorrows.

Yours sincerely

A.J. Price.  
J.A. Price

P.S. For rulers are not a terror to a good work  
but to an evil one  
The Bible - Romans 13

P.S. Better to the Taxes.



Garth and Sandra Robertson  
9411 Francis Rd.  
Richmond, BC

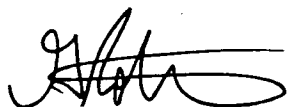
City Clerk  
City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3 Rd.  
Richmond, BC

Count us definately **OPPOSED** FULL SERVICE GAMING POLICY in Richmond. The expansion of gambling and casinos will be a wrong move. The councillors have to realize on critial issues such as this, they are "setting the table" for the future, and this responsibility must be held carefully.

I am a father of seven children and we enjoy a pleasant life and neighbourhood in Richmond. we don't want any of our children to be gotten by the gambling fever down the road. In my employment I have to do with many workers that are close to or on the poverty line, and gambling increased anywhere increases the debt load to where its unbearable. Through finacial problems and strain it even breaks marriages and families.

The Richmond City Council should consider this a poor way to get money from its people. We would rather have our Property Taxes increased and know it's going to a healthy atmoshere. The Councillors should not convince themselves this is a way to get revenue.

Yours Truly,



Garth and Sandra Robertson  
604-274-8138



City Clerk

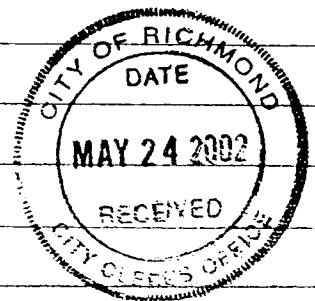
City of Richmond

6941 No. 3 Rd

Richmond BC.

I'm totally against the full service gaming policy and the expansion of gambling. Any more gaming or gambling is going to do nobody any good. Richmond is a right place to live right now and expanded gambling is going to make it worse. I think the personal bankruptcy rate is only going to increase and so is the separating of families. We do not need casinos all over our beautiful city.

Larry Robertson.



Stephen & Glenis Todd  
9771 Pinewell Crescent  
Richmond, B.C. V7A 2C7

May 27, 2002

CITY OF RICHMOND

TO: THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Dear Sirs/Madames

We are writing to protest the possibility of expanded gambling in our city.

As bringing up a family in this community, we firmly believe that gambling is a horrid influence on young people. It incites GREED, one of our worst human features.

We know firsthand the tragic results that can be caused by this terribly addictive pursuit. A good family friend of ours became totally addicted to gambling. It ruined him financially, broke up his marriage and left a broken hearted wife and two small children. Even if statistically this type of thing doesn't often happen, one such case should be enough to stop the spread of this proposal.

As well, why encourage people to waste millions of dollars on such a senseless pursuit. Is this money not far better spent on the many local businesses offering legitimate goods and services? There are far more positive ways to stimulate the local economy and raise the needed taxes.

Please uphold the right resolves of council in earlier years and cast your vote against the expanding of gambling in Richmond. We would personally rather pay more property tax than see this go ahead!



Sincerely,

*Stephen Todd*      *Glenis Todd*

Stephen & Glenis Todd

123

11620 Thorpe Road,  
Richmond, B.C.,  
V6X 1J6  
May 26, 2002.

The Mayor and Council,  
The City Of Richmond,  
Richmond, B.C.,

Re: Gaming Policy .

Mayor Brodie has stated that "Boosting the economy should be done the old fashioned way, through hard work and initiative. It's not easy but it's a good way."

The citizens of Richmond elected him, partly because he campaigned against expanded gambling for Richmond, Is anyone listening to him?

Those who favour gambling expansion keep reiterating that we need the money so taxpayers won't face increases in their property taxes to provide the necessary services like firehalls and policing. May I remind them that the money received will not be from the GENEROUS GAMBLING INTERESTS, but from many of the same people whose taxes you are supposedly trying to save?

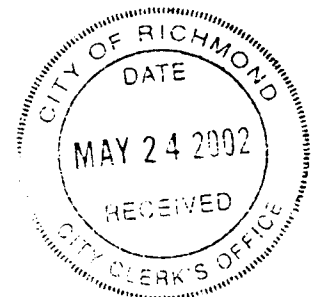
As a taxpayer in Richmond for over 50 years, I would rather pay a fair if hefty increase in property taxes, and have efficient management of real value, than turn the gambling interests loose on the poorest members of our society who most need to win, but can least afford to lose. Let's not take food from the children of the community that has already rejected the concept of expanded gambling, but is being bombarded and persuaded by special interest groups that won't take "NO" for an answer.

Prevention is better than cure! Please don't sell out our whole community to the threshold of calculated risk of added crime and problem gambling, which will only show when it's too late to stop it. Broken homes and bankruptcies take time!

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

*E. Abercromby*  
Eileen Abercromby,  
604-278-0503.



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Fred Harwood [fharwood@richmond.sd38.bc.ca]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 11:43 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Expanded Gambling Issue and our Community Birthright

May 25, 2002

Re: What is the Price of Our Community Birthright?

To the Editor:

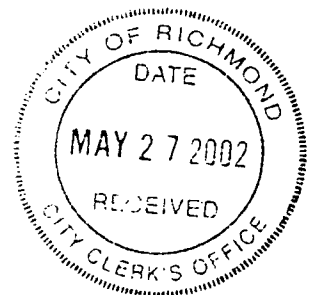
We have been debating the expansion of gambling in our city. The question revolves around the cost to our community versus the added revenues that gambling provides. As the son-in-law of a professional gambler, I know the cost to families. I also see the cost to individuals because he is still driven to gamble despite advancing Parkinson's and dementia. As an educator, I see the advantages of those added funds in Casino monies providing many important items for our children in their schools.

I am concerned about our caring community and what we are teaching our children. I feel that we would be selling our birthright to a caring community by giving into added gambling. Our children are being raised to see nothing but advantages in Casino income. Do we want to teach our children that it is okay to take advantage of the weaknesses in others?

Our society is being challenged with many cutbacks and job layoffs. The government will not be providing as many services. We have seen the beginnings of this impact through increased use of the area Food Banks. We need to support one another by looking to the interests of others. Families, churches and neighbours will be called upon to take on larger roles as community support structures. September 11th saw the city, all levels of government & volunteers from the community working together. Would those travelers stranded here have had a better time and been so moved by the community's support if we had offered them easier opportunities for gambling?

We have another opportunity to say no to expanded gambling and yes to continuing a caring community. We may have to pay a few extra taxes but we will be known for our community spirit in not preying on weaker members of our community or visitors. Gander was put on the world's map by their caring together. Richmond will have a great number of people willing to move here or to visit, not by how much gambling we can provide, but, because we chose to be a caring community.

Sincerely,  
Fred Harwood  
Richmond, BC



May 25, 2002

**Re: Casino and gambling expansions**

Mayor and Councillors,

We the undersigned wish the Council to know that we wish you to continue seeking the best for the community. We would like to encourage you through the difficult decision regarding casino and gambling expansions to pursue the high quality of life, community health, wellness, and vitality we enjoy in an uncompromising way.

We have a beautiful community that proved we were a caring community during the difficult time in September. This tragic event proved that the city government, schools, the business community and citizens can all work together in support of one another.

We exhort you to say no to more gambling because of the damages gambling can cause to families, neighbourhoods and social systems and to say yes to a community that cares and supports one another.

Thank you for offering the public an opportunity to let their views be known again. Please do not forget the large majority of citizens who said 'no' to gambling a few years ago. We haven't changed our minds.

Sincerely,

Hyacinthe Saucet Richmond BC

Pammy Eng Vancouver BC



Richmond BC

 Richmond B.C.

B. Dewande Richmond BC

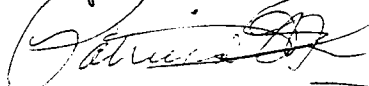
E. Aykroyd Richmond BC

Marta Patterson Richmond BC

RFBaird, Richmond BC

Josephine Boon Rand BC

Lynne Guller Richmond, BC

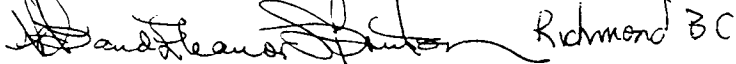


"

Shirley Dorman Richmond BC

Deirdre Parsons, Kelowna BC

Donna Danyuk Richmond BC

 Richmond BC

Grace McAllister Richmond BC

Penny MacDonald Richmond BC

Joan M. Green Richmond BC

Frank MacDonell Richmond BC



May 26, 2002



Dear Mayor and Councillors,

It appears that that you are considering applying to expand gambling in Richmond. We are writing to let you know that we are opposed to the further expansion of gambling in Richmond.

Sincerely, *Laimie Dykster* - 5451 Walton Rd. Richmond.

*Edward Piers* 4491 Tiffin Cresc. Richmond

*Jayne Loenen* 5611 JASKOW DR. RICHMOND

*Shirley D. Piers* 4491 Tiffin Cres. Richmond

*Klaas Bosma* 5060 Francis Rd Richmond

*Anne Heizer* 26-3851 Blundell Richmond

*BOB BEEKSMA* 7571 PETTS ROAD RICHMOND. *NY.*

*Gerlin Rehm* 6140 maple Rd Richmond

*Spenda Bosma* 5060 Francis Rd Richmond

*J. WESFEROP* 5630 CANTRELL RD RICHMOND

*Marg. Beekma* 7571 Petts Rd Richmond

*Angela Groothuis* 5460 Floyd Ave Richmond.

*Mr & Mrs A. Kuiper* 302-9260 No 2 Rd. Richmond B.C.

*Elvira van Dam* 4095 Lancelot Dr. Rmol.

*HANK OLDEMAN* 5220 LANCING RD RD.

*Lena Walton* 211-9260 No-2 Rd. Richmond

*Ray Heister* 202-8600 Leasdown 2. Richmond

*Vini Oldmans* 5220 Lancing Rd, Richmond -

*Mide Loenen* 5611 JASKOW DR. RICHMOND

*Carl Groothuis* 5460 Floyd Ave Richmond.

*Berry Dykster* 5451 Walton Rd Richmond

## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Michele Haapamaki [haapamaki@canada.com]

**Sent:** May 27, 2002 1:24 PM

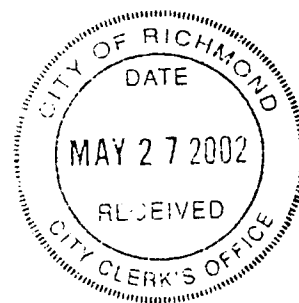
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** gambling expansion

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

My family and I are long-time Richmond residents, and would like to advise you that we are not in favour of expanding gambling, as we think should a move would be detrimental to our fine community. We hope that you will take all the concerns associated with gambling expansion into consideration during your meeting regarding this matter.

Thank you,  
E. I. Haapamaki



05/27/2002

178

**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** grainne Murphy [grainmur@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** May 27, 2002 1:52 PM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

Dear Council members, We are writing to strongly recommend that there should be no extension to the existing gambling facilities in Richmond. If necessary, the city should find alternative methods of funding. We were disappointed that tax increases were necessary given the city's decision to fund not only the Tall Ships but also the Olympic bid. Given the state of finances and shortages money should not be devoted to such projects. P. Dermot and Grainne Murphy, 11-5111 Maple Road, Richmond, B.C. V7E 5Z7

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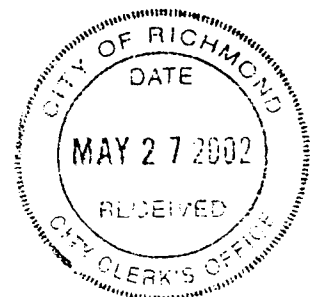


## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Marchell, Cathrine  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 2:18 PM  
**To:** Mayor and Councillors  
**Subject:** Gaming

Joan Webb called (303-7424) today at 1:08 p.m. to advise the City that she is against expanding gaming in Richmond



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Norm Amundson [norman.e.amundson@ubc.ca]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 2:44 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gambling

To The Mayor and councillors,

In light of the decision that is to be made this week concerning gambling in the City of Richmond, I would like to offer the following perspective from ancient wisdom literature.

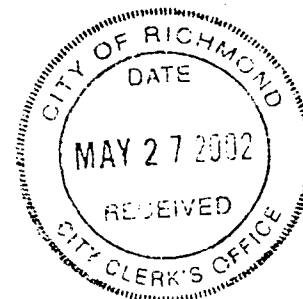
"Does not wisdom call out?  
 Does not understanding raise her voice?  
 On the heights along the way,  
 where the paths meet, she takes her stand;  
 beside the gates leading into the city,  
 at the entrances, she cries aloud,  
 'To all people I call out;  
 you who are simple, gain prudence;  
 you who are foolish, gain understanding.  
 Choose wisdom's instruction instead of silver,  
 Knowledge rather than choice gold,  
 For wisdom is more precious than rubies,  
 And nothing you desire can compare with her.  
 Counsel and sound judgment are mine;  
 I have understanding and power.  
 By wisdom rulers make laws that are just;  
 With wisdom are riches and honour, enduring wealth and prosperity  
 Wisdom's fruit is better than fine gold, what she yields surpasses choice silver.  
 Wisdom walks along the path of justice, bestowing wealth on those who love her  
 and making their treasuries full.

(By contrast:)

The woman Folly is loud;  
 she is undisciplined and without knowledge.  
 She sits at the door of her house  
 On a seat at the highest point of the city,  
 Calling out to those who pass by,  
 'Let all those who are simple come in here,' she says to those who lack judgment;  
 'Stolen water is sweet, food eaten in secret is delicious!'  
 But little do they know that the dead are there,  
 that her guests are in the depths of the grave." (Hebrew Scriptures: Proverbs 8)

My understanding is that a no vote to gambling would be a wise vote. My prayer is that you as the current leaders of this beautiful city will make wisdom your choice.

Jeanette Amundson  
 3260 Springford Ave.  
 Richmond, BC V7E 1T9  
 May 26, 2002



05/27/2002

## MayorandCouncillors

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From: Mr. Lu [mrlu@toast.com]  
Sent: May 27, 2002 2:55 PM  
To: mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
Subject: Opinion about expanded gambling

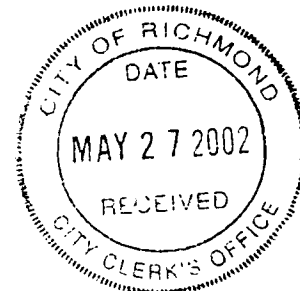
I would like to voice my opposition to expanded gambling.

When considering this issue, please ask yourself, "What kind of community do I want to live in?" Do you want to live in a community that cares for each other rather than one that has the attitude of "We're not babysitters so if people want to gamble, then it's not my problem"? Do you want to live in a community which seeks quick-fix, easy solutions rather than long term, structural solutions?

I am willing to pay either higher property taxes, user fees or have my services cut rather than depend on expanded gambling to solve the economic situation. That's the community I want to live in.

Alfred Lu  
Richmond, B.C.

Join <http://www.toast.com> today for your own free, flash-based webmail!



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Esther McIlveen [esther\_mcilveen@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 3:04 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Re Expanded Gambling - No!

Honourable Mayor and City Councilors:

I am Esther McIlveen, a Journalist, living in Steveston.

I am gifting to each member of Council the book, Time Echoes Softly which I helped to put together, along with Michael Duncan the West Coast artist. This book is a history of Richmond's heritage sites. It is given to try to help you see the Richmond that has been in terms of ecology, heritage and the Steveston jewel.

Richmond used to be the producers and now we are becoming takers through development. Lulu Island with its fruit and vegetables was said to be able to feed all of Vancouver. Our forefathers were people of the land. Thomas Kidd speaks of this island in these terms. "The south side of Lulu Island where No. 3 Road is (now very congested), was a mixed growth of spruce, cedar, hemlock, alder with crabapple and elderberry. Wild roses grew in great profusion whose beauty in June was indescribable."

As a city we need to look backwards in order to move forwards. Just as we look in our rear-view mirror before we pull ahead.

Steveston people (plus others), are very disillusioned and cynical due to development.

People turned out in full force to seek to protect Terra Nova - our best agriculture land and their voices fell on deaf ears. Next came the BC Packers development of Steveston, a community hard to find anywhere else. It was once a precious jewel, quite different from Richmond. We are losing this to more congestion and an infrastructure that can't handle the additional people and cars.

Many people moved to Richmond because of its physical beauty. We didn't choose Las Vegas. As a city we are becoming intoxicated with development. We build malls that sometimes compete with each other and then become bankrupt. Aberdeen Mall is being torn down after 11 years to be rebuilt for more lavish living. Silver City is tinsel town.

In favouring more expanded gambling, the unique beauty of our island is being eroded with more development. Next will be our farm land.

City Council should seek to bring out the best in citizens by promoting the value of education, hard work, initiative, responsibility, perseverance, saving and investing. It should also hold a delicate balance between our precious land and development.

I speak for a good many Steveston people when I say we need a council who will listen to the voice of the people.

--  
Howard & Esther McIlveen  
3 - 3051 Springfield Drive  
Richmond, BC



Canada  
V7E 1Y9  
Telephone: 604-272-1571  
Email: esther\_mcilveen@telus.net

Check out our book: "Would You Know My Name?"  
A Glimpse Into Life After Death and the Dying Process  
Web Site: <http://www.wouldyouknowmyname.com>

Jenny Fung  
#58-12500 McNeely Dr.  
Richmond, BC V6V 2S4

May 27, 2002

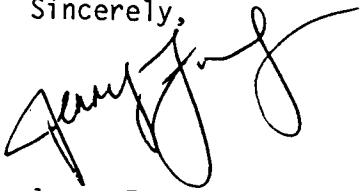
City of Richmond  
Attn: The Mayor & Council

Re: Expansion of gambling

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is to request you do not allow the expansion of gambling in Richmond.

Sincerely,



Jenny Fung

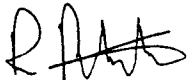


Rod Robertson  
9411 Francis Rd.  
Richmond, BC

City Clerk  
City of Richmond  
6941 No. 3 Rd.  
Richmond, BC

I am **OPPOSED** to the FULL SERVICE GAMING POLICY and the expansion of gambling. It will not help the City of Richmond in the future at all. The extra money people normally have will go to gambling instead of fixing up their properties or spending money in the retail shops. This will hinder the businesses of Richmond.

Thank You,



Rod Robertson



Amy Robertson  
9411 Francis Rd.  
Richmond, BC

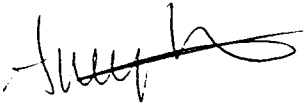
City Clerk  
City of Richmond  
6941 No. 3 Rd.  
Richmond, BC

I am completely **OPPOSED** to the FULL SERVICE GAMING POLICY and the expansion of gambling. This is a poor or low down way of getting revenue from your people. It would be wiser for the City of Richmond to find an alternate source to get the proposed extra revenue.

The disadvantages appear greater and more serious than the advantages. The crime rate will rise and maybe to the point of creating Richmond an unsafe community. Not only will the gang related shootings increase but also the shoplifting in the retail sector. It results in a negative chain reaction.

If the Council decides to go ahead with the full service gaming policy it is a downhill road that will end in poverty and sadness for many families of Richmond.

Yours Truly,



Amy Robertson



9460 McBurney Drive  
Richmond, BC V6Y 3C6  
May 27, 2002

The City Clerk  
City of Richmond, BC

Subject: Gambling in Richmond: **AGAINST**

I wish to register my opinion on gambling with the Richmond City Council before a final vote is taken in council.

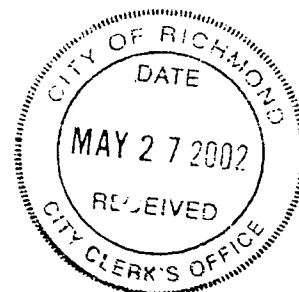
While I don't know which studies—on the positive or negative effects of gambling—to believe, I suspect the negative statistics may be correct. Has the possibility of criminal activity connected with casinos in Richmond been investigated?

I believe that gambling is of no value to society, past, present or future, and that more positive activity should be encouraged among the citizenry by our representatives on council.

Yours truly



(Mrs.) Roberta J. Kirby



8811 Heather St.,  
Richmond B.C.  
May 27, 2002.

Mayor & Councillors  
City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3. Road  
Richmond B.C.

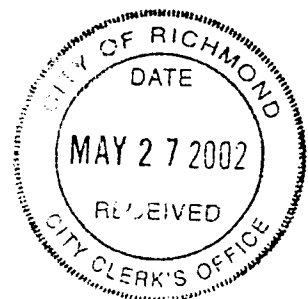
Attention: City Clerks office:

I wish to express my deep concern that the Council will vote in favour of expanding gambling in Richmond. I am very much against any gambling being allowed in our City. There is ample proof from other cities that have opened the door to gambling that the overall affect has been detrimental. The University of Windsor did a study on gambling in Ontario in which the harmful affects were proved and also the city of Omaha, Nebraska in the United States.

You are responsible to the citizens of Richmond to vote against expanding gambling.

Sincerely,

Nyonne Boram



May 27, 2002

From: Richard Boram

9840 Seagrave Rd., Richmond, B.C. V7A 3X8

To: City of Richmond

Attn: City Council Members

c/o Mr. David Weber, City Clerk

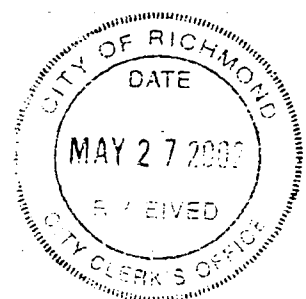
6911 No. 3 rd. Richmond, B.C. V6Y 2C1

Dear Council,

Please count me as against the proposed gambling expansion in Richmond. Gambling has been proven to break up families. Therefore it is a moral issue. Thank you for hearing my concern.

Yours Truly,

Richard Boram



**Acute Treatment**  
The Richmond Hospital

**Community Care**  
Long Term Care  
Home Care  
Minoru Residence  
Richmond Lions Manor

**Mental Health**  
Child and Youth Services  
Adult/Older Adult Services

**Population Health**  
Environmental Health  
Health Promotion and  
Prevention

Richmond Mental Health Team  
Suite 200 - 6061 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC V6Y 2B2  
Telephone (604) 273-9121  
Facsimile (604) 270-6507



Richmond  
Health Services

*Part of the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board*

May 24, 2002

Richmond City Council  
Richmond City Hall  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, B.C.  
V6Y 2C1

Dear Sirs:

I have been appraised by a client that your council is considering the legalization of vending machines in the Richmond area.

As a psychiatric physician dealing with troubled individuals, the majority of whom, because of their psychiatric disability, are on various financial assistance programs, I have become aware of the consequence of a few of them of the availability of gambling. I want to express my concern that to make gambling machines more readily available will put more people at risk. Those few clients that I have that have a compulsion to gamble are using very limited resources and unrealistically use those resources sometimes to gamble. The consequences of that have led to the undermining of mental stability that has been achieved through treatment in some of those individuals.

As a physician concerned about the well-being of my patients in Richmond, I want to express my grave reservations about the advisability of increasing the availability of gambling mechanisms.

Yours sincerely,

Al Connolly, Consulting Physician  
Richmond Mental Health Team

AC/pfj



8811 Heather St  
Richmond, B.C  
V6Y 2R7

May 25, 2002



The Mayor & Council  
City of Richmond

Dear Mr. Mayor & Councillors

Please consider the impact on our families if you send out the message gambling is acceptable.

It is an abhorrent evil!, causing ruin & disaster to many lives.

What we will gain monetarily is nothing compared to the moral disaster that will certainly follow the allowance of slot machines.

We look to you as responsible government to restrain the expansion of gambling. What other communities do should not influence us.

For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his soul. (Words of Jesus Mark 8:38)

Please see enclosed some statistics sent to me from my daughter who lives in Council Bluffs, Iowa: The city allowed the expansion of gambling in 1995 including slots & have watched the moral decline. Sincerely,  
Donna L. Loran

# Iowa Gambling Treatment Program (Iowa Department of Public Health)

## A Profile of Gamblers Admitted to Treatment in Fiscal Years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001:

From the Iowa Gambling Treatment Program database, the profile of gamblers admitted to treatment in Fiscal Years 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001 includes the following statistics.

	Fiscal Year 1998	1999	2000	2001
High School Education or beyond	93%	88%	94%	94%
White	93%	91%	93%	95%
Ages 30-59 years	83%	83%	80%	81%
Reported Most Lost in any One Week in the last 6 months was above \$500	81%	66%	68%	66%
Reported Total Amount Lost Weekly was above \$100	75%	79%	83%	76%
Employed Full-time	69%	68%	66%	66%
Reported Any Tobacco Use	64%	62%	64%	63%
Had 1 to 3 children	60%	56%	57%	60%
Male	59%	54%	55%	55%
Stated an age in the 30-49 year old range when gambling became a problem	58%	56%	56%	56%
Reported Any Alcohol Use	53%	47%	46%	41%
Married	50%	47%	51%	49%
Reported age was less than 21 years when first gambled	49%	45%	41%	45%
Reported gambling was an accepted activity growing up	49%	41%	42%	42%
Reported debt as a result of gambling at greater than \$5000	46%	52%	56%	57%
Reported first gambling occurred with a family member or relative	38%	27%	28%	38%
Reported credit card debt greater than \$5000	34%	35%	38%	36%
Reported Prior Help Sought for Gambling Problem	33%	33%	34%	37%
Stated Self as the source of referral	31%	30%	36%	32%
Stated the Helpline as source of referral	31%	38%	38%	36%
Reported bankruptcy or other defaults	26%	25%	24%	25%
Professional/ Managerial Occupation	25%	23%	27%	26%
Reported Ever Treated for a Drinking/Drug Problem	22%	20%	20%	22%
Lost at least one job due to a gambling-related problem	20%	12%	17%	16%
Arrested in the last 12 months	11%	11%	14%	15%
Reported one or more gambling-related arrests	09%	09%	13%	13%

CONSIDER  
IMPACT  
ON OUR  
YOUNG

Clients, upon admission, identified their primary wagering in the six months prior to their admission to be:

	Fiscal Year 1998	1999	2000	2001
Slots	59%	62%	63%	59%
Table Games	16%	12%	14%	11%
Video	10%	09%	11%	12%

143

Lottery/ Scratch Tickets	04%	04%	04%	04%
Sports	02%	02%	02%	04%
Other	09%	11%	06%	10%

**Source: The Gambling Treatment Program System (GTPS) collects data at the time of admission or services**

**'Credit, Gambling a Destructive Mix'**

*Omaha World - Herald*; Omaha, Neb.; Feb 22, 1999; TOM COATES;

**Sub Title:** [Sunrise Edition]

**Column Name:** Guest Column

**Start Page:** 7

**Dateline:** DES MOINES

**Abstract:**

*The writer is director of Consumer Credit of Des Moines, a nonprofit credit counseling service.*

*The recent controversy involving the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission stems in large part from casinos' ire over the temerity of three commission members to do their job rather than do the bidding of the gambling interests.*

*On a national level, SMR Research Corp. of Hackettstown, N.J., was commissioned by banks to study the rate of personal bankruptcy compared to counties in the United States with one casino had an 18 percent higher rate of personal bankruptcy compared to counties with no casinos. Counties with up to five casinos had a 34 percent higher rate of bankruptcy than counties with no casinos.*

**Full Text:**

*(Copyright 1999 Omaha World-Herald Company)*

The writer is director of Consumer Credit of Des Moines, a nonprofit credit counseling service.

The recent controversy involving the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission stems in large part from casinos' ire over the temerity of three commission members to do their job rather than do the bidding of the gambling interests.

The three members who have taken a courageous stand are set to be prematurely ousted from the board. The two that posed as shameless lap dogs instead of watchdogs are referred to as moderate, and they may be reappointed.

The issue at the core of this is consistently missed by the press, but it is what most motivates the casinos and their two dozen lobbyists. The big issue here is cash advances on credit cards.

This is a quotation from the September-October newsletter of the Delaware Council on Problem Gambling: "Our experience shows that credit card debt is the agent of addiction for many compulsive gamblers."

On a national level, SMR Research Corp. of Hackettstown, N.J., was commissioned by banks to study the increase in bankruptcies. SMR's study found that counties in the United States with one casino had an 18 percent higher rate of personal bankruptcy compared to counties with no casinos. Counties with up to five casinos had a 34 percent higher rate of bankruptcy than counties with no casinos.

The SMR report stated: "The fastest growing driver of bankruptcies is gambling." Its No. 1 recommendation to the banks was to "make it tougher for customers to obtain cash advances at gambling casinos."

An Iowa State University study released last August showed gamblers currently in Chapter 13 bankruptcy with much less income and larger debts than non-gamblers. Also, 19 percent of the people in bankruptcy reported gambling debt as their reason for filing.

The State of Iowa itself commissioned a study that showed what happens to a population introduced to casinos. In 1989, 1.7 percent of adult Iowans were lifetime problem and pathological gamblers. Six years later, in 1995, the same study showed an explosion to 5.4 percent.

If you think I am resorting to hyperbole, please sit in my chair and watch the daily parade of addicted gamblers I see at Consumer Credit. Of the approximately 500 new credit counseling sessions we conduct each month, roughly 15 percent are gamblers with tens of thousands of dollars in credit card debt in each case.

We are seeing everything, including suicides, taking place because of it. If you think you are not paying for this because you do not gamble, think again.

Why do the casinos claim to worry about problem gambling yet fight to keep credit-card cash-advance machines on the premises? A soon-to-be-released study on the national level will shed light on their motivation. According to early reports, this study will show evidence that pathological and problem gamblers contribute approximately 40 percent of the profits of casinos. This institutional addiction they want to call "gaming" is anything but innocuous.

While it is becoming apparent that gambling dollars and influence locally and nationally are controlling politicians and elections, it is possible to buck the tide. I urge the citizens of Iowa to pay attention to your own representative and senator's votes on gambling. If problem gambling fallout hasn't hit close to you yet, chances are that it will eventually.

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## Reasons why people gamble

People don't always gamble just for the money. They often gamble because they

- believe winning big will solve their problems;
- seek escape from boredom, stress, grief;
- need time to just not think, not worry;
- are in troubled relationships and feel helpless;
- are tired, depressed, emotionally drained;
- are lonely or grieving.

The thrill of gambling can provide an exciting high, almost like a drug, to help people escape.

There are three distinct stages people with gambling problems go through before they "hit bottom" and realize they need help. It begins with the "Winning" Phase.

Gambling begins as a social activity. It seems fun, normal. During this phase, people

sometimes win large amounts of money;

feel invincible, so they bet bigger amounts; because they believe they will win even more;

bet even more to maintain the excitement level.

But gambling isn't always about money. Problem gamblers like the excitement of gambling, the dream of winning big, or the escape from everyday problems or stresses.

This is where the real trouble begins. During this phase, gamblers feel like their activity is under control. In reality it is not. They

seek more action;

believe they can quit whenever they want to -- but see no need to quit;

gamble to win back what they've lost;

gamble and then lie about it;

hide their losses;

take out loans so they can continue;  
break their promises to quit;  
borrow from family and friends;  
have relationships that begin to suffer.

#### *Final Hopelessness*

Problem gamblers go through this stage just before they hit rock bottom. They

feel desperation and hopelessness as losses continue to mount;

cling to their fantasy of winning -- hoping to make everything well again;

finally realize that they can't win, but they keep gambling anyway;

have little concern for the people around them;

steal, write bad checks, or commit illegal activities to finance their gambling.

Some problem gamblers attempt suicide before they seek treatment.

## Warning signs of gamblers

Some problem gamblers are easy to spot. They talk about betting all the time or continually look for ways to get gambling money. They may go to the racetrack every day or buy dozens of lottery tickets at once. But many problem gamblers hide their addiction.

People who have a gambling problem often show these warning signs. They

- rely on others to get them out of debt;

- are absent or late for work or school;

- shop excessively or binge spend;

- have unexplained money or new possessions;

- are impatient with or ignore friends and family;

- delay payment of household bills;

- use credit cards for cash advances;

- sell possessions;

- steal money to gamble.

Many problem gamblers have a dual addiction -- which means they gamble and they also have problems with things like alcohol or drugs.

**Bills Target Gambling Addictions Counseling Programs Look to State for Funds**

*Omaha World - Herald*; Omaha, Neb.; Feb 7, 2000; NANCY HICKS;

**Sub Title:** [Bulldog Edition]

**Start Page:** 9

**Dateline:** Lincoln

**Personal Names:** Vogel, Harlan

**Abstract:**

*Today, the counseling program that brought sanity back into her life could be in jeopardy unless the Nebraska Legislature provides more money for programs for problem gamblers.*

*Two large treatment programs in Omaha and Lincoln say they could run out of money this spring and would have to limit services. Two smaller programs in Norfolk and Grand Island also may deplete their funds before June 30, the end of the fiscal year.*

*Legislation that would provide more money for compulsive gambling treatment has been introduced by State Sen. Adrian Smith of Gering and is scheduled for a public hearing Feb.14 before the General Affairs Committee.*

**Full Text:**

*(Copyright 2000 Omaha World-Herald Company)*

2000 Legislature. Mail/Phone.

What started out as fun turned into a nightmare for an Omaha-area woman, whose addiction to slot machines cost her about \$50,000 before she sought help.

"In the end," she said of her addiction, "it was like a walking hell. I felt lower than dirt."

She would wake up promising herself she wouldn't gamble, then head for the casinos at night. She remembers the self-loathing and despair.

Today, the counseling program that brought sanity back into her life could be in jeopardy unless the Nebraska Legislature provides more money for programs for problem gamblers.

Two large treatment programs in Omaha and Lincoln say they could run out of money this spring and would have to limit services. Two smaller programs in Norfolk and Grand Island also may deplete their funds before June 30, the end of the fiscal year.

Five smaller counseling programs elsewhere in Nebraska could close if funding isn't secured.

"We're looking at the possibility of having services available only in Lincoln and Omaha," said Tim Christensen, manager of the state's Gamblers Assistance Program.

Legislation that would provide more money for compulsive gambling treatment has been introduced by State Sen. Adrian Smith of Gering and is scheduled for a public hearing Feb.14 before the General Affairs Committee.

Smith has proposed two bills that would provide more money. The goal is to raise funding for gambling-treatment programs from about \$400,000 to at least \$1 million a year.

The number of gamblers in Nebraska seeking help is growing.

In 1999, the state's compulsive gambling Helpline had 6,704 calls, up more than 1,000 from the previous year and 16 times greater than the 419 calls received in 1993, the Helpline's first year.

The number of people in treatment programs funded by the state has more than doubled, from 76 in July 1997 to 164 June 1999, Christensen said.

Counselors say the numbers are up because the Iowa casinos have faster games that appeal to gambling addicts. There is also greater awareness that counseling help is available.

About 50 percent of those who call the Helpline are casino players, often slot-machine players.

Most compulsive gamblers wager on several types of games but usually have a favorite, said Jerry Bauerkemper, executive director of the Nebraska Council on Compulsive Gambling.

Studies have indicated that between 1 percent and 3 percent of the adult population experiences problems with gambling, said Frank Biagioli, executive officer of the Iowa Gambling Treatment Program.

Iowa also had more people seeking gambling counseling after the state eliminated betting limits in 1995.

Biagioli said the number of clients in the state-funded programs almost doubled, from 562 in 1995 to 1,016 in 1998, then dipped to 923 last year.

However, unlike Nebraska, funding for gambling treatment in Iowa increased during that four-year period from \$1.4 million to about \$3 million.

Nebraska gambling revenue has declined since the introduction of the Iowa casinos in the mid-1990s, said Wayne Dolezal, legal counsel for the Nebraska Lottery.

Lottery sales peaked in 1996 at about \$81.8 million, then declined for three years. In 1999, Nebraska took in \$72.3 million in lottery ticket sales.

Spending on legal charitable gambling, such as bingo, pickle cards and keno, has dropped by one-third in the past five years.

Money for gambling-counseling programs, which are funded by both lottery and charitable gambling revenue, has dropped from almost \$443,000 in 1997 to a projected \$410,000 this year.

There is already a four-week waiting list at First Step in Lincoln, where full-time counselor Deb Hammond recently worked with a group of 14 - too many for effective therapy, she said.

Without additional money, the program will most likely have to drop services this spring for family members of problem gamblers. Counseling family is an important element in helping addicts, Hammond said.

Family Services in Omaha said it would have to curtail gambling- education activities, such as talks at schools and clubs, stretch out the time between counseling sessions or move to a waiting list, said Harlan Vogel, a counselor for the pathological-gambling-treatment program.

Without state funding, counselors say, most compulsive gamblers would not get help. Health insurance seldom pays for treatment, and gamblers are usually deep in debt before they seek help.

The average male compulsive gambler at the First Step program last year was \$65,000 in debt. The average female client had \$32,000 in debt.

Vogel said compulsive gamblers are usually unable to pay counseling fees that could help break their habit, although they are expected to pay what they can and to clean up their debts rather than file for bankruptcy.

Without the state-subsidized treatment programs, the Omaha woman addicted to slot machines said she could not have gotten help.

The middle-aged woman had already poured her savings into the slots and was about \$12,000 in debt when she started treatment in 1997.

Today, she said, she has repaid her debts and is working full- time. She says she enjoys life fully with her family and friends.

Smith, who opposes state-sponsored gambling, said that of the two bills under consideration, LB 1241 may have the best chance of success. It would earmark up to \$1.7 million of lottery and charitable gaming proceeds to battle compulsive gambling.

Christensen, the manager of the assistance program, said the state will pay one way or the other - either for counseling or for the social costs of embezzlement, theft, fraud, unemployment and family disintegration.

To get help for a gambling addiction, call (800) 560-2126.

Credit: WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

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**Older Iowans Discuss Gambling Woes**

*Omaha World - Herald*; Omaha, Neb.; May 17, 2000;

**Sub Title:** [Iowa Edition]

**Start Page:** 26

**Dateline:** West Des Moines, Iowa

**Personal Names:** Nelson, Charlie

**Abstract:**

*[Gwen Stubbs] and [Charlie Nelson] each hit a jackpot once. She won almost \$23,000, and he won \$5,000. The wins gave them an emotional high and encouraged their gambling.*

*Compulsive gambling affects all age groups but can be especially devastating for older Iowans because of their inability to regenerate income, said Harlan Vogel, who treats problem gamblers in western Iowa.*

*Prairie Meadows has a special senior citizens day on Tuesdays that caters to older Iowans. Robert Farinella, the casino's general manager, said senior citizens are simply a group who could use the entertainment.*

**Full Text:**

*(Copyright 2000 Omaha World-Herald Company)*

Older Iowans with disposable income and time on their hands are increasingly seeking solace in Iowa's casinos, but some of them instead find a reason for despair.

Charlie Nelson, 63, a Drake University history professor for 30 years, took early retirement in 1994 because of heart disease. He had lost his father, felt bad about retiring early and regretted decisions he had made early in life.

"I found relief in the dreamlike world of the slot-machine player," he said. "As I put the tokens in for hours after hours, I found myself in an altered mood. It's as if a switch were turned inside my head."

He said the slot machines installed at Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino in 1995 aided in his financial and emotional collapse.

Gwen Stubbs, 61, said she started playing the slots at Prairie Meadows after her husband died and a friend was killed. Her mother was in a nursing home, and she was lonely.

"I think I went to escape," she said. "I would go in the evening after supper, and I would stay all night."

She played only the nickel machines - but sometimes for 24 hours at a stretch.

Stubbs and Nelson each hit a jackpot once. She won almost \$23,000, and he won \$5,000. The wins gave them an emotional high and encouraged their gambling.

But like other gamblers, they also lost.

It wasn't until the point of despair - what Nelson calls "near death" - that they sought help. They talked about their compulsive gambling Monday at the 21st Annual Governor's Conference on Aging.

Compulsive gambling affects all age groups but can be especially devastating for older Iowans because of their inability to regenerate income, said Harlan Vogel, who treats problem gamblers in western Iowa.

Prairie Meadows has a special senior citizens day on Tuesdays that caters to older Iowans. Robert Farinella, the casino's general manager, said senior citizens are simply a group who could use the entertainment.

Credit: AP

**Study: Gambling, Suicide Increase May Be Linked**

*Omaha World - Herald*; Omaha, Neb.; Dec 16, 1997;

**Sub Title:** [Metro Edition]

**Start Page:** 2

**Abstract:**

*The dramatic increase in legalized gambling in the United States may be leading to a significant increase in suicide rates among residents of communities where casinos are thriving and visitors to those areas, according to a new study on suicide and gambling.*

*In the study, David Phillips, a professor of sociology at the University of California in San Diego, examined death certificates in major gaming cities in the United States - Atlantic City, Las Vegas and Reno - and found that suicide rates were up to four times higher than in comparably sized cities where gambling is not legal.*

*Because there is a long lag in the compilation of death certificates nationwide, it was not possible to determine whether the 24 states that have legalized casino-type gambling within the last 10 years have experienced a similar increase in suicide rates, said Phillips, an expert on suicide.*

**Full Text:**

*(Copyright 1997 Omaha World-Herald Company)*

The dramatic increase in legalized gambling in the United States may be leading to a significant increase in suicide rates among residents of communities where casinos are thriving and visitors to those areas, according to a new study on suicide and gambling.

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Because there is a long lag in the compilation of death certificates nationwide, it was not possible to determine whether the 24 states that have legalized casino-type gambling within the last 10 years have experienced a similar increase in suicide rates, said Phillips, an expert on suicide.

The study by Phillips is reported in the December issue of the journal *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*. It is the first large-scale statistical investigation of gambling and suicide.

Earlier studies have shown that compulsive and pathological gamblers have many problems, including alcoholism and drug addiction, that contribute to suicidal behavior.

Still, a number of smaller studies have found gambling to be associated with increased suicide rates, white-collar crime, substance abuse and child abuse, Phillips said. For example, one study found that three of the six Atlantic City suicides for which the researchers had information probably occurred because of gambling problems.

Americans love to gamble, Phillips said, and spend nearly as much on gambling (6 percent of the GNP, according to a Standard & Poor Corp. 1996 study) as they do on family groceries (8 percent).

Lanny Berman, executive director of the American Association of Suicidology in Washington, D.C., praised the study as "quality sociological research." He said the next step would be to design smaller studies that compare gamblers and nongamblers - matched for age, occupation and other factors - over time, to see if gambling itself is the direct cause of higher suicide rates.

But Frank Fahrenkopf, president of the American Gaming Association, a Washington-based organization that represents major hotel and casino companies, cited studies that say people moving to the American West, where suicide rates are highest, find themselves isolated and without personal support systems and that these factors, not gambling, explain why they take their own lives.

Phillips said that he got the idea for his study after talking to people who run Gamblers Anonymous telephone hot lines in Texas. He said callers would say, "I've embezzled all the company's funds; my kids can't go to college; there's no money left for groceries, and I don't see any way out."

Credit: THE NEW YORK TIMES

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**Gambling Lessons From Minnesota**

*Omaha World - Herald*; Omaha, Neb.; Dec 14, 1995; JIM JENSEN;

**Sub Title:** [Sunrise Edition]

**Column Name:** GUEST COLUMN

**Start Page:** 29

**Abstract:**

*Recently the Minneapolis Star Tribune ran a series of articles, over four days, on the impact of legalized gambling in Minnesota. The series is instructive for Nebraska as we stand on the threshold of expanding legalized gambling in our state.*

*Other findings: 38,000 probable addicted gamblers in the state, 100,000 people with increasing gambling problems, six confirmed gambling related suicides, more than 140 confirmed suicide attempts since 1992, more than 1,000 people per year declaring bankruptcy, \$400,000 per year in welfare benefits withdrawn from casino ATMs (welfare payments can be made by electronic transfer in Minnesota) and \$200 million to \$300 million in estimated social costs - taxes, lost wages, unpaid debts.*

*The Minnesota Legislature asked the state's Advisory Council on Gambling to propose a statewide gambling policy. The council has recommended little or no change for Minnesota's existing forms of gambling, because they enjoy "substantial public support" and curtailing them would be "impractical." The council, however, recommended that no new forms of gambling be authorized.*

**Full Text:**

*(Copyright 1995 Omaha World-Herald Company)*

The writer is a state senator representing Omaha District 20.

Recently the Minneapolis Star Tribune ran a series of articles, over four days, on the impact of legalized gambling in Minnesota. The series is instructive for Nebraska as we stand on the threshold of expanding legalized gambling in our state.

The Star Tribune found that "in less than a decade, legalized gambling in Minnesota has created a brand new class of addicts, victims and criminals whose activities are devastating families and costing taxpayers and businesses millions of dollars."

Other findings: 38,000 probable addicted gamblers in the state, 100,000 people with increasing gambling problems, six confirmed gambling related suicides, more than 140 confirmed suicide attempts since 1992, more than 1,000 people per year declaring bankruptcy, \$400,000 per year in welfare benefits withdrawn from casino ATMs (welfare payments can be made by electronic transfer in Minnesota) and \$200 million to \$300 million in estimated social costs - taxes, lost wages, unpaid debts.

The Minnesota Legislature asked the state's Advisory Council on Gambling to propose a statewide gambling policy. The council has recommended little or no change for Minnesota's existing forms of gambling, because they enjoy "substantial public support" and curtailing them would be "impractical." The council, however, recommended that no new forms of gambling be authorized.

Maybe Minnesota has finally had enough. That realization, however, has arguably come too late. And it is doubtful whether Minnesota can resist the relentless pressure to expand gambling even more.

But it's still not too late for Nebraska. *RICHMOND*

The Star Tribune concluded its study of the high economic and social costs of legalized gambling in Minnesota with this editorial comment: "All of this was predicted before Minnesota's gambling craze took hold - but the warnings were dismissed as the moralistic rantings of religious zealots out to spoil everyone else's fun. The price of Minnesota's love affair with gambling is turning out to be every bit as high as opponents had said it would be - not only for those who

get caught directly in its web, but for everyone else as well."

The same warnings are now being sounded in Nebraska. But are they being heard? Is it reasonable to expect that Nebraska will be any different than Minnesota or any other state that has opened its doors to expanded gambling?

In 1996, the Nebraska Legislature will consider two gambling-related measures: LB 765, to permit electronic lotteries and video gambling in Nebraska, and LR 43CA, a constitutional amendment allowing the Legislature to authorize and regulate casino gambling, including "player-activated electronic, video or mechanical lottery devices, dice, card games of chance and table games of chance."

Nebraska is standing where Minnesota stood just a few years ago.

In 1934-35, we started with pari-mutuel horse racing for the benefit of charity. In 1958-59, we added bingo. In 1961-63, we allowed gift enterprises, essentially permitting Nebraskans to enter national contests. In 1968-69, we approved lotteries, gift enterprises for promotions, charity or community betterment purposes, from which pickle cards and keno eventually developed. In 1988-89, we added simulcast pari-mutuel betting. In 1992-93, we added a state lottery.

The next step - adding video slot machines - will be much bigger than we realize. If we take this step, it will be impossible to confine the slot machines to the state's five horse racing tracks. It will be virtually impossible to stop full blown casino gambling in Nebraska.

If Minnesota's experience teaches us anything, it is the value of studying the costs of expanded gambling before rather than after the fact.

The Star Tribune said: "For years, Minnesota has touted the economic benefits of its gambling boom - often using the industry's more benign term, 'gaming.' And clearly there have been benefits . . . But at what cost? The state doesn't know, and so far has chosen not to find out. When members of the Advisory Council on Gambling met this summer to consider funding a study of the socioeconomic costs of gambling, they decided such a study would be too costly and might be unreliable."

Nebraska can't afford to make the same mistake. Although a government-funded study isn't the answer, a privately funded one may be. One way or the other, we need to find out, before it's too late.

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**The Thrill, the Nightmare, the Costs Help Lines**

Omaha World - Herald; Omaha, Neb.; Feb 5, 2001; ROBERT DORR;

Sic:713210 Sic:7011 Sic:7999

Sub Title: [Sunrise Edition]

Start Page: 1

Companies: Ameristar Casinos

**Abstract:**

*While [Theo Hudson]'s life is better now, his addiction shows how gambling can become an all-consuming nightmare for some people. Since the three Council Bluffs casinos opened in the mid-1990s, compulsive gambling has driven some to embezzle from their employers. Credit unions attribute a rise in loan delinquencies partly to gambling. Bankruptcy petitions list gambling debts totaling tens of thousands of dollars. More people are seeking treatment for their addiction to gambling.*

*In at least seven instances, people embezzled money from their employers to cover their losses and continue gambling. A teller embezzled \$10,000 from a Bellevue bank, a salesman kept \$68,000 in seed sales, a couple bilked an 86-year-old woman of more than \$100,000, a secretary embezzled \$15,000 from a soil and conservation district office, a temporary secretary embezzled \$34,000 from a labor- union office, a truck-stop worker embezzled \$17,000, and a Nebraska State Patrol sergeant took \$61,000 from the patrol.*

*Color Photo/1NOT ALONE: Nearly four years have passed since Theo Hudson last gambled. Hudson and wife [Beth Hudson] have repaid most of his \$50,000 gambling debt. B&W Photo/1TURNAROUND: [Ron Meredith], owner of Chubb's Finer Foods, 2905 N. 16th St. in Omaha, initially supported the idea of casinos in Council Bluffs, but he has changed his mind. Sales at his grocery declined by 15 percent soon after the casinos opened, and he has seen the addictive effect gambling has on some people.; KENT SIEVERS/THE WORLD-HERALD/1sf/1*

**Full Text:**

(Copyright 2001 Omaha World-Herald Company)

Rollin' On the River. Day Two.Mail/Phone.Sidebar included.

Theo Hudson's gambling roller coaster had hit bottom.

He sat in his car in a deserted boat ramp area near the Missouri River, a loaded pistol in his lap. He cried, beat on the steering wheel and considered taking his life.

Finally he put the pistol away, drove to his Bellevue home and confessed to his wife what his casino gambling had cost. He had stolen money from his employer, run up two credit cards and taken out two loans. The couple were \$50,000 in debt.

"I took off my wedding ring and handed it to her," said Hudson, 34.

Beth Hudson, who had thought that her husband's strange behavior indicated that he was having an affair, handed the ring back.

"We'll get through this," she said. "We'll get help."

While Theo Hudson's life is better now, his addiction shows how gambling can become an all-consuming nightmare for some people. Since the three Council Bluffs casinos opened in the mid-1990s, compulsive gambling has driven some to embezzle from their employers. Credit unions attribute a rise in loan delinquencies partly to gambling. Bankruptcy petitions list gambling debts totaling tens of thousands of dollars. More people are seeking treatment for their addiction to gambling.

Casino officials say they do what they can to discourage problem gamblers from coming to the casinos.

"Our customer is our neighbor," said Art Hill, a vice president of Ameristar Casinos in Council Bluffs. "If we want to be in the business for the long haul, we don't gain anything in having a base of problem gamblers."

Council Bluffs Mayor Tom Hanafan said that because he doesn't deal directly with the social costs of gambling, it is hard for him to compare those costs with the benefits.

"But economically, everything that we've seen indicates that the benefits far outweigh the negatives," he said.

John P. Nelson, a business leader who helped turn Council Bluffs into a regional center of gambling, said he has mixed feelings about how casino gambling has worked out. Because of gambling, he said, Council Bluffs has sprung to life with new gambling-funded projects and substantial economic growth.

"But for those people who can't stop (gambling), it's catastrophic," said Nelson, who for a decade headed the nonprofit Iowa West Racing Association, which sold Bluffs Run Casino to Harveys Casino Resorts in 1999.

If it were possible, he said, he would vote to close all casinos across the nation. "But as long as society is going to allow casino gambling, I'd just as soon have it in Council Bluffs so we can get the benefits."

The amount of new crime attributable to gambling isn't certain.

In at least seven instances, people embezzled money from their employers to cover their losses and continue gambling. A teller embezzled \$10,000 from a Bellevue bank, a salesman kept \$68,000 in seed sales, a couple bilked an 86-year-old woman of more than \$100,000, a secretary embezzled \$15,000 from a soil and conservation district office, a temporary secretary embezzled \$34,000 from a labor-union office, a truck-stop worker embezzled \$17,000, and a Nebraska State Patrol sergeant took \$61,000 from the patrol.

Of a record 78 Omaha banks held up in 1998, at least four were robbed by compulsive gamblers.

Council Bluffs reported Iowa's highest crime rate in 1999. In 1990, before the casinos opened, Council Bluffs had the state's second-highest crime rate. Des Moines reported the highest, state crime-rate figures showed.

From 1990 to 1999, reported crimes in Iowa declined 13 percent statewide. During that same period, Council Bluffs crimes increased 1 percent.

Council Bluffs authorities say the large number of visitors that the casinos have brought to Council Bluffs has caused some extra crime. "When there are more people, there are more opportunities for crime," Bluffs Police Chief Keith Mehlin said.

Burglaries, larcenies and car thefts in Council Bluffs increased 13 percent over the four years after the first Bluffs casino, Bluffs Run, opened in 1995 at the greyhound track.

Anti-casino activists attribute those crime increases to the desperation of compulsive gamblers. "You can't impoverish people without crime increasing," said Tom Coates, who heads a Des Moines-based credit-counseling service.

But authorities say increased drug use is more responsible than the casinos for crime in Council Bluffs. "Methamphetamine is the No. 1 cause," Pottawattamie County Attorney Rick Cowl said.

One Omaha food store owner said that, initially, he supported the idea of bringing casinos to Council Bluffs. "I thought it would be a great alternate source of tax revenue," said Ron Meredith, owner of Chubb's Finer Foods, 2905 N. 16th St.

But then he saw a quick 15 percent decline in his grocery's business. People either cut back on their food purchases or they bought hot dogs instead of a more expensive roast, he said. Further, he saw the addictive effect gambling had on

some people.

"I've done a complete, 180-degree turnaround," Meredith said.

Among 255 people who filed for bankruptcy in Omaha over a period of several weeks last year, a period randomly chosen by The World-Herald, eight couples or individuals said they lost at least \$4,000 gambling. One woman in her 40s, who is separated, lost \$80,000 during a five-month spree in 1998. The seven others - three married couples and four who are single or divorced - reported that on average they lost \$21,000. An additional six people listed gambling losses that weren't the main reason for their bankruptcies.

Nineteen percent of the Iowans filing for bankruptcy in 1998 said gambling debt was an important factor leading to their bankruptcies, an Iowa State University study found.

Nebraska credit unions have seen a rise in delinquent loans. In 1994, the state's credit unions on average wrote off as uncollectable 25 cents of every \$100 loaned. In 1999, uncollectable loans grew to 43 cents, an increase of 72 percent caused partly by gambling debts, said Scott Sullivan, Nebraska Credit Union League president.

"People who always before paid their bills have gotten into trouble, said Elaine Mausbach, president of the Metro Health Services Credit Union in Omaha. "One of our (credit union) members went through \$71,000 in 21 days."

As casinos have spread nationally, making gambling accessible to more Americans, the number of compulsive, or pathological, gamblers has grown. Approximately 2.5 million Americans - between 1 percent and 2 percent of the nation's adults - are pathological gamblers, one survey found. Another 3 million are problem gamblers.

While other forms of gambling also cause problems, casinos are the most addictive. Of Iowans who receive state-funded help, 63 percent did their primary wagering on slot machines. Another 25 percent primarily gambled at poker, blackjack or other table games and at video machines, both forms of gambling available at casinos. The state lottery, scratch-off tickets, sports gambling and other forms accounted for the remaining 12 percent.

A total of 933 compulsive gamblers received help through Iowa's state treatment program last year, more than twice the 412 people in treatment during 1995.

"The number of gamblers with problems is still rising," said Frank Biagioli, the Iowa program's executive director.

In 1993, Nebraska's gambling addiction help line received 419 calls. In 1999, with a state lottery in Nebraska and casino gambling in Iowa, the number climbed to 6,704.

One of those addicted to gambling is Theo Hudson. A decade ago, while working in Denver, he often attended greyhound races. That led to his betting with bookies on football games.

Hudson's betting escalated. In January 1991 he made a series of losing bets on the college bowl games. To recoup, he bet \$3,000 on the University of Colorado-Notre Dame Orange Bowl game.

He lost.

He couldn't come close to paying his bookie the \$6,000 he owed. Seeing no way out, he put his pistol in his mouth and pulled the trigger.

"I heard the hammer click, but it didn't go off," he said. "I was snapped back to reality. I said to myself that I would never gamble again."

With the help of a friend, he managed to get out of his financial jam. He later moved to Omaha, where family members live.

He found a job here and took business courses at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He married Beth in September 1994 but didn't tell her about his gambling problem in Denver.

For five years after trying to kill himself, Hudson didn't gamble. Then Bluffs Run Casino opened just across the Missouri River. He began playing the slots there. One day, he hit three jackpots on the quarter slot machines and three more on the dollar slots.

"I could do no wrong," he said. "I thought, 'This streak will go on forever.'"

He left the casino that day a \$4,000 winner.

The winning streak had a huge effect on Hudson, as it does for many compulsive gamblers, said Harlan Vogel, a specialist in treating addicted gamblers who counsels Hudson.

"A big win creates an emotional rush, a sense of omnipotence," said Vogel, a counselor for Family Service in Omaha.

Hudson was back at Bluffs Run the next day. He played the \$1 and \$5 slot machines. His winning streak continued. After the second day, he was ahead \$25,000. He put the cash - a pile of \$100 bills - inside a sock in a drawer to hide it from his wife.

It didn't take long - perhaps two weeks - for Hudson to lose the entire \$25,000. He kept gambling and kept losing. He worked a split shift at his job, giving him free time in the afternoon to gamble. He had his credit card bills sent to a post office box where his wife wouldn't see them.

Beth Hudson became suspicious when one of her credit cards wouldn't accept a charge for gasoline. When she confronted her husband, he said the same thing had happened to him and the credit card company was at fault. "I lied," he said.

That sounded plausible, Beth Hudson said.

"I had suspicions," she said. "He would leave work early and get home late."

Theo Hudson began diverting money from bank deposits he was supposed to make for his employer. He told himself he was borrowing the money.

"I kept telling myself that my winning streak was just around the corner," he said.

On April 28, 1997, he made bets of \$100 a hand while playing Caribbean stud poker at Ameristar. The cards weren't going his way. He left broke. He had hit bottom. His boss was close to learning that Hudson had been stealing company receipts. He had run up his two credit cards to the maximum, and he owed money on two loans.

"I had reached a point where I couldn't stand myself," he said.

After leaving Ameristar, he went to the office he managed. From a restroom he called the Iowa gambling hot line number. He was told that as a Nebraska resident, he wasn't eligible for treatment. He called the Nebraska hot line and reached Matt Pelzer, then its coordinator. By coincidence Pelzer, who died in 1998, lived just three blocks from the Hudsons in Bellevue. Two days later, Hudson went to his first Gamblers Anonymous meeting.

He didn't immediately have the courage to tell his wife that their finances were a shambles.

A few weeks later, he drove to the home of an aunt and uncle. "We'll help," they said. "But first you must tell your wife."

He drove to the deserted boat ramp area east of Plattsmouth. As in Denver, he again considered committing suicide. But he decided to return home. He was sitting in a recliner crying when Beth arrived.

"I take my marriage vows seriously," she said. "I thought I should stand by him."

His stealing from his employer resulted in a charge of theft by deception in Sarpy County. By the time he went to court, he and Beth had repaid most of the \$6,000 he had taken. The charge was reduced to a misdemeanor, and he pleaded guilty, receiving 18 months probation but no prison time.

The Hudsons have repaid most of the \$50,000 in debt from Theo Hudson's gambling. Theo Hudson took a new job at a Council Bluffs plant. He and his wife, who works at a food-processing plant, have worked long hours, accepting all the overtime they could get.

Nearly four years have passed since his last bet. Hudson, with growing confidence, now helps others with gambling problems. He is a board member of the Nebraska Council on Compulsive Gambling.

This time he has the help of a supportive wife, of his gambling counselor and of his friends at Gamblers Anonymous.

"The difference is I'm not on my own." Help Lines Compulsive and problem gamblers, or their family members, can get assistance by calling these numbers In Nebraska: 1-800-560-2126. Omaha-area residents also can call 291-0980. In Iowa: 1-800-238-7633 (1-800-BETSOFF)

#### [Illustration]

Color Photo/1NOT ALONE: Nearly four years have passed since Theo Hudson last gambled. Hudson and wife Beth have repaid most of his \$50,000 gambling debt. B&W Photo/1TURNAROUND: Ron Meredith, owner of Chubb's Finer Foods, 2905 N. 16th St. in Omaha, initially supported the idea of casinos in Council Bluffs, but he has changed his mind. Sales at his grocery declined by 15 percent soon after the casinos opened, and he has seen the addictive effect gambling has on some people.; KENT SIEVERS/THE WORLD-HERALD/1sf/1

Credit: COUNCIL BLUFFS BUREAU

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## AST FIND

### Energy alert

American issued a peak Monday, but will not do today. The heat wave is today to lessen this week.

ENERGY/See Page 8B

### Rehiring staff

ishna Valley School District Hastings, is hiring some back and restructuring some positions

REHIRING/See Page 5A

### Nutritious snacks

A registered dietitian for Council Bluffs Community schools promotes nutrition.

NUTRITION/See Page 3A

1	3A
2	3B
3	10A
4	6A
5	8A
6	9B
7	9A
8	8A
9	2A
10	4A
11	1B
12	2B

## Corum's floral designers dominate convention

GREG JERRETT  
Staff Writer

Everything's coming up roses — or blue delphiniums, dendrobium orchids or protea, as the case may be — for Corum's Flowerers, 639 Fifth Avenue.

Last weekend, three floral designers, all employed by Corum's, dominated the Heart-

land Floral Convention in Lincoln, Neb., in one of the sweetest smelling victories since the last floral competition.

Tara De Santiago of Council Bluffs, Molly Boulden of Omaha and Patty Shinnery of Bellevue, cleaned up at this year's convention. Showing no mercy and taking no prisoners, these designers used all their skills to bring vic-

tory to Corum's in Council Bluffs and the floral industry they represent.

Molly Boulden took first place in the wrist corsage category with a creation made of miniature calla lilies and dendrobium orchids arranged on a wire with special floral adhesive glue.

She also won best of show for the same design.

Boulden has been in the business about 15 years, but only started competing around three years ago for the joy of creating things not normally ordered in the day-to-day operations of flower shop.

"It's just fun to go out there an

VICTORY/See Page 7

## Counselor: Gambling affects more women

TIM ROHWER  
Staff Writer

More women are seeking treatment for gambling addiction than in years past, a local counselor said.

"Of my 45 clients, 51 percent are women," said Linda Zitek, certified gambling counselor for the Council Bluffs office of Family Service. "Why? Maybe it's word of mouth about our service."

Women see gambling as an escape from everyday pressures without the next morning's hangover that alcohol abuse can cause, she said.

Gambling can affect women who don't have an addiction, Zitek said.

Women whose husbands or boyfriends are addicted to gambling may find it more difficult to deal with than if their man was having an affair with another woman, she said.

The wife or girlfriend can improve their appearance or other changes to compete against the other woman, Zitek said.

"At least you know what you are up against and what you can do," she said. "But, how do you fight a (gambling) machine?"

Whether it's women or men, Zitek stays busy helping those overcome their gambling problem.

"I have no problem keeping my



This is Responsible Gaming Education Week in Council Mayor Tom Hanafan made the proclamation Monday as from the area casinos and gambling treatment agencies too

GAMBLING/See Page 7A

under 5 miles for a  
million and would  
the Wabash Trace  
Lake Manawa

# Activity

revisions showed  
through 2000, pro-  
averaged 2.5 per-  
with the 2.8 per-  
annually reported.

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e first quarter.

Bluffs and western Iowa, already  
has three candidates from here.  
City Councilman Paul  
Shomshor has announced his  
intention to seek the Democratic  
nomination for Congress, with  
Iowa House Speaker Brent  
Siegrist and businessman Jeff  
Ballenger seeking the Republican  
nomination.  
Hanafan said he hasn't heard  
of anyone else seeking the mayor's

## Gambling

Continued from Page 1A

calendar busy," she said.

Unfortunately, her number of  
clients is a small amount compared  
to those who are addicted, but  
remain in denial and do not seek  
treatment, Zitek said.  
Creating more awareness of this  
problem is the purpose of Responsi-

council seats up for election this  
year. Shomshor hasn't yet indi-  
cated if he'll seek re-election,  
besides running for Congress.  
The other council seat up for re-  
election is that currently held by  
Scott Belt, who has taken out  
papers to run again.  
The council members each  
receive \$600 a month for their ser-  
vices.

of energy, along with a need to  
upgrade existing water facilities  
as factors leading to the rate hike.  
This rate hike would be  
Regional's first since 1997 for our  
rural residential users," Wilcox  
said. "It is deemed necessary to  
offset the steadily rising costs of  
maintaining our production,  
treatment and distribution facili-  
ties."

\$3.50 per thousand gallons  
The rate increase will not  
apply to the newly constructed  
water system that serves the area  
of Pottawattamie County directly  
north of Council Bluffs, Wilcox  
said those rates were set in 1999  
and would remain sufficient to  
service the system's operational  
costs.  
- Dave Boyca

ble Gaming Education Week, which  
was proclaimed Monday by Mayor  
Tom Hanafan.

The three Council Bluffs casinos  
have participated in this annual  
event since its inception by the  
American Gaming Association in  
1998.

Today, Ameristar officials will be  
the host an ice cream social to  
inform their employees about how  
to recognize the signs of problem  
gambling and where to direct any  
players who ask for help. If a prob-  
lem gambler is seen, employees are  
asked to contact a supervisor who

will deal with the situation, said  
Ameristar official Jane Bell.  
The economy, whether its good or  
bad, doesn't influence gamblers, she  
said.  
Harveys also will be the host  
employee events and handing out  
stickers and buttons this week.

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**Earnhardt**  
**Fans**  
**Applaud**  
**Official**

**"The Intimidator" - Dale Earnhardt**

St. Vincent & the Grenadines 32  
St. Vincent & the Grenadines 32  
St. Vincent & the Grenadines 32

Actual Size: 180 mm x 143 mm

*May 28 2002  
Magne Carver  
@ Richmond City*

### Enough is Enough

The key issue is to determine the net gain for the citizens of Richmond with the proposal to add 300 slot machines. The BC government and the Casino group are not known to give away money without having a much larger return to their own pockets. To give the City of Richmond 6 million dollars they will have to generate at least 60 million dollars in revenues and of this 70% will be attributed to losses by the citizens here in Richmond. The 42 million dollars siphoned from Richmond will mainly come from the seniors, the housewives, the teenagers, the new immigrants which are the targeted group for the slot machines requiring less sophistication and no language skill needed. Those intimidated by the fast pace of other Casino games will be lured to the slot machines because they can set their own pace and coupled with the low 25 cents per game cost is well suited for the targeted group. Due to the relatively smaller amount of money one can lose each time, the negative addictions and social economical impacts will take longer to be realized and the current reports/studies will not reflect *the* risks.

Nevertheless, there is no question that the slot machines are addictive. The guaranteed money lost by the seniors will mean cutting out the trips to the corner coffee shops, spending less on foods, eating out less, gifts and presents to relatives will be cut and worse yet their time spent on volunteering, visiting children and grandchildren and travelling will all be affected. While they could be walking in exercise is now spent on sitting in front of the slot machines in an environment with no social redeeming value other than to promote greed. The same could be cited for the housewives and teenagers who could, through the slot machines, be initiated to other forms of gambling. The new immigrants with their plentiful time at hand and their better financial backup is certainly ripe for "pick pocketing" by their new host country. Instead of getting involve with their new environment they are locked into the mundane, time wasting gambling. The 6 million dollar dangling carrot will only translate to a mere \$36.00 dollars per Richmond citizen per year ( or \$3.00 per month, or 10 cents a day). For this small return we are told to sell our souls and rights to the BC government and Casino groups to freely pick pocket our citizens day in and day out with families and small businesses suffering the most lost. Moreover, the irony of the whole thing is that , we are to built more RCMP, Social service, Hospital facilities

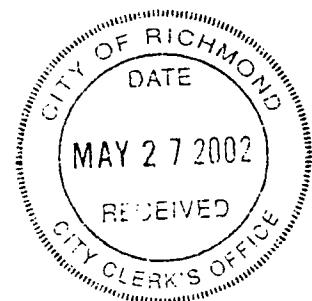


with the 6 million dollars which potentially is the cause for needing more of those services to start with !  
I sincerely urge you be smart and responsible gatekeepers for our society and not be swindled by the Gaming Commission and Casino groups which act only to their own benefits and agendas. Enough is enough and do not sell out for a mere 10 cents/per citizen/per day to hounding wolves who have deep pockets and well planned organizations (just think about the patience and money they have to keep Bridgeport market on the wing for one sole purpose - a new casino site all this years sitting empty). It is just poor arithmetic to spend 70 cents and to get 10 cents back in return plus all the inherent headaches!

P. Chu ...

Richmond BC .....

27th May 2002



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Mary Louise Hiebert [hiebertml@hotmail.com]  
[hiebertml@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** May 28, 2002 6:58 AM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** MY OPINION ON EXPANDED GAMBLING

Dear Mayor Brodie and City Councillors: My opinion on the subject of expanded gambling has not changed since I sent a letter to you earlier this year: Please, no expanded gambling in Richmond! Thank you.

---

January 18, 2002

Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Richmond City Hall 6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Dear Mr Mayor:

### RE: EXPANSION OF GAMBLING IN RICHMOND

Richmond has been my home since 1988. I am a 54-year-old mother of 5 young adults, 3 of whom still live and work or go to school here. I want to express my opposition to any further expansion of gambling in Richmond and urge you to stand by your election platform on this subject.

I have a close friend in the Lower Mainland whose husband is addicted to gambling. His first marriage ended because of it. Now only through concerted effort and expert help has he been "clean" for three years now. In addition, I have an uncle whom I never knew because he was addicted to gambling to the extent that he disappeared, leaving his wife and children with his debts.

I realize it is very tempting to increase revenues via gambling; but it is my belief that the health and social costs are high - not only in the way gambling affects the individual and the family but also in increased organized crime. I urge the City to take the high road and come up with more creative and healthy ways of raising revenue. Perhaps part of the solution is trimming spending, being fiscally responsible and keeping costs down etc. I would even be in favour of pay parking if that would help. But please, no expansion of gambling!

I urge you and the rest of City Council to continue to uphold the wish of the majority of Richmond residents and vote against any expansion of gambling in our city. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Mary Louise Hiebert #23 - 8631 Bennett Road Richmond, BC V6Y 3K7

cc: Richmond City Council Finance Committee; Kiichi Kumagai, chairman




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**MayorandCouncillors**

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**From:** Sylvia Thomas [sylvia.thomas61@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** May 28, 2002 10:30 PM

**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca

**Subject:** 300 Slot Machines

May 27, 2002

Dear Mayor and Council:

We have grave concerns with regard to the prospect of Richmond council allowing slot machines into the city in order to raise revenue. It parallels the concept of selling drugs in order to raise revenue. Many people suffer from the disease of gambling just as many people suffer from addictions to substances. To take advantage of those addictions raises ethical issues. The end does not always justify the means.

With increased gambling comes many negative social woes. It is a fact to which any police officer can attest. To profit from others' misfortunes is unethical. For a body who is voted in to represent the best for its citizens, the council needs to keep in mind their mandate to look after the needs of all Richmond residents. Personally, it would be better to pay more tax than to bring the problems associated with gambling into our community.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ken and Sylvia Thomas



05/28/2002

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## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** BILL, ROSE, JOEL AND CANDICE  
[brwiedman@telus.net]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 9:55 PM  
**To:** Mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** To all council members

To all council members:

I would ask that you deny the application before you to allow slot machines and more gambling in the city.

We are a family who chose to live in this fine and beautiful city. The Richmond City Council and Mayors, past and present have done a wonderful job to make our city a very inviting place to live. Being so close to the ocean with its clean cool breeze and beautiful sunsets are ever so inviting. The development of #3 Road in the past 15 years is an asset to the city.

My concern is that if the council allows any more gambling in this fine city it would be the beginning of the end for the City of Richmond.

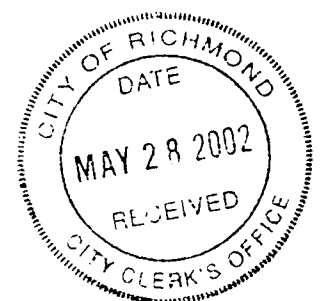
I could go on with the type of lifestyle that gambling brings to a city but I am more than sure all you councillors know the devastating effects that result from such activities.

There are arguments on both sides, whether gambling is a good or bad influence to a community. Let us lean to the side of safety and not live in the future with the ill effects of a bad decision made now.

Please consider the wishes of the residents of Richmond and vote with a resounding **NO** to slots and future gambling establishments.

Thank you for listening.

Bill Wiedman.



## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Judy Kutny [kutny0626@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 10:00 PM  
**To:** Mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gambling

This email is to let you know that I am **strongly** against slot machines and expanded gambling in our community. On Tuesday evening I expect you to vote against any application to expand gambling in Richmond.

Derrick Kutny



05/28/2002

171

## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** FFredk3@aol.com  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 9:14 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Special Council Meeting on Gaming Policy

As long-time residents of Richmond, we strongly oppose any further expansion of gaming & especially of slot machines in our city.

Richmond is a beautiful city with a record for healthy living and we would like to keep moving in that direction. We have very reasonable property taxes compared to other cities and would like this to continue ; however we definitely don't want to keep low taxes through gaming revenue.

Please take our wishes into consideration.

Fred & Ruth Krause



## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Phillips, Marylou  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 8:22 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncillors  
**Subject:** Anti-gambling

Please add Joan A. McDermott, 279-0645, to the list of residents who are against gambling.  
Thank you

Mary Lou  
Receptionist/Clerk, Administration  
local 4153



## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Quamme [quamme@direct.ca]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 7:14 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** gambling  
 May 26, 2002

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

This week there will be a public hearing on expanding gambling in Richmond . You will then be deciding whether to apply to bring this into reality . Each of you has a different world view which will influence your decision as to whether it is a good idea or not even though you will all hear and have read similar facts.

I too read some of the material on the web, read the Report to Council re: gaming in Richmond ,read material others sent me by e-mail, read what has been in the papers and talked to Terry Crowe about the Musqueam issue. There were articles on the percentage of problem gamblers, how gambling increased with easier access, how to tell if you are a problem gambler, how much was spent per adult in Canada on gambling , the concerns and the benefits of gambling. One I found interesting was in the Canadian Medical Journal information on health issues, gambling addictions family, and gambling by youth etc.at <http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/163/1/61>

I was shocked to find how much we depend on gambling at the different government levels and how it is interwoven through so much of society .

I was not surprised to read that few problem gamblers seek help which likely helps to explain why we do not immediately see the problems in society. More studies need to be done to actually see what is going on many writers believed.

I am not surprised to learn that the poor or people who do not have much hope spent the highest percentage of any group in society on gambling.

I pondered what was happening to the 96% or so who did not get addicted. What were they missing in the way of alternatives with friends or family?

Over and over I read about slots being highly addictive. I also read too many times how money would solve our problems which takes me to my own world view and where I stand on gambling.

I am a Christian which basically means I believe in relationship both with God and others. I also believe we humans are to be responsible individuals in history . God has things for us to do to bring in His kingdom which is about love , joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility , and self-control. To support gambling you must bow down to another god "Money" and a belief system that say that money will make you happy and solve your problems and that of others. To do so you must reject the Christian belief system and also the belief systems of the major religions of the world, gambling that there is no Supreme being.

I am against further expansion of gambling in Richmond.

Sincerely,

Deneanne Quamme



05/28/2002

174

9917 Ashwood Drive

Richmond , BC

V6Y 2Z4

604-271- 9095

05/28/2002

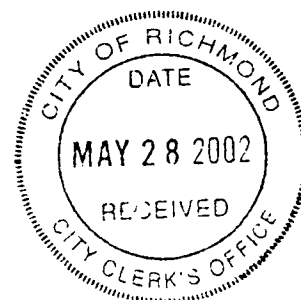
## Mayor and Councillors

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**From:** Derek Webb [djwebb@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 4:22 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** ADDITIONS TO GAMBLING

May 27, 2002

My name is Joan Webb of #115-8870 Citation Drive, Richmond, B. C. V6Y 3A3, Phone #604-278-2878. I just wish to say that I am very much against any additions to the gambling that we already have. In fact I never wanted it to go in in the first place. I don't think any amount of income from it is worth the cost of people who have gambling problems and what it costs the families involved.  
Joan Webb



05/28/2002

## MayorandCouncillors

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**From:** Phillips, Marylou  
**Sent:** May 27, 2002 3:20 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncillors  
**Subject:** Anti-Gambling

Please add Robin Oakley, Ainsworth Crescent, 275-3197, to the list of people who are against gambling.  
Thank you.

Mary Lou  
Receptionist/Clerk, Administration  
local 4153



## MayorandCouncillors

---

**From:** Warren L. Dueck, CA/CPA [Warren@Dueck.com]  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 9:11 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gambling

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I strongly urge you not to expand gambling in Richmond. Not only is it a regressive tax, but it affects those who can least afford it. While other jurisdictions may seek to expand their gaming activities and the revenues they derive, it comes at a high price to all of us.

**Warren**

Warren L. Dueck  
Phone 604-448-0200; Fax 604-448-9294  
3640 Blundell Road, Richmond, BC, Canada V7C 1G4  
Warren@Dueck.com



**MayorandCouncillors**

---

**From:** Kevin Miller [kevinm@vcbc.bc.ca]  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 9:06 AM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Gambling

Please consider the best options for our community with a long range plan to keep our families free from more forms of vice. Keeping gaming to a minimal will be healthiest for the citizens of Richmond. Our grandparents and parents worked to build a strong community, let us respect that which they handed to us. Thank you for giving due consideration to the heritage we've been blessed with.

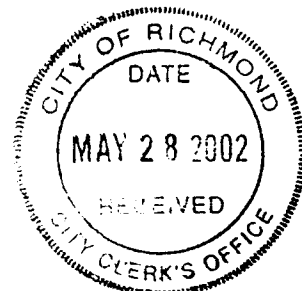


05/28/2002

179

226-8880 Jones Road,  
Richmond, B.C.  
May 28, 2002.

Mayor Malcolm Brodie and Councillors  
City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, B.C.



Dear Mayor Brodie and Councillors:

I am concerned about expanding gambling in Richmond. I am attaching to this letter a petition that some people signed who are opposed to expanded gambling and a copy of an article about gambling that appeared in Family Forum.

I believe that it is better to increase taxes than receive money from gambling. Some people have called gambling a tax on the poor when gambling revenues are used by governments. I think many poor people gamble in the hope of being able to live like their more affluent neighbours instead of using money for necessities for their family. Some people who gamble become addicted and become poor and lose their homes, jobs and families. I think that taxing people and businesses according to the size of their homes or businesses is a much fairer way of obtaining needed revenues for the city.

I noted in the attached article the statement that counties that added casinos in the early 1990s have experienced no additional growth in new business according to U.S. News and World Report analysis.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Yours sincerely,  
Orval Chapman

I am opposed to expanded  
gambling in Richmond.

Margaret B. Mc Alpine

Nora Shine

Betty Guntan

Zubak Statham

Rose Mudge

Gvonne Bell

Betty Lou Berecy

James Berecy

Ashley Solbera

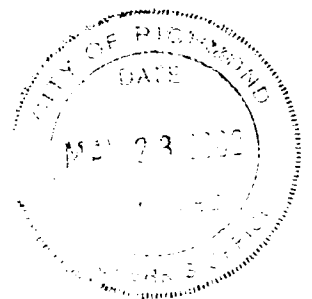
Wynned Froud

Lorraine Bell

Chantal Wishler

Dianna Bell

*[Signature]*



# Endnotes

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## What Payoff Can You Expect From Gambling?

That is the question asked and answered by a well-documented article published in the October 1997 issue of Family Forum.

Quoting from independent research by respected scientists and journalists across the United States, the article presents the dismal picture of how people, families, governments and communities change, over time, when exposed to a gambling environment.

Please read the following and consider: Is this what you want for your community?

CAGE

Citizens Against Gambling Expansion  
414 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver B.C.  
(604) 687-3401

## What Payoff Can You Expect From Gambling?

### Addiction

*When gambling expands, so does the number of gambling addicts. It is estimated that close to 10 million Americans now have a gambling habit that is out of control -- and the number is growing daily.*

- The number of compulsive gamblers will increase between 100 and 550 percent when gambling is brought into an area, according to University of Illinois Professor John Kindt. <sup>1</sup>
- In Iowa, the number of individuals with serious gambling problems more than tripled after casinos were introduced. <sup>2</sup>
- Casinos earn more than half of their revenues from problem and pathological gamblers, according to Earl Grinols, University of Illinois economist. <sup>3</sup>
- The average debt of a gambling addict in treatment ranges between \$18,000 and \$50,000, according to Illinois State University Professor Henry Lesieur. <sup>4</sup>
- Twenty percent of compulsive gamblers attempt suicide, according to the National Council of Problem Gambling. <sup>5</sup>

### Family Devastation

*Gambling has proven to be a devastating adversary to an already struggling American family. Thousands of families have been destroyed by gambling addictions; thousands more are in a state of crisis.*

- Harrison County, Miss., has averaged 500 more divorces per year since casinos arrived. <sup>6</sup>
- A 1995 survey of compulsive gamblers in Illinois found that 26 percent were divorced or separated due to gambling problems. <sup>7</sup>

- Domestic violence and child abuse increase dramatically when gambling comes into an area, according to a 1995 report from Maryland's attorney general. <sup>8</sup>

- The Gulf Coast Women's Center in Biloxi, Miss., has received an average of 400 more crisis calls per month since gambling's arrival. <sup>9</sup>

- Central City, Colo., experienced a six-fold rise in child protection cases the year after casinos arrived. <sup>10</sup>

- Children of compulsive gamblers do worse in school than their peers, are more likely to engage in substance abuse, are more susceptible to gambling and eating disorders, and are more prone to depression, according to the National Council on Problem Gambling. <sup>11</sup>

### Adolescent Addicts

*Adolescents may be the biggest victims of America's gambling obsession. Despite age restrictions, teens are able to access legalized gambling with regularity -- and they are paying a heavy price.*

- Roughly six percent of American adolescents (more than one million) are already addicted to gambling, according to Howard Shaffer of Harvard Medical School. One in six teens experience gambling-related problems. <sup>12</sup>
- At least three-quarters of high school seniors gamble. <sup>13</sup>
- In 1995, University of Minnesota researchers discovered that more than half of underage Minnesota youth surveyed had participated in legal gambling activities. <sup>14</sup>
- Teens are three times more as likely as adults to become addicted to gambling once exposed, according to Loma Linda University Medical School Professor Durand Jacobs. <sup>15</sup>
- At least one in 10 teens engages in illegal activity (stealing, shoplifting, selling drugs or prostitution) to finance their gambling, according to Durand Jacobs. <sup>16</sup>

### Crime

*Crime and gambling are inseparable partners, as communities with gambling can readily attest.*

- The crime rate in gambling communities is nearly double the national average, according to a 1996 *U.S. News & World Report* analysis. <sup>17</sup>
- Three years after casinos arrived, Atlantic City went from 50th to first in the nation in per-capita crime. <sup>18</sup>

- Half of Louisiana district attorneys surveyed in 1995 cited gambling as a factor in rising crime rates in their jurisdictions. <sup>19</sup>

- Organized crime has infiltrated a number of legal gambling operations, according to a report from Maryland attorney general. <sup>20</sup>

- At least two-thirds of compulsive gamblers turn to crime to finance their addictions, according to Valerie Lorenz, director of the Compulsive Gambling Center in Baltimore. <sup>21</sup>

- Top law enforcement officials strongly oppose gambling. Thirty-year Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley said, "There has never been an issue that has disturbed me any more than the proliferation of gambling in our state." <sup>22</sup>

### Poverty

*Legalized gambling makes poor people poorer. It also adds individuals and families to the poverty rolls.*

- Gambling is a regressive form of taxation. The poor lose the greatest share of their income to gambling, as various studies show. <sup>23</sup>
- A 1995 study of casino gamblers in Wisconsin found that half had household incomes below \$30,000. <sup>24</sup>
- Those with incomes below \$10,000 comprise 7 percent of Illinois riverboat gamblers. They report median gambling losses of \$1,900 annually. <sup>25</sup>
- The poor and minorities are more prone to gambling problems, according to Henry Lesieur. <sup>26</sup>

- The *Minneapolis Star-Tribune* reports that more than 1,000 Minnesotans file for bankruptcy annually due to gambling losses. <sup>27</sup>

- The *Detroit News* reports that gambling-related bankruptcies in metro Detroit have increased up to 40-fold since the opening of a large casino in neighboring Windsor, Ontario. <sup>28</sup>

### Economic Mirage

*The gambling industry's mantra of jobs, economic development and tourism is an enticing one -- but it is false. Gambling has failed to live up to its lofty promises time and time again.*

- Earl Grinols found that the introduction of casino riverboats in Illinois did not create additional jobs; they merely took jobs away from existing industries. <sup>29</sup>

- Counties that added casinos in the early 1990s have experienced no additional growth in new business, according to a *U.S. News & World Report* analysis. <sup>30</sup>

- Gambling's ability as a tourist draw has been vastly overstated. Surveys in Illinois, Wisconsin and elsewhere show that gambling entrepreneurs make most of their profits from residents, not tourists. <sup>31</sup>

- Though gambling is often sold as a revenue boon to education, it has frequently failed to deliver. Often state legislatures simply redirect funds, resulting in no net benefit for education. <sup>32</sup>

- Each problem gambler costs society an estimated \$13,000 to \$52,000 per year. <sup>33</sup>

- John Kindt calculates that for every \$1 the state receives in gambling revenues, it costs the state at least \$3 in increased criminal-justice, social-welfare and other expenses. <sup>34</sup>

### Government Corruption

*The gambling industry exerts tremendous influence in places where it has established itself. Gambling related political scandals have erupted in many states.*

- The gambling industry has become the single most powerful lobby in many states, according to U.S. Gambling Study author Robert Goodman. <sup>35</sup>

- In Illinois, gambling lobbyists include a former governor, former attorney general, two former U.S. attorneys, a former director of state police, a prominent former judge, a former mayor of Chicago and seven former state legislators. <sup>36</sup>

- Dozens of elected officials in Louisiana, Missouri, South Carolina, Arizona, Kentucky and West Virginia have been convicted or forced out of office on charges of gambling-related corruption. <sup>37</sup>

*Reprinted with permission from the October 1997 issue of Family Focus Magazine*

Craig & Linda Boram  
9055 Dayton Avenue  
Richmond, BC V6Y 1E1  
Tel:604-275-0420

May 28, 2002

City of Richmond  
6911 No.3 Road  
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Attention to the Mayor & Councillors

Dear Sir/Madam;

Please reject today the proposal to expand gambling in this city.

We do sympathize with you in the challenge to balance the city's budget, but we would urge you to "PROVIDE THINGS HONEST IN THE SIGHT OF ALL MEN" (Romans 12v17). The lofty promise of \$6 million in revenues from gaming appears to be a quick easy solution, but it would be foolish not to reckon the costs both social, economic & moral. It speaks in Ezekiel 22v27 of some who "...destroy souls to get dishonest gain.". It is your responsibility not to allow this in the City of Richmond!

We are in support of you in our prayers and would gladly pay higher taxes for the privilege of living in a city where the Mayor and Councillors have the courage to stand their ground against increased gambling and the resulting moral decline!

Yours sincerely,

Craig Boram



Linda Boram



8411 Lunen Road  
Richmond, BC  
V6Y 2X1

May 27, 2002

City of Richmond  
City Hall  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC

Dear Council Members:

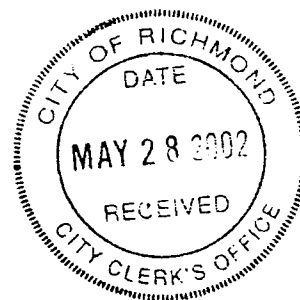
Re: Expansion of Gaming

Over a period of 5 years, we have personally witnessed the devastation and financial loss to a young household here in Richmond as a direct result of an addiction to gambling.

We therefore strongly appeal to the Richmond City Council to resist any further expansion of gaming in Richmond.

Yours truly

*Allan McHaffie*  
*Pearl McHaffie*



May 28, 2002

To: City Clerk  
6911 No.3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Fax: 604-278-5139

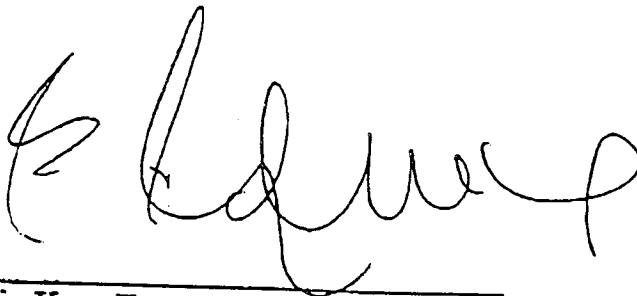
From: Chiu Kow Tam Leung

Re: Casino / Slot Machines

---

I am unable to attend the special meeting to be held tonight in the council chambers at the Richmond City Hall regarding the captioned issue.

Please take this fax as my official opposition to the building or expansion of any casino in the City of Richmond. I also strongly object to the addition of slot machines in any place within the City.



---

Chiu Kow Tam Leung  
812 - 6631 Minoru Boulevard  
Richmond, BC V6Y 1Z1  
Tel: 604-273-9528



May 28, 2002

To: City Clerk  
6911 No.3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Fax: 604-278-5139

From: Kwong-ling Leung

Re: Casino / Slot Machines

---

I am unable to attend the special meeting to be held tonight in the council chambers at the Richmond City Hall regarding the captioned issue.

Please take this fax as my official opposition to the building or expansion of any casino in the City of Richmond. I also strongly object to the addition of slot machines in any place within the City.



---

Kwong-ling Leung  
812 - 6631 Minoru Boulevard  
Richmond, BC V6Y 1Z1  
Tel: 604-273-9528



FAX TO: (604) 278-5139

Attention: Mayor and Council  
City of Richmond  
c/o Office of the City Clerk  
City Hall  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC  
May 27, 2002

SUBMISSION TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGARDING EXPANDED GAMING IN RICHMOND

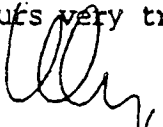
Gambling is an addictive vice and not an innocent form of entertainment. Gamblers are not winners; the very odds are against them. They must lose financially, morally and ultimately socially. In the final analysis there is no gain.

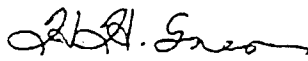
By expanding gambling we are approving the crumbling from within of our families and households that form the backbone, the very moral structure, of our human society. This move is clearly anti-Christian and the disastrous effect and results may be without remedy and in the interim are very costly. The revenue potentially generated from this venue cannot be considered viable or worthwhile in the face of associated downside costs that ultimately result in government expenditures.

A compulsive gambler may be forced to steal to support the habit. This affects and costs both financially and psychologically someone else who has been stolen from and increases policing needs and costs. A compulsive gambler may become indebted beyond his financial ability to pay, contributing to family breakdown, mental instability or disorder and suicide or murder.

Please record our two (2) strong votes against expanded gaming in our City of Richmond.

Yours very truly,

  
David J. Green  
1011 Douglas Crescent, Richmond, BC V7B 1E6

  
Helen Anne Green



William W. Steinman  
Nadine A. Steinman  
#40 - 6600 Lucas Road  
Richmond, BC V7C 4T1

May 27, 2002

Richmond City Council  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

Attention City Clerk's Office  
FAX (604) 278-5139

RE: SPECIAL MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2002  
- ISSUE OF EXPANDED GAMBLING

We have been taxpayers in the City of Richmond since January, 1956, and we are totally against expanded gambling in Richmond.

Thank you for your consideration.

*W. W. Steinman*

W. W. Steinman

*N. A. Steinman*  
N. A. Steinman

ns  
(604) 272-9255



**Mayor and Councillors**

---

**From:** Brighthouse United Church [buc@vcn.bc.ca]  
**Sent:** May 28, 2002 1:02 PM  
**To:** mayorandcouncillors@city.richmond.bc.ca  
**Subject:** EXPANDED GAMING

**To our Mayor & Councillors:**

**Please adhere honestly to Council's previous decision to not expand gaming in Richmond. Using gambling to fill public coffers is a short-sighted, greedy, unhumane policy. Surely our city can provide more wholesome, positive entertainment than this for its residents & visitors! Gambling is known to attract organized crime. Gambling addictions & over-spending on gambling brings ruin to lives & families.**

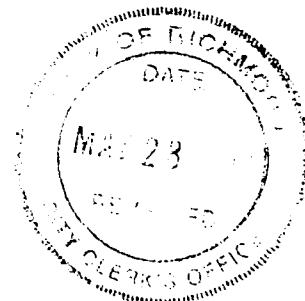
**Council should "do the right thing"--refuse to expand gambling--and work to eliminate it altogether. A wholesome community and a concern for the well-being of citizens and guests is of far greater value than revenue procured from gambling.**

**Sincerely,**

**Rev. Stuart W. Appenheimer  
Brighthouse United Church  
Richmond**

05/28/2002

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## **SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON GAMING POLICY – “NEUTRAL”**

### **Submissions received prior to and including Thursday, May 23, 2002**

1. British Columbia Lottery Corporation, 10760 Shellbridge Way, Richmond
2. Karl Cavanagh, #201 – 7575 – 140 Street, Surrey – (previously listed as “in opposition” – now listed as neutral)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Submissions received after Thursday, May 23, 2002 and prior to the Tuesday, May 28, 2002 Special Council Meeting**

3. Problem Gaming Program, Ministry of Health Planning, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria
4. R. Lockhart, #304 – 4900 Francis Road, Richmond
5. Arne Sanders, 4231 Brown Road, Richmond

4040-04

May 24, 2002

Honourable Members of Council:

**RE: Casino Gaming Policy**

I am writing to follow-up the meeting of the City of Richmond Council on May 13, 2002, in respect to Council's consideration to change its current casino gaming policy in Richmond. A number of presentations were made at this meeting which I believe did not present a comprehensive or balanced view of the most current academic or research information available on the economic and social benefits and costs of casinos.

The purpose of my letter is to present some of the recent research information and to provide a balanced perspective of the issues around casino gambling. I believe it is the Corporation's role to provide you with that balanced information so that you can make an informed decision on behalf of the citizens of Richmond.

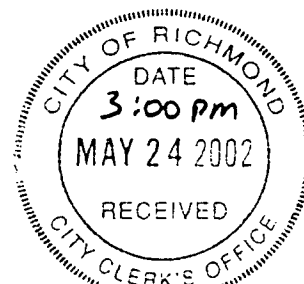
References were made to issues concerning crime, and several studies have been conducted across North America to investigate the effect casinos have had on crime. A 1999 study conducted by the Canada West Foundation reviews this issue, and is attached for your information.

With a view to ensuring safe environments at all gaming facilities in BC, the Corporation takes the following precautionary measures:

- registration and investigation of all service providers, employees, and suppliers by Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General;
- development and maintenance of facilities that are safe and secure;
- well-developed security and surveillance standards;
- well-established customer service and employee security training standards;
- on-going liaison with local policing authorities, and
- strict adherence to the provincial gaming age of 19 years, about to be proclaimed as law in the Gaming Control Act.

Independent research recognizes that there is a small proportion of about 1.8% of adults in British Columbia who have a serious problem with gambling and a further 2.4% who experience some difficulties controlling their gambling behaviour. Funding of \$4 million is provided annually from gaming revenues to provide programs for problem gamblers under the administration of the Ministry of Health Planning. It is my understanding that issues pertaining to problem gambling have been clarified in a May 21, 2002 letter from Ms. Donna Klingspohn, Manager of the Problem Gaming Program.

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...2

Initiatives are also provided by British Columbia Lottery Corporation (BCLC) and Casino Service Providers that actively promote responsible gambling and ensure that people who need help are able to access the appropriate counselling. Available resources include:

- a province-wide 1-800 telephone hotline referral service for clinical counselling;
- access to 41 full time equivalent provincially trained clinical counsellors who offer services throughout BC to problem gamblers;
- awareness material such as problem gambling information brochures and stickers bearing the 1-800 hotline number, displayed in casinos;
- self-exclusion programs; and
- community education and problem gambling awareness programs.

Another area of continued debate surrounds the issue of public acceptance of gambling. While opinions may vary slightly on a community-by-community basis, a 1999 Canada West Foundation study detailed "Canadian Gambling Behaviour and Attitudes" (attached) concluded that:

- 7 out of 10 Canadians participated in some form of gambling, with 17% of adults having visited a casino;
- 68% of adults view gambling as an acceptable activity in their province;
- 63% of Canadians agree that it is their right to gamble regardless of the consequences, while 32% disagree; and
- 60% of Canadians think that gambling has no overall impact on their communities, while 24% perceive a negative impact and 9% say gambling has a positive effect on their communities.

It is important to note that during the past four years, communities in British Columbia which are currently hosting either a community or destination casino, have not indicated either a major increase in crime or any significant increase in social problems associated directly with casinos. As well, I encourage you to speak with your colleagues in other municipalities that host casinos with slot machines, in order to become familiar with the BC experience in casino gaming.

Our Corporation, as the agent of the Crown responsible for casino gaming in the Province, is fully aware of the concerns about the potential social costs of casino gaming. However, we also believe that appropriate programs and measures have been put in place in British Columbia to address these issues. For Richmond specifically, the Corporation in conjunction with the Ministry of Health Planning and local law enforcement authorities, would continue to actively work on a day-to-day basis to address any issues that may arise from the operation of a community casino with slot machines in Richmond.

I have attached a brief synopsis of a number of current issues on casino gambling as well as copies of a number of more recent Canadian research studies on impact of gambling. I believe these research pieces provide a good basis for decision making.

If you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact me directly. I trust that this information will assist you in making an informed decision about gaming in Richmond, and a decision, which regardless of outcome, will be fully respected by the Corporation.

Yours truly,



Vic Poleschuk  
President and CEO  
British Columbia Lottery Corporation

Attachments

**Measuring Gambling and Problem Gambling in Alberta**  
**Alberta Gaming Research Institute**  
**Executive Summary**  
February 2002

**Background**

This study is funded by a research grant provided by the Alberta Gaming Research Institute and is the third study in eight years to survey adult Albertans gambling patterns and behaviours (Wynne, Smith, & Volberg, 1994; Wynne Resources, 1998).

The focus of this research project is twofold; that is, to use the newly-minted Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI) to describe the gambling practices of adult Albertans and to gain insight into the extent of problem gambling behaviour in this population. The results are intended to serve as a baseline measure for future Alberta problem gambling prevalence research, and ultimately, it is envisaged that these comparable studies will feed into a database that profiles gambling and problem gambling behavior across Canada.

**Key Findings**

- Gambling is still a popular leisure pursuit for Albertans, as 82% of the adult population took part in some activity at least once in the past year. Despite the widespread availability of legalized gambling formats in the province, this participation figure is down 5% from the 1998 provincial survey (Wynne Resources, 1998) and the decline affects most gambling formats.
- Having gambled in the previous year is pervasive amongst all education and income categories, but significantly less so for the highest education attainment category (those who hold advanced degrees) and for those at the lowest annual income level (under \$20,000).
- The most popular forms of gambling for Albertans are purchasing lottery and raffle or fund raising tickets. Notwithstanding Albertans preference for these activities, the amount spent per month on lottery tickets (\$7) and raffle or fund raising tickets (\$5) is relatively small.
- Player participation rates for virtually all gambling formats except slot machines have decreased since 1998. Slot machine play has increased significantly because there are 2,673 more machines in the province than there were in 1998.
- The sample was separated into two groups: gamblers (82%) and non-gamblers (18%). Gamblers were further segmented into four categories on the basis of their scores on the Problem Gambling Severity Index (PGSI); these include non-problem gamblers (67%), low risk gamblers (9.8%), moderate risk gamblers (3.9%), and problem gamblers (1.3%).
- Although males and females are equally likely to gamble, males are at a slightly higher risk of becoming problem gamblers. Only at the lower and upper limits of the age ladder are there significant differences in problem gambling behaviour; the youngest age group (19-24) is most at risk for developing gambling problems, whereas, the oldest two age groups (60-69 and 70 +) are least likely to develop gambling problems. Finally, living common-law and being single are the two marital status categories most closely associated with gambling problems.
- Those in the lowest income category (less than \$20,000) are more likely to have a gambling problem or be at risk than members of any other income classification. Six of the twenty-three problem gamblers in the sample (26%) are low-income respondents.
- Aboriginal gamblers are significantly more at risk for developing gambling problems than are gamblers from other ethnic backgrounds.

- Unemployed Albertans who are seeking work, unemployed students, and those unable to work are more at risk than those employed for developing a gambling problem.
- Problem and at risk gamblers in Alberta are more likely than non-problem gamblers to participate in every kind of gambling activity, with the exception of buying raffle or fund raising tickets.
- Problem and at risk gamblers are more disposed than non-problem gamblers to:
  1. make weekly wagers on every form of gambling,
  2. play for longer time periods at each gambling session, and
  3. risk significantly higher amounts of money per month on all forms of gambling.
- Contrary to the research literature, age of first gambling experience was not related to being an at-risk or problem gambler in this study; however, the first gambling activities played by problem gamblers were significantly different from those chosen by non-problem gamblers.
- Respondents' most common explanations for gambling are:
  1. to win money,
  2. for fun and entertainment, and,
  3. to support worthy causes.
- Problem and at-risk gamblers are differentiated from non-problem gamblers as a result of their inclination to:
  1. Bet more than they can afford to lose and bet more than intended.
  2. Increase wagers to maintain a heightened level of excitement.
  3. Chase gambling losses by returning another day to win back their money.
  4. Borrow money to finance their gambling.
  5. Lie to family members about their gambling and hide evidence of gambling.
  6. Gamble to escape personal problems.
- As a result of this dysfunctional gambling behaviour, problem and at-risk gamblers are more likely to have experienced the negative personal and social consequences.
- Problem and moderate risk gamblers are generally mindful of their inability to control their gambling; most have considered stopping, but did not think they could, and those who did try curtailing their gambling, were unsuccessful.
- Alberta ranks slightly higher than Ontario in terms of the percentages of at-risk and problem gamblers in the population.

#### Author

Measuring Gambling and Problem Gambling in Alberta: Garry J. Smith, Ph.D. and Harold J. Wynne, Ph.D.

## Gambling and Problem Gambling in Saskatchewan (2002)

Dr. Harold Wynn

### Executive Summary

January 2002

#### Background

This study of gambling and problem gambling in Saskatchewan is large in scope and is intended to be a baseline study against which future provincial gambling trends, program intervention evaluations, policy effectiveness studies, and other research initiatives may be compared. A new measurement instrument, the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI), is central to the study. Two Canadian provinces (i.e., Ontario and Alberta) are presently completing similar CPGI-based studies, and other provinces are expected to do likewise in the near future, the findings from Saskatchewan will be directly comparable to those from other provinces. The study is guided by five specific research questions and study findings relative to these questions are reported in three main chapters, namely:

1. gambling in Saskatchewan,
2. problem gambling in Saskatchewan, and
3. the health status of Saskatchewan gamblers.

#### Key Findings

- Gambling in Saskatchewan is clearly a very popular recreational and entertainment pastime as it is practised in some form by 87% of the adult population throughout the province.
- Opportunities to gamble are ubiquitous, existing in legalized and provincially regulated venues private licensed premises, shopping malls and convenience stores, the family environment, illegal gambling establishments, and by Internet access to on-line gambling sites.
- Gambling is equally likely to be engaged in by both men and women, irrespective of their age or marital status.
- While the majority of Saskatchewan gamblers in all education and income groups gamble on some type of activity, those with less than a high school education and who have an annual household income of less than \$20,000 are less likely to do so.
- The most practised form of gambling in Saskatchewan, and the only one that is engaged in by the majority of adult gamblers, is purchasing lottery and raffle/fund-raising tickets.
- Since the 1993 provincial gambling survey, there have been some changes in the types of gambling activities engaged in by Saskatchewan residents, including decreased participation in some activities (i.e., lotteries, sports pools, bets with friends, bingo, Sport Select, and horse races) and increased participation in others (i.e., raffles and VLTs).
- Monthly expenditures on all activities are greater in 2001 than 1993, with the largest monthly expenditure in both years being for bingo, and the greatest discrepancy being a three-fold increase for VLT play.
- Respondents are classified as either being gamblers (86.6%) or non-gamblers (13.4%). Gamblers are further classified using the nine-item Problem Gambling Severity Index (PGSI) into four sub-types, and based on PGSI scores, classification rates for these sub-types are as follows:
  1. non-problem gamblers (71.4%);
  2. low risk gamblers (9.3%);
  3. moderate risk gamblers (4.7%);

4. problem gamblers (1.2%).
- At-risk and problem gamblers may be found in both urban and rural communities across the province, although residents in Regina and Saskatoon appear to be somewhat more at-risk, or to be already experiencing a serious gambling problem.
  - Although males and females are equally likely to gamble, males are more likely to have a gambling problem, or to be at risk for developing one.
  - Those who have less than a high school education are more likely to have a gambling problem or to be at-risk for developing one. Similarly, those who have reported the lowest annual household income (< \$20,000) are most likely to have a problem or to be at-risk.
  - Aboriginal gamblers are significantly more likely than gamblers in other ethnic groups to be both at-risk for developing a gambling problem and to be experiencing a serious problem.
  - There are a substantial number of Saskatchewan minors under 19 years-of-age who live in a home with someone who has a gambling problem or who is at-risk for developing a problem.
  - Unemployed Saskatchewan adults in general, and unemployed students in particular, are at greater risk than those who are employed for developing or already having a gambling problem.
  - Problem and at-risk gamblers are more likely than non-problem gamblers to gamble on every type of activity, with the exception of purchasing raffle tickets, Internet gambling, and wagering on sports with a bookie (very few respondents gamble on these latter two activities).
  - Problem and at-risk gamblers are more likely than non-problem gamblers to wager weekly on every form of gambling activity; wager for longer duration of time per gambling session, and bet substantially more money each month on all forms of gambling.
  - The exception is for purchasing raffle and fund-raising tickets, where there is little difference amongst the gambler sub-types.
  - Most gamblers are motivated to wager for three main reasons, namely
    1. to win money,
    2. for fun and entertainment, and
    3. to support worthy causes.
  - Problem and at-risk gamblers are most likely to endorse the former two reasons and non-problem gamblers the latter.
  - Problem gamblers are the most likely to gamble alone, and the least likely to gamble with their spouse or partner. At-risk gamblers are the most likely to gamble with friends or co-workers.
  - As a result of this uncontrolled gambling behaviour, problem and at-risk gamblers are more likely than non-problem gamblers to suffer adverse personal and social consequences.
  - Most Saskatchewan problem gamblers are aware that they may have a gambling problem, and most want to stop gambling with many having tried to do so unsuccessfully.
  - It is not possible to directly compare statistical changes in problem gambling prevalence rates and findings between the first prevalence study done in 1993 and the present study, as different research methods and screening instruments (i.e., CPGI vs. SOGS) are utilized in each study.
  - Problem and at-risk gamblers are more likely than non-problem gamblers to experience health-related problems.

Author

Gambling and Problem Gambling in Saskatchewan(2002): Dr. Harold Wynne.

**Gambling in Canada 2001: An Overview**  
**Canada West Foundation**  
**Executive Summary**  
August 2001

**Background**

Canada has a unique gambling policy structure. Unlike many international counterparts, gambling operates exclusively under the control of the provincial and territorial governments. A consequence of this decentralized structure is a lack of national or comparative data on gambling as a whole. This report addresses that deficiency and provides an all-encompassing snapshot of gambling.

It analyzes:

1. the number and types of gambling available;
2. the amount of revenue provinces and charities receive from gambling;
3. problem gambling and treatment;
4. participation and attitudes toward gambling; and
5. government policy on gambling. Using 37 graphs and accompanying text, the report creates a unique data set that reconciles the different ways in which gambling data are presented in each province.

**Key Findings**

- There are over 100,000 places to make a bet in Canada. Canadians and visitors can choose to gamble at 38,252 VLTs, 31,537 slot machines, 32,932 lottery ticket centres, 1,880 bingo halls with permits, 59 permanent casinos, 70 race tracks (20 with slot machines) and 107 teletheatres.
- The total net profit, or what the governments keep after expenses and commissions are paid, for provincial and territorial governments was \$5.5 billion in 1999/2000. Gambling leads "sin" tax revenues for the provinces. At \$5.5 billion, provincial net gambling revenue is just shy of the \$5.9 billion that the provinces net from the sales of alcohol and tobacco combined.
- Total gross profits, or the amount left over after players' prizes have been paid but before expenses have been paid, were estimated at \$9 billion by Statistics Canada for 2000. Looking at the difference between the gross and net figures, a big chunk of revenue, \$3.5 billion, is the cost of operating gambling.
- On average, gambling contributes 3.41% of all provincial revenue sources. The provinces that benefit most from gambling activity are Nova Scotia (5.08%), Saskatchewan (4.68%), Alberta (4.58%), and Newfoundland (4.41%).
- The average total loss for each adult on provincially-run gambling is nearly \$400. Manitoba (\$491.87), Quebec (\$475.69), and Nova Scotia (\$470.76) generate the most per adult profit from their gambling activities, and BC (\$181.93) and PEI (277.90) the least.
- Net revenues from EGM (electronic gambling machines like slot machines and VLTs) activity in lounges and racetracks (not including slots in casinos) have risen 1,369% (from \$122 million to \$1.8 billion) over the last 8 years. Over this time, casino activity has increased 573% (from \$270 million to \$1.9 billion) and lotteries rose 19% (from \$1.6 billion to \$1.9 billion).
- Charity-run gambling in Canada generated \$712 million in net revenue in 1999/2000. Combined with the \$5.5 billion in net revenue made by the provinces, total net revenue from gambling in Canada was \$6.3 billion in 1999/00. In total, charities generated about 11% of all gambling revenue and governments the remaining 89%.

- Combined, the provinces spent over \$28 million on problem gambling treatment programs in 1999/2000, or about \$1.20 for every adult Canadian. No province (except PEI) spent more than 1% of their gambling revenue on problem gambling treatment, education or prevention programs.
- Gambling activity in Canada employs an estimated 47,500 persons as either regulators or operators of gambling for government or within gaming management companies.
- In general, gambling policy continues to evolve in Canada with only a minimum of opportunity for public involvement in the decision-making process.

### **Methodology**

The data for this roadmap were obtained by Canada West researchers who canvassed the more than 40 provincial/territorial agencies involved in gambling over a 15-month period starting in May 2000. Initial data requests were followed by re-submissions to different agencies, obtaining departmental approval to release some data, and, in some cases, waiting for missing data. Despite the length of time that has passed since those initial attempts, it was not possible to develop a complete data set for all provinces. The data include the best available estimates when the actual data are unknown.

### **Author**

**Gambling in Canada 2001: An Overview** was written by Jason J. Azmier, Canada West Foundation Senior Policy Analyst and Director of Gambling Studies (azmier@cwf.ca).

**Triumph, Tragedy or Tradeoff? Considering the Impact of Gambling**  
**Canada West Foundation**  
**Executive Summary**  
August 2001

**Background**

Gambling in Canada generated \$5.5 billion in net profit for the provinces and territories in 2000, and revenues have grown in size every year since 1992. With the revenue generated by this expansion, governments have provided opportunities for economic development and employment growth, lowered taxes, paid down debt, funded social programs and provided entertainment opportunities. Gambling expansion can also increase the negative aspects of gambling including higher levels of gambling addiction, bankruptcy, lower job productivity, family and marital stress, and crime. The amount of damage that has been created by this increase in gambling is unknown. The speed at which gambling expanded in Canada has raised concerns about whether due care is being taken in the development of provincial gambling policy. This paper considers the impacts of gambling and addresses the many obstacles surrounding the collection of relevant data, obstacles that hinder our ability to conclude whether gambling expansion is good or bad for Canada.

**Key Findings**

- The current inability to assess gambling's impact fundamentally clogs the process of developing gambling policy. An understanding of the impact of gambling's expansion is a prerequisite to the development of appropriate policy.
- Research studies have been unable to provide a comprehensive answer to gambling's impact for two reasons. First, attributing most gambling related impacts (stress, job loss, entertainment) to the actual act of gambling has proven extremely difficult. Second, even if researchers find costs and benefits that can be linked back to gambling, their ability to value these costs and benefits against one another becomes problematic.
- A public health approach to measuring gambling's impact addresses the problems of valuing the cost of gambling by focusing research on what should be the primary goal of gambling policy: to maximize the benefit of gambling while minimizing the harm.

**Implications for Policy Development**

- In order to better understand how gambling impacts communities, efforts to collect data need to increase. Our knowledge of the socio-economic impacts of gambling is limited due in part to the fact that an active, transparent and uniform attempt to collect data throughout all regions has not been initiated. Provincial gaming authorities should be given the mandate and resources to collect gambling-relevant data at regular and consistent intervals.
- Data collected should be publicly available for independent analysis so that all stakeholders in regions that are impacted by the expansion of gambling are better informed of the costs and benefits. This will allow communities to make decisions based on their own unique values. A greater awareness of the benefits and costs of gambling would also provide citizens with an opportunity to guide their responses to public referenda and gambling policy reviews.
- While some data do exist to measure the effects of gambling on communities, it is important to realize their limitations. At best, currently available data can be a valuable tool to help identify policy areas that warrant additional research. They should not be considered as wholly predictive or explanatory.

- It is important that the success of policies and effects of gambling are reviewed on a continual basis after gambling has been introduced to a community. Changes in community and economic data and social indicators after gambling has been established in a region should be noted and regularly evaluated. Once gambling has expanded, the direction of future policy should not be seen as wholly irreversible or inevitable. The direction of future policy may be dependent on whether gambling has satisfied the community health goals established when gambling was originally introduced.

### **Methodology**

The information contained within this report came through a detailed review of the Canadian and international gambling research literature, conference summaries, existing gambling impact studies and national gambling policy reviews in Australia and the United States.

### **Authors**

**Triumph, Tragedy of Trade-off? Considering the Impact of Gambling** was written by Jason J. Azmier, CWF Senior Policy Analyst, Robin Kelley, CWF Policy Analyst and Peter Todosichuk, CWF Intern.

## Behaviour and Attitudes Toward Gambling in Canada

Since the introduction of lotteries in the 1970s, Canadians have become increasingly accepting of gambling as part of their culture. During the past 25 years, gaming venues have expanded to include lotteries, casinos, and updated forms of bingo like electronic bingo and linked bingo games which connect many halls for big jackpot games.

The majority of Canadians are comfortable with the concept of gambling and actively participate. According to the Canadian Gambling Behaviour and Attitudes study, seven out of ten Canadians participated in some form of gambling, with 17% of adults visiting a casino. Over two-thirds of Canadians, 68%, view gambling is an acceptable activity in their province. And 63% of Canadians agree that it is their right to gamble regardless of the consequences, while 32% disagree .

It appears that policy debates on gambling are driven by a strongly opinionated and vocal minority. The majority of Canadians – 60% – think that gambling has no overall impact on their communities, while 24% perceive a negative impact, and 9% say gambling has had a positive effect on their communities.

**Canadian Gambling Behaviour and Attitudes: Main Report**  
**Canada West Foundation**  
**Executive Summary**  
December 2000

**Background**

Gambling is ubiquitous in Canada. Although it has only been 30 years since the first lotteries were introduced in Canada, there are now over 50 permanent casinos, 21,000 slot machines, 38,000 video lottery terminals, 20,000 annual bingo events, and 44 permanent horse race tracks in Canada. Over the same period, a national debate has emerged over the appropriate level of gambling in our communities. To date, Canada's gambling debate has not been informed by public opinion data. The Canada West Foundation's Public Opinion on Gambling survey attempts to fill this void.

The Public Opinion on Gambling survey provides a benchmark of gambling behaviours and attitudes across Canada. The survey findings provide a context for current debate, and can be used to track future changes in gambling opinion and behaviour.

**Key Findings**

- 72% of Canadians participated in the last year in regulated (e.g., lotteries, casinos, bingo) and unregulated gambling (e.g., sports pools, bets with friends, stock speculating);
- 63% of Canadians feel that, on the whole, gambling is an acceptable activity in their province;
- 68% of Canadians feel that gambling has not improved the quality of life in their community;
- 84% of Canadians feel that government should hold public consultations before introducing new forms of gambling;
- 63% of Canadians agree that it is their right to gamble regardless of the consequences, 32% disagree;
- 77% of Canadians feel that governments should do more to limit the negative effects of problem gambling;
- 92% of Canadians feel that gambling is inevitable and that people will find a way to gamble even if it was made illegal;
- 32% of Canadians indicated that they know someone "who is a problem gambler, that is they spend more than they can afford on gambling."

**Conclusions and Implications**

- Opinions vary significantly by region. Ontario respondents are the most tolerant of gambling and the least likely to view gambling as a problem, while Atlantic respondents are the least tolerant of gambling and most likely to see it as detrimental to communities.
- The policy debates on gambling tend to be driven by smaller strongly opinionated groups. Sixty percent of Canadians feel that gambling has no overall impact on their communities; 24% perceive a negative impact and 9% feel gambling has had a positive affect on their communities.
- Canadians accept gambling in part because it is seen as an inevitable part of their culture. Within this context, they support government regulation and control of gambling; 47% of Canadians are satisfied with the current level of restrictions on gambling, 43% would like more restrictions and 7% would like to see less restrictions.
- The study found that in some key policy areas public opinion appears at odds with current government policies:

- Video lottery terminals (VLTs) are widely available in bars and lounges in many provinces; 70% of Canadians think VLTs should only be available in casinos and racetracks. Canadians are split (43% disagree, 41% agree) on whether VLTs should be banned altogether.
- First Nation groups have limited opportunities to operate gambling in Canada; 52% of Canadians think that government should license First Nation on reserve gambling, while 34% disagree.
- Provinces currently retain 80-85% of gambling revenue in Canada while charities share 15-20% of this revenue. However, 43% of Canadians believe that charities should be the primary benefactor of gambling revenue; while only 17% believe that the provinces should.

#### **Methodology**

The survey interviewed 2,202 Canadians from across the country in June 1999. There is a 95% certainty that the results are accurate to within +/- 2.1%.

#### **Author**

**Canadian Gambling Behaviour and Attitudes: Main Report** was written by Jason J. Azmier, Canada West Foundation Senior Policy Analyst and Director of Gambling Studies (azmier@cwf.ca).

**Gambling and Crime in Western Canada: Exploring Myth and Reality**  
**Canada West Foundation**  
**Executive Summary**  
September 1999

**Background**

Gambling and Crime in Western Canada: Exploring Myth and Reality is another study conducted by the Canada West Foundation under its Gambling in Canada project. The study was authored by two of Canada's leading experts on gambling issues, Drs. Garry Smith and Harold Wynne. The report presents a first of its kind examination of the relationship between gambling and crime in Canada. Based on interviews with law enforcement, regulatory and judicial personnel dealing with gambling crime, the authors set out to examine the extent to which illegal gambling, gambling-related crime, and crimes by problem gamblers impact on our communities.

The scope of the study includes

1. An examination of the statutes and literature on gambling and crime;
2. An analysis of print media coverage of gambling and crimes;
3. Illegal gambling;
4. Crimes associated with legal gambling;
5. Crimes perpetrated by problem gamblers;
6. Law enforcement responses to gambling crimes; and
7. The impact of gambling-related crime on the court system.

**Key Findings**

- Illegal gambling is not pervasive throughout western Canada. It is, however, extensive in the four largest cities (Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, and Winnipeg), less so in medium-sized cities, and a minor concern in rural areas.
- There is no evidence that organized crime has infiltrated legal gambling operations in western Canada. The legal gambling industry has not been contaminated by organized crime because it is, essentially, a publicly owned, operated and regulated enterprise.
- The dearth of corruption associated with western Canadian legal gambling operations is a result of provincial gaming licensing and regulatory procedures being effectively implemented, monitored, and enforced.
- Gambling venues, notably casinos and racetracks, act as magnets for certain types of crime. For instance, it is well known to police that casinos and racetracks are preferred locations for laundering the proceeds of crime.
- The types of crimes committed by problem gamblers include theft, forgery, embezzlement, fraud, credit card scams, domestic violence, break and enters, and suicide. The consensus of both police officials and gaming regulators is that legal gambling formats are well regulated, but that illegal gambling enforcement is severely deficient.
- The study concludes with recommendations to limit the harm caused by gambling-related crime and to increase our knowledge of this social issue. The recommendations include:
  1. The development of an inter-provincial task force of municipal police, RCMP, and gaming regulators to sort out the roles and responsibilities of each organization and to develop a co-operative approach to policing illegal and legal games.

2. Amending the criminal code to allow single event sports betting, thereby decriminalizing this popular and less harmful activity.
3. The development of a provincial regulatory audit mechanism to review gambling industry contracts to ensure that gambling's expansion occurs free of corruption.
4. Encouraging the provincial governments to make their own games more consumer friendly (e.g., better odds) and to devote more time to policing the illegal games.
5. Requiring enforcement agencies to gather evidence on the extent of gambling related crime by beginning to record crimes as gambling-related when it is clearly a factor in the investigation.
6. Creating programs to educate citizens about the need to gamble responsibly in order to reduce the crimes perpetrated by problem gamblers.

**Author**

**Gambling and Crime in Western Canada: Exploring Myth and Reality** was written by Drs. Garry Smith and Harold Wynne: Canada West Foundation.

**The gambling industry: Raising the stakes**  
Statistics Canada  
Executive Summary  
August 1999

**Background**

Growth in the gambling industries has continued to outstrip that of most industries. Gambling has brought such economic benefits as increased revenues and employment to many regions. Although some communities have not embraced the arrival of casinos and video lottery terminals, most households in Canada do participate in and spend money on some form of gambling activity. This report by Statistics Canada presents a statistical portrait of Canada's gambling industry. It examines the economic output, jobs, and government revenues generated by the gambling industry, and also provides provincial comparisons.

**Key findings**

- Since the 1990s legal gambling has undergone a major surge in growth.
- The first legal VLTs began operating in New Brunswick in 1990. By 1993, every province except Ontario and British Columbia had either open (non-liquor licensed/non-age controlled locations) or restricted access to VLTs.
- Most Canadians, to judge from the participation rates, appear to enjoy risking a little money on the chance of winning prizes or jackpots.
- Among the four gambling activities for which households were asked to report their spending, government lotteries were the most popular (74%), followed by non-government lotteries and raffles (39%), casinos and slot machines (17%) and bingos (12%).
- Among participating households, the highest average expenditure was on bingo (\$677); the lowest, on non-government lotteries and raffles (\$70).
- Men living alone were more likely than women on their own to spend money on those activities (75%, compared with 69%), and spent more on average (\$416, compared with \$270).
- Revenue, GDP and jobs have grown. For 20 years lotteries were the sole source of legal gaming in Canada, bringing in close to \$2 billion in total revenue by the late 1980s. From 1992 to 1997, total revenue from gambling went from \$2.7 billion to \$6.8 billion.
- Profits to provincial governments have increased — rising from \$1.7 billion in 1992 to \$3.8 billion in 1997.
- The growth in gambling revenue is reflected in the steep increase in economic output and employment in the industry. Between 1992 and 1997, GDP in the gambling industry increased by 125%, compared with just 14% in all other industries.
- Although [the gambling] industry comprises a small proportion of Canada's overall economic activity (0.1% of GDP in 1997), its representation has been increasing.
- Most [employment is] hourly paid, and permanent. The majority of workers in the gambling industry in 1997 were women (55%), persons under 35 (61%), and those with high school graduation or less (57%) — groups whose representation in non-gambling industries was lower.

**Author**

The gambling industry: Raising the stakes was written by Katherine Marshall, Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division, Statistics Canada.

**Problem Gambling Survey 1996: Final Report**  
**Angus Reid Group**  
**Executive Summary**  
July 1996

**Background**

To aid BC Lottery Corporation's strategic planning process of survey research was undertaken to investigate public attitudes towards the entire spectrum of gaming activities in the province was undertaken. This report replicates a 1993 survey in order to assess whether any significant changes have occurred in the prevalence of problem gambling.

**Key Findings**

- The 1996 survey suggests that there has been no substantial increase in the prevalence of problem gambling in BC since the benchmark measurement in 1993.
- The proportion of current probable pathological gamblers in the 1996 survey (1.1-%) is identical to the benchmark estimate from the 1993 survey.
- The barely measurable increase in the proportion of current potential problem gamblers from the 1993 to 1996 surveys is within the range of the sampling error.
- There is a slight upward shift in the proportion of lifetime potential problem gamblers (from 6% to 8.4%) at the edge of the sample error margin, but the proportion of lifetime probable pathological gamblers shows no significant upturn from 1.8% in 1993 to 2.1% in 1996.
- Comparisons of 1993 and 1996 measurements of past year participation suggest that gambling participation is stable or declining in most categories.
- Past year gaming participation among probable problem or pathological gamblers shows no signs of substantial increase.
- The appeal of BCLC lottery games among probable or pathological gamblers is difficult to measure with any precision because of the small sample size – while participation in some games is slightly higher than the general population, none rival bingo or casinos in popularity.
- The 1996 survey results fail to show any evidence of an appreciable surge in gaming participation and any subsequent growth in the prevalence of problem gambling.
- The steady or declining levels of gaming participation that characterize most comparisons of 1993 and 1996, data support inferences from other BCLC research that the gaming market in the province has reached a plateau or mature phase, where participation is increasingly centred among enthusiasts.
- To the extent that the larger public withdraws from gambling activities, it is very possible that the remaining problem of compulsive gambling will seem more prominent than before.
- More than any other local activity, local casinos appear to be an increasingly likely focus for the individuals at risk for problem gambling.

**Author**  
Angus Reid Group: Vancouver Division

Previously categorized as  
"opposed," now appearing under  
"neutral."

## **B. C. PROBLEM GAMBLING SERVICES**

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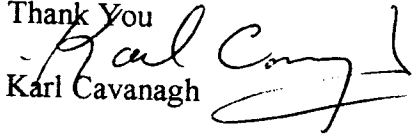
May 23, 2002.

Clerk's Office

Would you please make a copy of the enclosed presentation for all councilors and his Worship, the Mayor, as requested by Ms E. Halsey-Brandt. The large surveys are for Ms. Halsey-Brandt and she can distribute them as she wishes.. These papers are very important and need to be studied prior to Tuesday's hearing.

Thank You

Karl Cavanagh



## **B. C. PROBLEM GAMBLING SERVICES**

Suite 201 – 7575-140 St., Surrey, B.C. V3W 5J9  
E-mail: [wcangambler@shaw.ca](mailto:wcangambler@shaw.ca)

Ph: (604) 507-4099  
Fax: (604) 507-4099

May 22, 2002

Your Worship and Councilors

My name is Karl Cavanagh, executive director for the Problem Gambling Services (B.C.). Last Week I left a package of material for each of you. That included our mandate and a brief outline of myself, and some statistical information. I am neither for nor against gambling but an advocate of responsible gaming. Gambling is a wonderful form of entertainment for 97.5% of the citizens. I would like to address the topic of slots and problem gambling. Please keep in mind that slot machines are NOT VLT'S.

The concept of gambling being a tax on the poor is totally false. I have been a member of a 12 step program for over 18 years and more than 90% of the membership is composed of people who either own their own business or are in upper management. These people have disposable cash and time on their hands. They also have very poor relationship habits. In 1967, there were about 2.3% of the adult population in Canada with a serious gambling problem. Today, we have about 2.35 of the population with a serious gambling problem. The major change is in the gender and that is due to the number of women who have successfully climbed the corporate ladder. Of all the people who are quoting statistics tonight, I am the only one here that I have seen at a meeting.

Pathological gamblers are very seldom slot players. There are a number of reasons for this. 1) The problem gambler cannot be content with playing 3 coins at a time. He/she needs to be able to escalate the amount of money they wager in order to please the dopamine cycle; which I will explain in a minute. 2) playing against a computer chip will not feed the problem gambler's ego. The real gambler needs to prove to himself and all within shouting distance of his superior intelligence. This can only be accomplished by letting everyone know when he makes a great move. An example of this would be drawing a card on 16 because he really knew the dealer had 18 and he draws a 4 for 20. A problem gambler is an egotistical maniac. If other players do not congratulate him then the victory is shallow. The problem gambler MUST have that human element. The problem gambler will travel any distance to gamble.

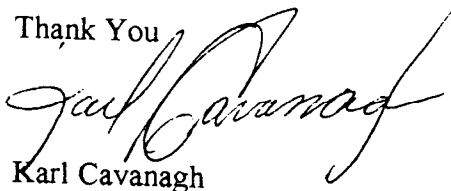
I would now like to briefly explain the dopamine cycle to you and this is from a clinical as well as personal experience. When a drug addict or alcoholic have too much of a chemical; they either pass out or get sick because the body rejects the excess use. In the case of a gambler, there isn't an outside chemical. The body and mind produce a chemical that is 20 to 100 times greater than any drink or drug. So when a gambler wins \$500; he cannot win \$300 because the brain says to him, "This isn't giving me the

pleasure I had yesterday." Therefore the gambler needs to escalate the bet to win more so his brain will tell the body to accept this pleasure and at the same time feed his ego. When a problem gambler has a big when, they dream of all the great philanthropic things that are just around the corner. However, we have a disease of more. Therefore if \$2000 is good then \$5000 is better and so the vicious cycle begins for the gambler and he begins to lose his dream world comes crashing down. Compulsive gamblers love the limos, diamonds, glitter and all that goes with it. In B.C. the industry does not tempt patrons by cashing cheques or issuing lines of credit. It is strictly a cash product.

Can your economic benefits such as jobs, increased retail business, restaurants etc be ignored. The city itself would gain millions of dollars in revenues with no strings attached. Gaming in B.C. is a controlled legal activity when conducted by licensed and registered gaming operators under the auspices of the Government's Agent, the B.C. Lottery Corporation.

WE in the Problem Gambling Service have accepted this government policy and believe that our role is to raise awareness and educate the citizens of B.C. on the dangers of excessive or pathological gambling. If it does occur then we provide effective counseling, relapse prevention, and post acute withdrawal programmes for that small percentage. The gaming industry in B.C. wants to succeed with the customer base whom have fun as a night of entertainment and not those few who have a problem. The ideal situation for a gambler is to bet with his head not over it. WE also provide a number of brochures to the industry on responsible as well as problem gambling.

Thank You

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Karl Cavanagh', written in dark ink.

Karl Cavanagh

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING**

**The British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling was established for the purposes of conducting, directing and promoting programmes for:**

- The treatment of pathological or compulsive gamblers
- The rehabilitation of pathological or compulsive gamblers
- Disseminating information respecting the recognition, prevention and treatment of problem gambling.
- Providing educational materials and on-site assistance to any facility seeking our programmes.

**The British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling is a non-partisan, non-governmental organization committed to ensuring healthy individuals, families and communities that are free of the personal, social and economic harm resulting from excessive gambling.**

**The Association believes that every person is responsible for his/her own actions and that governments, businesses and community services share a collective responsibility to contribute to the building of healthy individuals, families and communities.**

**The Association believes that the best solutions to most social problems lie in shared action involving all those involved in and affected by the problem.**

**The Association is thus committed to working with the all Federal and Provincial Government Ministries, the British Columbia Lottery Corporation, the B.C. Gaming Commission, the B.C. Association for Charitable Gaming, private sector gaming operators, charitable gaming operators, and other counseling providers to build a comprehensive and professional service network across the province.**

**Based on a shared vision and shared organizational values, the British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling strives to provide leadership in the creation and implementation of responsible gambling policies and practices.**

**Executive Director  
Karl Cavanagh**

# American Compulsive Gambling Counselor Certification Board

3635 QUAKERBRIDGE ROAD, SUITE 7 • HAMILTON, NJ 08619 • 609-588-9338  
www.certificationboard.com

April 10, 2002

Karl Cavanagh  
Suite 201 - 7575-140 Street  
Surrey, British Columbia  
Canada V3W5J9

Dear Mr. Cavanagh:

Congratulations on your election to the Board of Directors of the American Compulsive Gambling Counselor Certification Board (ACGCCB). I am enclosing copies of the ACGCCB by-laws, and a current board list for your review.

The Council has six (6) standing committees, which are more fully described in the by-laws. All board members serve on at least one committee. They are as follows:

Committee	Chairperson
Operations & Finance	Frank Twiggs
Education	Vacant
Ethics	Vacant
By-laws	Jenny Lu Trocchio
Forms	Harvey Goldberg
Facility & Supervision Criteria	Ed Looney

Please review the functions of the committees and decide which committee(s) you might like to serve on. Feel free to contact the Chairperson of the committee, if you feel you need additional information. Please let me know your committee preference(s), before the next mandatory board meeting (scheduled for September 19, 2002).

Two mandatory board meetings are scheduled. One is for the first Thursday in March (teleconference) and the other is scheduled when the Council on Compulsive Gambling has their annual statewide conference in September each year. You will receive notification on these meetings when it becomes available.

# American Compulsive Gambling Counselor Certification Board

3635 QUAKERBRIDGE ROAD, SUITE 7 • HAMILTON, NJ 08619 • 609-588-9338  
www.certificationboard.com

April 25, 2002

Karl Cavanagh  
Suite 201-7575 140 Street  
Surrey, British Columbia  
Canada V3W5J9

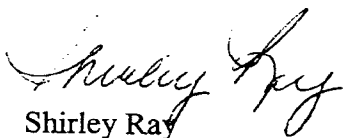
Dear Mr. Cavanagh:

This letter is to confirm your compulsive gambling counseling certification with The American Compulsive Gambling Counselor Certification Board (ACGCCB). Your certification will expire on **November 13, 2003**.

As I stated to you on the telephone you will need to submit your continuing education documentation totaling four (4) hours in gambling specific hours and two (2) hours addressing alcohol, drug abuse or addiction, psychology or sociology to extend your certification date to April 1, 2004. (This prorated amount is necessary so that everyone will be on a two-year cycle).

Karl, I hope this will suffice. Please call me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Shirley Ray  
Administrative Assistant

# American Compulsive Gambling Counselor Certification Board

certifies that

*Karl P. Cavanagh*

on the recommendation of the Board, advises all those who shall read this document that the above named has satisfactorily met all the standards and competencies of the American Compulsive Gambling Counselor Certification Board and in recognition of which the Board has determined to title the above as a **CERTIFIED COMPULSIVE GAMBLING COUNSELOR, CCGC.**

November 13, 2001

Certification Date

# 370

Certification Number

April 1, 2002

Expiration Date

*W. H. Hensley, Jr.*  
Chairman of Certification Board

*E. W. Conway*  
Member of Certification Board

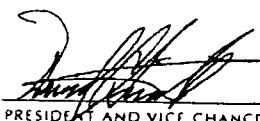
*This certificate is the property of the ACGCCB, Inc.*

# TRENT UNIVERSITY

The Senate of the University  
on the recommendation of  
the Faculty of Arts and Science  
has conferred upon

*Karl Cavanagh*

the degree of  
BACHELOR OF ARTS  
with all its rights  
privileges and obligations



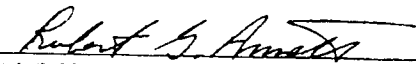
PRESIDENT AND VICE CHANCELLOR



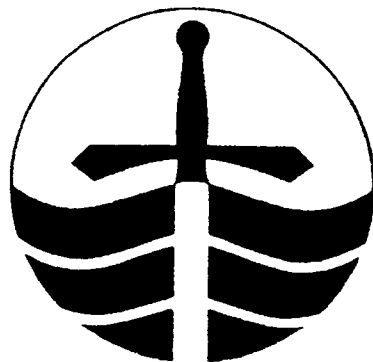
DEAN OF ARTS AND SCIENCE



REGISTRAR



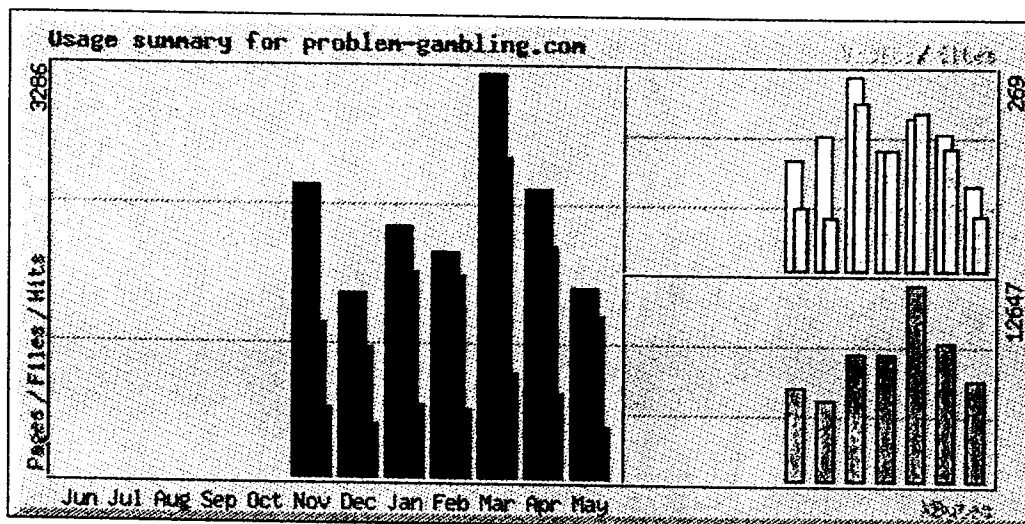
HEAD OF COLLEGE



DATED AT PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO, CANADA THIS 3RD DAY OF JUNE 1977

# Usage Statistics for problem-gambling.com

Summary Period: Last 12 Months  
Generated 20-May-2002 00:08 EDT



Summary by Month										
Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
May 2002	80	68	21	6	76	6453	118	410	1308	1524
Apr 2002	77	62	22	6	170	8831	189	672	1875	2332
Mar 2002	106	83	26	6	217	12647	211	826	2598	3286
Feb 2002	65	58	19	5	167	8124	166	536	1626	1823
Jan 2002	65	53	18	8	231	8056	269	579	1657	2039
Dec 2001	47	33	13	5	73	5059	185	428	1036	1477
Nov 2001	81	42	19	5	87	5870	152	551	1244	2370
<b>Totals</b>						<b>55040</b>	<b>1290</b>	<b>4002</b>	<b>11344</b>	<b>14851</b>

Generated by Webalizer Version 2.01

# it IS ALL AROUND US

## what IS PROBLEM GAMBLING?

Today we live in a gambling culture. Most of us gamble... at least a little. We often gamble for good causes – to support our favourite charity or sports team. Advertising encourages us to view gambling as a normal form of recreation. An increasing number of gambling opportunities are available, and more people are gambling than ever before. The result is an increase in problem gambling behavior among both adults and youth.

We know that more young people who gamble experience problems at levels several times higher than adults who gamble. Research indicates that most adults who develop serious problems started to gamble before age eighteen. For these reasons, youth are identified as a high-risk group targeted for prevention efforts.

Research indicates that gambling at an early age increases the risk of developing gambling problems. Young gamblers are at greater risk than adults of becoming problem gamblers.

**Young people are affected by gambling** Teens can be affected by excessive gambling, in two major ways. Their parents could have a serious gambling problem, or they could be at risk themselves of developing a problem.

A study reported that students whose parents gamble a lot have almost twice the rate of problem gambling as their friends whose parents don't gamble.

## why SOME KIDS DEVELOP PROBLEMS

Teen gambling problems are known to be affected by:

- parents who gamble
- peers who gamble
- family substance abuse problems
- family preoccupation with material success
- early exposure to gambling
- personal history of alcohol or drug abuse

**Video games have a special appeal for youth.**

Many teenagers are pros when it comes to arcade video games. They like the flashing lights, clanging bells and fast excitement. Video Lottery terminals (VLTs) have the same appeal. The instant payout, high action and illusion of control reinforce continued playing.

Researchers and gambling counselors agree that VLT gambling is the most habit-forming type of gambling activity today. Over half of all calls to Problem Gambling Help Lines are related to VLT playing in some provinces.

Although VLTs are located only in venues where alcohol is served, which makes them off limits to those under age 19, providing students with the facts about VLTs can help prevent future problems.

For most kids, gambling is just plain fun. If they win – great! If they lose, it is not a major catastrophe. They go on to other, more productive activities. However, for some teens the attraction to gambling is much stronger. They start to gamble more than they meant to and lose more than they can afford. Their inability to control their behavior is a sign of problem gambling.

Additional signs may include frequent gambling activities and increased absence from home or school. Teens who often borrow money, steal money and use school lunch money for gambling may have a gambling problem. Poor school performance, lack of concentration and a don't care attitude may also indicate problems.

Severe gambling problems can destroy opportunities for self-development and academic achievement, create conflict with the law. Cause depression, and may even lead to suicide. Recognizing early signs of a teen gambling problem can make a significant difference in a young person's life.

**How many teens are problem gamblers?**

Although studies differ, they all show that problem gambling rates among youth are much higher than the rates for adults. Studies estimate that 1 to 3% of adults are problem gamblers compared to 4 to 8% among youth.

# what YOU CAN DO TO HELP

We need to start now to prepare teens for what can happen to their lives and their futures if they get too involved with gambling. Prevention efforts designed specifically for adolescents are critical. As teachers, you can play an important role in the prevention of youth and adult problem gambling.

Perhaps the best way to steer your students clear of problems is to do more of what you're already doing. (Keep on being someone who is easy to talk to.)

**21** You can increase your students' awareness of problem gambling. Incorporate gambling issues into lifestyle, health and other curriculum:

- Brainstorm about the negative effects of gambling. Ask students to tell you what it can do to someone's self-esteem, relationships of financial situation.
- Ask students to come up with some good alternatives to gambling – fun activities and talents that can be developed.
- Suggest they read Just of the Fun of It – a brochure on teenage gambling - especially the tips that show them how to keep it just for fun.

## And most important of all,

If you think someone in your class may have a problem, make sure they talk to someone:

- a teacher they trust
- a parent or a counselor

## Talking To Students About Gambling

Let your students know there are others who have had this problem and there are people they can talk to who have been through it. There are people just like them who have decided not to let gambling harm their lives.

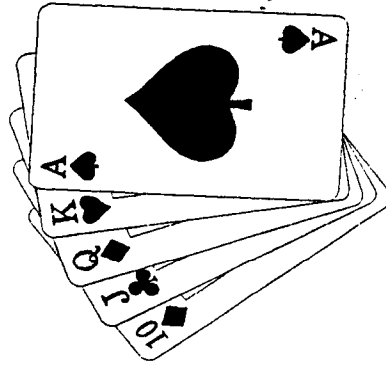
Your efforts may help to catch a gambling problem before it goes too far. It may even save a life. When it comes to the rewards you get from teaching, this one that is pretty hard to beat.

Anyone who is concerned about their own or another person's gambling can talk to a trained problem gambling crisis counselor through the **British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling**

**Area Code 604- 507-4099 or  
Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099**

**E-mail: 800gambler@shaw.ca**

**Visit our website at  
[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)**



## Hope for recovery

Compulsive gambling is a diagnosable, treatable condition that affects the gambler, the family, the employer and the community. It is called the "hidden illness" since there is no smell on the breath or stumbling of steps or speech. Nonetheless, it is as debilitating as an alcohol or drug problem.

Here are some questions you should ask yourself if you feel you have a problem with gambling.

1. Do you lose time from work due to gambling?
2. Does gambling make your home life unhappy?
3. Does gambling affect your reputation?
4. Do you ever feel remorse after gambling?
5. Do you ever gamble to get money with which to pay debts or otherwise solve financial difficulties?
6. Does gambling cause a decrease in your ambition or efficiency?
7. After losing, do you have a strong urge to return and win more?
8. After a win, do you have a strong urge to return and win more?
9. Do you often gamble until your last dollar is gone?

10. Do you ever borrow to finance your gambling?

11. Do you ever sell anything to finance gambling?

12. Are you reluctant to use "gambling money" for normal expenditures?

13. Does gambling make you careless about the welfare of your family?

14. Do you ever gamble longer than you planned?

15. Do you ever gamble to escape worry or trouble?

16. Do you ever commit, or consider committing, an illegal act to finance your gambling?

17. Does gambling cause you to have difficulties sleeping?

18. Do arguments, disappointments, or frustrations create within you an urge to gamble?

19. Do you have an urge to celebrate good fortune by a few hours of gambling?

20. Do you ever consider self-destruction as a result of your gambling?

If you answer "yes" to at least seven of the twenty questions you could have a compulsive gambling problem.

(The Twenty Questions of Gamblers Anonymous)

For more information about Problem Gambling call

## British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling

Area Code 604-507-4099 or  
Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099  
E-mail: 800gambler@shaw.ca

Visit our website at  
[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)

## The gambler

*"I couldn't think of one day of life without gambling"*

*"I knew if I went on vacation they would find out I had been taking money from the company. I took money from my seven-year-old son, 'borrowed' from my family and took any money I could get my hands on - legal or otherwise to gamble. I was totally out of control. I needed help and I knew it."*

Mary G

## Who is a compulsive gambler?

A compulsive gambler is a person who:

- is always thinking about gambling or how to get money to gamble with;
- often gambles larger amounts of money or over a longer period of time than intended;
- needs to increase the size or number of bets to reach a high of excitement;
- experiences restlessness or becomes very nervous or upset if unable to gamble;
- repeatedly loses money by gambling and returns another day to win back losses (chasing);
- repeats efforts to reduce or stop gambling;
- often gambles when expected to meet social or work obligations;
- misses important social, work, or recreational activities in order to gamble; and

- continues to gamble even though they cannot pay back the debts they have or despite other significant social, work, or legal problems that are complicated by gambling.

When a gambling problem exists, many of these behaviours are present well before the gambler suffers a major financial crisis.

## Compulsive gambling can be explained by three phases.

### 1. The winning phase

While the gambler is winning, he/she feels lucky, important, and likes who they are. Their self-esteem is high. The occasional loss is considered just bad luck.

### 2. The losing phase

When the losses increase, the gambler becomes less confident, begins borrowing money to get even and then hides the losses by borrowing more money. At this point, lies, loan frauds, absenteeism, family disputes and job changes are common danger signals.

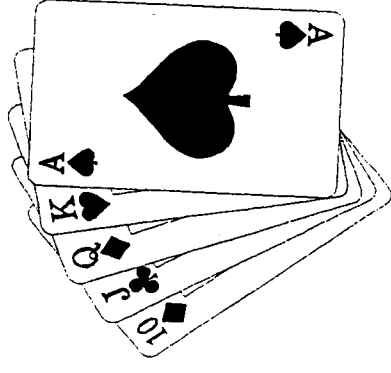
### 3. The desperation phase

The gambler becomes obsessed with getting even to cover stolen money, hidden withdrawals from family bank accounts and secret loans. The gambler panics at the thought that the gambling action will cease if the credit or bailouts stop. The gambler can experience severe mood swings and suicide may be attempted as a way out.

# GAMBLING

# CAN BE

# ADDICTIVE



***You Can  
Beat It!***

British Columbia Association  
for Problem Gambling  
Area Code 604 507-4099 or  
Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099  
E-mail: [800gambler@shaw.ca](mailto:800gambler@shaw.ca)  
Visit our website at  
[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)

## "HOW MUCH D'YA WANNA BET?"

Gambling is so much a part of our lives, we often don't think of it as gambling. We bet about anything. And everything! We flip a coin to see who pays for the coffee. And join in the office "Baby Pool". Guessing when the baby will be born. If it'll be a he or a she. And how much it will weigh.

You likely agree we all need a little fun in our lives. A "neck and neck" game of cribbage may be all we need to get the adrenaline flowing. Bingo is great at getting rid of boredom. And we laugh when we see how quickly we fall for some of the gimmicks and traps we find in the daily mail. We order things we don't want and books we won't read. And we stick on the "Yes" sticker to let them know that we're still in the running.

It's happening all over the world. It's a form of entertainment. And most of us do a bit of it. We invest a little in the hope of winning a lot.

That's what we're doing when we bet on the outcome of something. Or buy a ticket on a dream house or a car. If the proceeds go to charity, even better! It's fun giving to worthwhile causes when we stand a chance to get something too.

Our kids are quick to pick up on this. With them it may start with marbles for money, a game of bingo, or the annual family pool on the football or hockey finals.

Once in a while they may pick up a "scratch and win" on their way through the mall. If they win, it could be the money they need to take in a movie. At the very least, they hope they'll get another try.)

And for the most part it's good clean fun. It may even encourage kids to back what they believe in. (Without people willing to take a risk on something, who would ever have the nerve to start a business?)

## SO WHAT ARE WE WORRIED ABOUT?

Like most things parents worry about, we're not quite sure. When we're at work, we worry about the things kids can get into. Between the TV ads and game shows, we're afraid that our teens may get the wrong idea. Namely that all you have to do is get lucky. And you'll have all the money you need for the things you want.

Because they're yours and you live them, you want them to grow up to be well-rounded adults. You want them to know what they want. And be willing to work for it. To respect themselves... and others. And (whatever they do) to keep a healthy balance.

Because that's what we want, too, we hope that some of these tips will help you.

## HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT BETTING AND PLAYING FOR MONEY

If you've heard it once, you've heard it a thousand times. Money isn't everything. It isn't the answer to all our problems. And people who have a lot of it aren't always happy. Tell your kids that by the way you live. Instead of \* going on and on about your budget \* wishing out loud on about your clothes, a bigger house, or a better car, try a better way. Have fun with your kids. Do things together. It doesn't have to cost a lot. But it's the kink of thing that they'll remember.

With most children there's nothing to worry about. Kids like to experiment. They can make a bet, buy a lottery ticket or play cards for money. And go on to other, more productive, things if they lose.

With some kids though, it's not that easy. *For them, gambling is more than a game.*

They start by gambling more than they meant to. And wind up losing more than they can afford.

And once they get started, they just can't quit. It seems that the more they gamble the more they want to. As time goes by, their gambling will involve higher stakes and bigger risks. When they win, they feel like a big shot. When they lose, they lose all caution. They'll go after that loss and do whatever they need to do, to get one more win.

## SIGNS THAT YOUR TEEN MAY HAVE A PROBLEM

- A call from the school to see if they're sick or away somewhere. (You feel sick, because you thought that they were in school.)
- A sudden change in their behavior. You don't know what it is exactly, they're just not themselves.
- You hardly ever see them. They fail to show up for a lot of things without even a phone call. This means they let down people they used to care about.
- Something's missing. You're sure you had two 20's in your wallet. Now there's only one. The rest of the family starts missing things, too. Ghetto blasters, CDs, leather jackets, silverware. When things they can pawn or sell start disappearing your young person may have a problem with gambling. Or one that sometimes goes with gambling problems - drinking.
- They want to know who won and what the score was. When your young person flips from channel to channel to get the sport scores, it isn't always the game they care about. It could be they've got some money on the score.
- They show up in new clothes or with something else they've been wanting. If they "traded" it, "borrowed" it, or actually say they "won" it, maybe it's time you had a "what's happening her? Kind of talk.

- An urgent unexplained need for money.  
They likely won't tell you why they want it. They'll just tell you they've got to have it, now! OR

- Suddenly they have piles of money. When it's "treat time" for everyone, and you don't know where they're getting the money from. As their parent you'll want to know "how come?"

## what ELSE CAN WE DO TO HELP THEM STEER CLEAR OF PROBLEMS?

Here are some tips that may help prevent a whole host of teenage problems.

- **Take the time to listen.** To keep kids from going overboard on gambling (and a lot of the other things than can lead them astray), encourage them in what they want to do – and be.

**Find out what they'd like to do, and what the plan is.** Show them you believe they can "do it" if they try. When they really know you believe in them, they won't need to win at gambling to prove that they're a "somebody."

- **Stay up past your bedtime.** To get kids to talk, you have to be around when they're in the mood to do it. If this means staying up till one o'clock, it's worth it. Just look interested and let them talk. What they start off with may sound unimportant, but if you wait for it, you may be amazed at some of the things that they're turning over in their minds.

- **Help them build confidence other ways.** Encourage them to take part in things that interest them. In sports or debating. In the school band or orchestra. Or get them involved in a good youth group, one where the kids look up to their leaders. And have lots of good discussions.

- **Build confidence in their ability to make good decisions.** A good easy to do this is to play "What would you do?" with your kids, starting when they're little. For example, ask young kids, "What would you do if .... A stranger pulled up to the curb and said he needs your help in finding a certain address?" If your kids are older, ask, "What would you do if you were all alone in the house when the upstairs smoke detector went off?" (You can likely think of lots of these. Let them ask some of the questions, too.)

- **Help them handle money responsibly.** Give them their own clothing allowance. Explain when that's gone, that's all they'll get, so be sure to plan for everything. When you go out to eat, give each one their own money. If they're paying, they'll probably order the cheeseburger platter instead of something more expensive... and be happy to pocket the difference.

- **Start early to teach them that it's more important to play the game than to win it...** to enjoy games for their own sake. Not for the prize that may come with winning.

- **Make their friends feel welcome at your place.** It may cost you a bit more in milk and cookies (or popcorn) but look at the benefits! You'll know where they are. Since they'll soon forget you're there you'll know what's going on with them. You may even be able to help

a kid whose parents aren't around that much.

## and IF YOU WANT YOUR KIDS TO TAKE SUGGESTIONS:

- Turn out for the games and any other event they're taking part in.
- Respect their opinions
- Praise them even for little things they do well, and make sure that if you criticize, it's constructive (e.g. That's a good essay! I like the way you explained everything creatively.
- The only thing you may want to take a second look at is that last paragraph on page two. See what you think.)
- Respect their privacy. When they do tell you something that's personal, be sure to keep it to yourself.

Follow these tips. Keep an eye out for any unusual signs. Read our pamphlet, "Just for the fun of it!" Written for kids. And remember, we're here to help. If you think one of your kids may have a problem and you'd like some advice (or you have a question), call us. We have information kits that we can send you. And more than likely, we can set your mind at ease.

*When it's more than a game, call.*

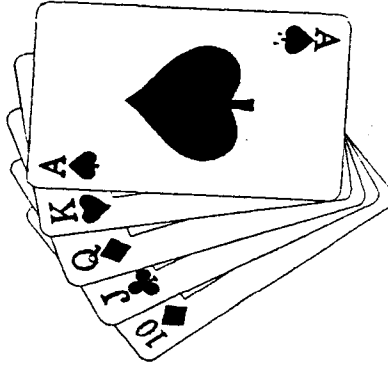
**BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING**

Call 604-507-4099 or

Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099

E-mail [800gambler@shaw.ca](mailto:800gambler@shaw.ca)

Visit our website at [www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)



## Why is female gambling a growing concern in British Columbia?

Historically, compulsive gamblers were male. However, with traditional role and lifestyle changes, women have the time, money and inclination to gamble. Gambling now holds the same attraction for women as for men and can be an equally powerful compulsion.

Typically, women turn to gambling for one of two reasons:

First, as a means of escape - gambling provides a way to escape overwhelming problems, childhood disturbances, troubled relationships, loneliness, and boredom.

Secondly, for excitement - gambling creates an aroused state similar to the "high" produced by cocaine or other drugs. In this excited state, women are focused on the game and ignore all other concerns in their lives.

Women represent one-third of all problem gamblers, but only one-tenth participate in self-help groups and treatment programs. Women are reluctant to seek help. They tend to feel ashamed of their gambling and often create elaborate stories to camouflage their activities.

## How do I know if I gamble too much?

Many women ask this question, and the warning signs vary.

Do you think of gambling as an escape from your life?

Is your personal life falling apart-are your relationships crumbling?

Are you experiencing financial difficulties because of your gambling?

Do you lie about or conceal your gambling?

Do you borrow or steal money from friends and family to support your gambling?

Do you feel guilty about gambling?

Are you neglecting your family or friends?

Do you lose time at work due to gambling?

Do you feel that your need to gamble is uncontrollable?

## Profile of a Female Gambler

- \* Looking for an escape from life
- Looking for excitement- an emotional high

\*\*\*\*\*

Typically, gambling begins as a recreational activity, often encouraged by family members. Feelings of euphoria come with winning, and the desire for these euphoric feelings begins the three-stage gambling cycle.

In the first stage, women conceal minor financial troubles by borrowing from relatives and household expense accounts, or by overstating expenses and understating income.

During the second stage, lying becomes a way of life. Women camouflage their gambling by telling lies about their activities. To cover their tracks, they may say they are working late on the job or visiting friends for long talks.

Disaster hits during the third stage- an eviction notice is served for unpaid rent, the electricity is turned off, a job is lost, or checks begin to bounce.

## From Female Gamblers

I couldn't think of one day of life without gambling

Even when I didn't gamble that day, my world revolved around it.

And I got so tired and depressed and so emotionally drained. Everything had

long since just disappeared from my life. Relationships, friendships, everything. I

had no friends except the people I knew who gambled.

-----Kathy-----

In all honesty, I went out gambling when my husband was drunk so we wouldn't fight.

-----Susan-----

I lost my job, and I am facing possible prosecution for embezzling over four million dollars to finance my addiction to stock options.

-----Karen-----

I started out on the nickel slot machines and progressed to the dollar machines... Then I went to a casino where you could write checks...

And that's where I did most of my damage, writing checks.

-----Helen-----

Sources: Women Who Gamble Too Much, National Council on Problem Gambling and Henry R. Lesieur, PhD, Department of Criminal Justice, Illinois State University

## Where do I go for help?

The British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling operates a referral hotline for Western Canadians with gambling problems. To help you overcome your gambling problems, the Association provides information on resources in your area.

Remember, you are not alone. More women are gambling than ever before, many are experiencing gambling problems, and some find help for their gambling problems.

Don't hesitate. Help is only a phone call away.

### Call

**(604) 507-4099**

**Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099**

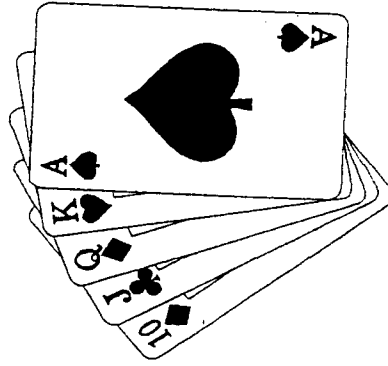
**e-mail: 800gambler@shaw.ca**

**Look for us on the web:**

**[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)**

**British Columbia Association  
for Problem Gambling**

# Women Who Gamble



**A Growing Concern  
in British Columbia**

# What is gambling?

Look around.

Gambling is all around you.

Betting on school or professional sporting events; wagering on video games; playing cards for money; buying lottery tickets; or playing "the horses" are all forms of gambling.

Over one-third of high school and college students polled nationwide gambled before age 11. By age 15, more than 80% had placed bets.

Gambling often begins as a recreational activity, such as pitching coins, playing cards or video games, and betting sporting events. For some teenagers and young adults, gambling can become a problem, like addictions to drugs, alcohol or tobacco. Teens with a gambling problem need help to stop gambling and move forward with their lives.

## Do You Have a Gambling Problem?

1. Is gambling the most exciting activity in your life?
2. Do you lose time from school or work due to gambling?

3. Do you spend much of your free time gambling or daydreaming about gambling?

4. Do you lie to your friends or family about how much or how often you gamble?

5. Do you have an intense interest in sports related magazines, newspapers or sporting events on TV?

6. Have references to gambling increased in your conversation?

7. Do you flash large amounts of money or show an exaggerated display of jewelry or clothing?

8. Do you gamble to escape worry or trouble?

9. Do arguments, disappointments or frustrations cause you to gamble?

10. Do you gamble to impress your friends?

11. Have you felt "no good", guilty or depressed because you lost money gambling?

12. Have your family or friends said that they notice a change in your behavior or personality, such as irritability, impatience or sarcasm?

13. Have you borrowed money or used money that was given to you for another purpose to gamble?

14. Have you stolen money or property from your parents, employer or anyone else to gamble or pay off a gambling debt?

15. When you lose do you want to return to gambling to win your money back?

16. Do you feel that making a big win will solve your problems?

17. Have you had difficulty trying to stop gambling?

18. Have you had self-destructive thoughts because of your problem related to gambling?

**If you answered YES to any of these questions, you may have a problem with gambling.**

### Help Is Available

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Toll-free 1-866-507-4099

E-Mail [800gambler@shaw.ca](mailto:800gambler@shaw.ca)

**British Columbia Association for**

### Problem Gambling

For information on support services near you. Gambling-specific treatment, education, outreach and referral programs, Gambler's Anonymous and Gam-Anon chapters all provide services for teen, young adults and their families.

## *What's so cool about gambling?*

At first, gambling can make a teenager feel good. It can also be among a teen's most exciting activities. Free time may often be spent gambling. A teen's image may be enhanced because of a winning streak. Losses may be seen as "bad luck"

As the gambling addiction gets worse, a gambler may borrow money, skip classes or work, lie about where he or she is going, fight with parents, other family members and friends, or sell possessions to make bets or pay off gambling debts.

A teenager or young adult addicted to gambling may experience severe ups and downs, fail in school, steal money from parents, family members or others; and even commit crimes for money in order to gamble. Nothing or no one will come before a bet. A person addicted to gambling may also consider suicide as a way out.

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING**

The British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling is an organization dedicated to increasing public awareness about problem and compulsive gambling and advocating on behalf of problem gamblers and their families. The Association operates a Help-Line service, trains practitioners in the field, and provides assistance to all levels of government, industry, academia and the consumer marketplace on gambling related issues. The Association does not take a position in support or opposition of gambling.

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING**

Call 604-507-4099

Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099

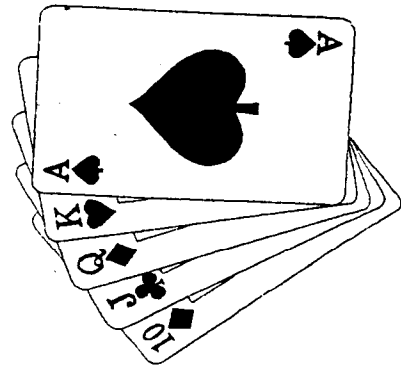
E-Mail – [800gambler@shaw.ca](mailto:800gambler@shaw.ca)  
Visit our website at  
[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)

*What's so*

*Cool*

*About*

*Gambling?*



## Hope for recovery

Compulsive gambling is a diagnosable, treatable condition that affects the gambler, the family, the employer and the community. It is called the "hidden illness" since there is no smell on the breath or stumbling of steps or speech. Nonetheless, it is as debilitating as an alcohol or drug problem.

Here are some questions you should ask yourself if you feel you have a problem with gambling.

1. Do you lose time from work due to gambling?
2. Does gambling make your home life unhappy?
3. Does gambling affect your reputation?
4. Do you ever feel remorse after gambling?
5. Do you ever gamble to get money with which to pay debts or otherwise solve financial difficulties?
6. Does gambling cause a decrease in your ambition or efficiency?
7. After losing, do you have a strong urge to return and win more?
8. After a win, do you have a strong urge to return and win more?
9. Do you often gamble until your last dollar is gone?

10. Do you ever borrow to finance your gambling?

11. Do you ever sell anything to finance gambling?

12. Are you reluctant to use "gambling money" for normal expenditures?

13. Does gambling make you careless about the welfare of your family?

14. Do you ever gamble longer than you planned?

15. Do you ever gamble to escape worry or trouble?

16. Do you ever commit, or consider committing, an illegal act to finance your gambling?

17. Does gambling cause you to have difficulties sleeping?

18. Do arguments, disappointments, or frustrations create within you an urge to gamble?

19. Do you have an urge to celebrate good fortune by a few hours of gambling?

20. Do you ever consider self-destruction as a result of your gambling?

If you answer "yes" to at least seven of the twenty questions you could have a compulsive gambling problem.

(The Twenty Questions of Gamblers Anonymous)

For more information about Problem Gambling call

## British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling

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E-mail: 800gambler@shaw.ca

Visit our website at  
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## The gambler

*"I couldn't think of one day of life without gambling"*

*"I knew if I went on vacation they would find out I had been taking money from the company. I took money from my seven-year-old son, 'borrowed' from my family and took any money I could get my hands on - legal or otherwise to gamble. I was totally out of control. I needed help and I knew it."*  
Mary G

## Who is a compulsive gambler?

A compulsive gambler is a person who:

- is always thinking about gambling or how to get money to gamble with;
- often gambles larger amounts of money or over a longer period of time than intended;
- needs to increase the size or number of bets to reach a high of excitement;
- experiences restlessness or becomes very nervous or upset if unable to gamble;
- repeatedly loses money by gambling and returns another day to win back losses (chasing);
- repeats efforts to reduce or stop gambling;
- often gambles when expected to meet social or work obligations;
- misses important social, work, or recreational activities in order to gamble; and

- continues to gamble even though they cannot pay back the debts they have or despite other significant social, work, or legal problems that are complicated by gambling.

When a gambling problem exists, many of these behaviours are present well before the gambler suffers a major financial crisis.

## Compulsive gambling can be explained by three phases.

### 1. The winning phase

While the gambler is winning, he/she feels lucky, important, and likes who they are. Their self-esteem is high. The occasional loss is considered just bad luck.

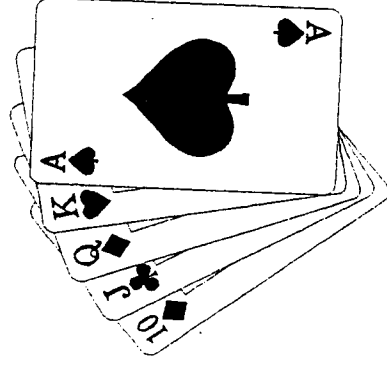
### 2. The losing phase

When the losses increase, the gambler becomes less confident, begins borrowing money to get even and then hides the losses by borrowing more money. At this point, lies, loan frauds, absenteeism, family disputes and job changes are common danger signals.

### 3. The desperation phase

The gambler becomes obsessed with getting even to cover stolen money, hidden withdrawals from family bank accounts and secret loans. The gambler panics at the thought that the gambling action will cease if the credit or bailouts stop. The gambler can experience severe mood swings and suicide may be attempted as a way out.

# GAMBLING CAN BE ADDICTIVE



***You Can  
Beat It !***

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for Problem Gambling  
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## What is gambling?

Any time you bet money or something of value on an event of uncertain outcome, you are gambling. This includes raffles, lotteries, bingo and sports events.

## Problem gambling

Gambling is a problem when it adversely affects: relationships, family, friends; physical, social and mental health; employment; or finances.

## Some kinds of gambling

When some people think of gambling, they think only of casino gambling. In fact, gambling occurs in many forms. Here are some examples:

- Lotteries
- Casinos
- Bingo
- Scratch Tickets
- Pull Tabs (Nevada Tickets)
- Race track betting
- Stock Market Speculation
- VLT'S and Slot Machines
- Card Games

## Tips for responsible gambling

For many people gambling is exciting and entertaining. They make careful decisions about spending time and money, where to go and how to have fun.

The following are some ways people gamble responsibly:

- Gamble for entertainment, not as a way to make money
- Balance gambling with other leisure activities
- Only use discretionary income, not money for everyday expenses
- Set a budget and stick to it
- If you are losing, don't chase your losses
- Set a time limit
- Take frequent breaks

## What you can do

If you think you have a problem or know someone who does, there are many qualified people you can call. We can help you with more information or refer you to the right person in your area.

## Who is at risk?

The following are some signs that a person may have a gambling problem:

- Gambling for longer periods of time - spending long or increasing amounts of time at gambling venues
- Pre-occupation with gambling - constantly thinking about and preparing for gambling
- "Chasing losses" - gambling more often and playing higher stakes to "win back" lost money
- Frequent, unexplained absences - from home or work and undue secrecy
- Gambling to escape from obligations or life's daily pressure
- Growing debt from gambling - lying or criminal activity to finance gambling
- Neglecting family / personal needs - e.g. nutrition, sleep, schooling, general well-being

## **Common misconceptions about gambling**

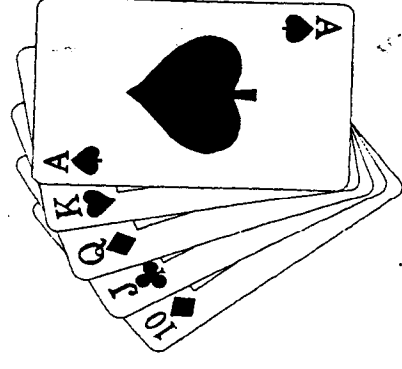
Gambling is often regarded with a sense of mystique. Many people believe they can "win big" over time. The following are some common misconceptions about gambling:

- Gambling is an easy way to make money
- Gambling is the solution to my problems
- I believe I can beat the odds
- Borrowing to gamble is okay
- I can always win it back
- I am a lucky person
- This machine is ready for a large payoff
- If you flip a coin and comes up "heads" several times in a row, the next time it is more likely to come up "tails"
- My lottery number is bound to come up if I play it consistently
- I don't have a gambling problem, it's a financial problem

# ***If You Gamble with dollars....***

**....**

# ***...gamble with sense.***



**If you need to call**

There is someone you can talk to at:

**British Columbia Association For  
Problem Gambling**

For more information about the Association and its programs and services, you can contact us as follows:

**In British Columbia:**

**Area Code 604 507-4099  
Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099**

**E-Mail -**

**800gambler@shaw.ca**

**Look for us at**

**[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)**

**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ASSOCIATION FOR  
PROBLEM GAMBLING**

**A 24-hour gambling Help Line**  
provides confidential information and  
support to people with gambling problems.

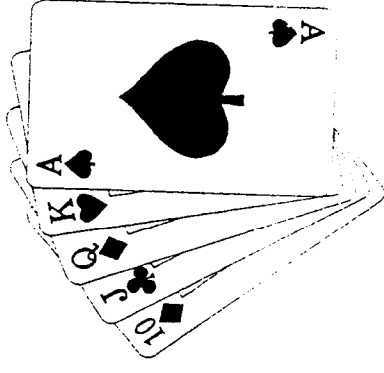
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**Website:**  
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**British Columbia Association for  
Problem Gambling** provides  
information about problem gambling to  
gamblers and those who are concerned about  
them.

Information and support are also available  
from **Gamblers Anonymous (GA)** and  
**Gam-Anon**. Check your telephone  
directory for listings or contact the **British  
Columbia Association for Problem  
Gambling** to see if there is a group in your  
area.

*Are You Concerned*

*Co-Worker's  
Gambling?*



If you think one of your colleagues has a  
gambling problem, you may feel reluctant to  
say something to the person involved. It is  
awkward to bring up personal issues in the  
workplace, and money is a particularly  
sensitive subject. However, it is possible to  
express your concern in a caring manner.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
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# Gambling

Gambling is a popular form of recreation in British Columbia. At work, it may mean playing the office pool, buying a raffle ticket, or dropping a few loonies into a video lottery terminal over the lunch hour. Most people who take part in these activities do not develop gambling problems.

## Signs of problem gambling

For about 5% of adults, however, gambling is a problem. It may be an isolated case of overspending, or it may be an ongoing problem with continual losses and mounting debts. At the extreme end of this range is pathological gambling, where people are unable to control their gambling much as those addicted to alcohol are unable to control their drinking.

The negative effects of problem gambling can extend into the workplace. A problem gambler may be too distracted to focus on work. Work and other commitments may be scheduled in a way that accommodates the gambling – or provides additional opportunities to gamble. The gambler may regularly take extended lunch hours, and may even use money from staff funds to gamble or cover debts

Signs of a potential gambling problem are:

- borrowing money frequently

- continually boasting about winnings
- complaining about debts more than usual
- experiencing drastic mood swings
- spending increasing amount of time gambling during lunch hours and after work
- making an unusually high number of personal telephone calls
- allowing work performance to deteriorate: being distracted, missing deadlines, having frequent or unexplained absences
- exhibiting personality changes; being irritable, secretive, dishonest

## What can you do?

Before you express your concerns, it helps to be clear about your role. As a concerned colleague, you could simply share your observations with your co-worker. Don't try to diagnose the problem, provide advice, or expect any sign that your co-worker has accepted your expression of concern.

These tips may help you:

- **Be clear, non-judgmental, and speak only for yourself**  
I've been noticing changes in your work, and I am worried about you
- **Use work related observations**  
I see you coming in very late from lunch every day, too distracted to work all afternoon
- **Be positive**

Your work is usually so good, and you always meet your deadlines

- **Explain how the problem affects you**  
I have had to finish two of your projects. I had to cover up your absence last Monday afternoon
- **Be clear about your position**  
I won't be covering up for you again, and I won't lend you any more money
- **Respect personal boundaries**  
I don't want to pry into your life, but I had to let you know I am concerned
- **Provide information, not advice**  
There are other pamphlets available which may be of further help to you. They all carry the phone number of the Canadian Foundation on Problem Gambling
- **Be prepared for denial or a hostile reaction**  
It must be uncomfortable to hear this. It's difficult for me to bring it up, too, but I am concerned about

Your co-workers reaction to your remarks could range from gratitude to denial to open hostility. The outcome is difficult. Your expression of concern might result in immediate action by the co-worker, or it might be one of several messages that eventually motivate your colleague to get help. Or it may have no noticeable effect at all.

Whatever your co-worker chooses to do, you have provided him or her with essential information and support.

## How can you prevent problem gambling?

Keep a balance in your life. Make careful decisions about how you spend your time, money and energy.

### Here are some ideas that may help:

- Set a limit on the amount of time that you spend gambling, and on the size of your bets. If you go over the limits often, get help.
- Problem gamblers often gamble alone, so get involved in activities with other people. Take an evening class, join a club or sports group, become a volunteer.
- Use your gambling money for something special instead. Take up a hobby, save for a vacation, or treat your children to a surprise outing.
- Learn more about gambling. Read books or borrow videos from your local library or community agencies, so you have a complete picture of all aspects of gambling and problem gambling.

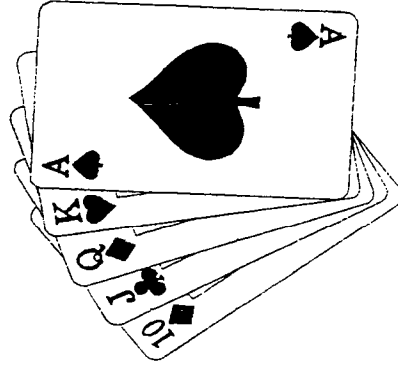
### Help is available

If you are concerned that you or someone you know may have a gambling problem, help is available  
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*when it's  
no longer  
a game*



**problem  
gambling**

## What is gambling?

For many people, gambling is something they do occasionally, as a form of recreation. They buy a lottery ticket, bet a few dollars on a horse, or drop a loonie into a machine. When the draw or the game is over, they go on to other non-gambling activities.

## What is problem gambling?

For some people, however, gambling becomes a problem, and the problem can range from minor to quite serious.

It could be as simple as gamble a little more often than intended, or spending a little more money than intended – maybe making it hard for you to pay the utility bills or meet a car payment some month.

It could also be more serious than that. It could mean you're spending a lot more time and money than you can really afford on gambling, and it's having a noticeable negative effect in other areas of your life – causing excessive debt, marriage problems, even illegal activity.

## What are some signs that a person may have a gambling problem?

- Spends large amounts of time gambling. This allows little time for family, friends or hobbies.
- Begins to place larger, more frequent bets. Larger bets are necessary to get the same level of excitement.
- Has growing debts

The person with a gambling problem is secretive or defensive about money, and may borrow money from family members or friends.

## ➤ Pins hopes on the "big win"

The problem gambler believes the big win, rather than changing the gambling behavior, will solve financial or other problems.

## ➤ Promises to cut back on gambling

The problem gambler is unable to reduce or stop gambling.

- Refuses to explain behavior, or lies about it. The person with a gambling problem may be away from home or work for long periods of time, or may make an unusually high number of telephone calls.

## ➤ Feels frequent highs and lows

If unable to gamble, the problem gambler misses the thrill of the action and may be bad-tempered, withdrawn, depressed or restless. During a winning streak, the gambler is on a high.

## ➤ Boasts about winning

The person with a gambling problem loves to relive a win but will make light of losses when others express their concern. Wins and losses may also be kept a secret.

- Prefers gambling to a special family occasion

The problem gambler may arrive late or miss family events such as birthdays, school activities and other family gatherings.

- Seeks new places to gamble close to home and away

The problem gambler may insist that evenings out or even family vacations be at places where gambling is available.

## Are you at risk of becoming a problem gambler?

Anyone who gambles can become a problem gambler. The risk varies from one person to the next. For some it is very low, while for others it is high.

There are many factors which affect your risk of becoming a problem gamblers. These include:

- *how often you gamble*
- *how much money you bet*
- *what you believe about gambling*
- *how many of your family or friends gamble*
- *whether (and how much) you use alcohol or other drugs when you gamble*
- *how good you feel about yourself*
- *what kinds of gambling you like*
- *how you react to the thrill of a big risk*

How many of these factors are present in your life? Your chances of becoming a problem gambler depend on the number of factors in your life and the ways these factors interact.

## 10 Questions FOR THE PROBLEM GAMBLER

1. Have you ever lost time from work due to gambling?
2. Has gambling ever made your home life unhappy?
3. Have you ever gambled to get money with which to pay debts or otherwise solve financial difficulties?
4. After losing, did you feel you must return as soon as possible to win back your losses?
5. After a win, did you have a strong urge to return and win more?
6. Did you often gamble until your last dollar was gone?
7. Did you ever borrow to finance your gambling?
8. Did gambling make you careless of the welfare of yourself or your family?
9. Have you ever committed, or considered committing an illegal act to finance gambling?
10. Have you ever considered self destruction as a result of your gambling?

If you answer yes to any one of these questions, you may have a gambling problem.

## WE CAN HELP

The British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling is dedicated to provide education and awareness to all citizens of British Columbia –

- Educate the private sector, the business communities and school systems
- Establish and maintain statistics
- Early prevention and identification
- Help the families
- Provide contacts to Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon
- Provide a province wide certification program and train health care professionals
- Referrals to treatment providers certified in problem and compulsive gambling
- Strive toward making British Columbia a better place to live and raise our families

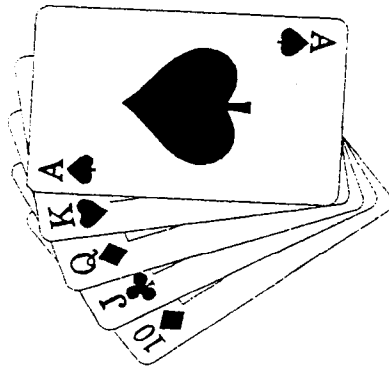
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# GAMBLING IS RECREATION



If it becomes a  
problem....

Call 604-507-4099

## THINK ABOUT THIS...

**Gambling can be fun**, but not when your life is riding on every bet. When your gambling is out of control, the game isn't about fun and winning. It's about having enough money to keep playing. That is the time to find the strength within yourself to say, "it's time I talked to someone."

**Compulsive gambling** will lead to serious consequences. Most problem gamblers give up hope, thinking there is no escape from their gambling habits. Some lose everything and declare bankruptcy. In extreme cases, they may even be reduced to stealing or considering taking their own lives, just to have their problems end.

**This doesn't have to happen to you.** You can break free of your gambling problem. You can talk to people who have been there, have seen what gambling can do and know what it takes to get back to a normal life.

**You need to take the first step.** No one can help you until you recognize that you want to change. If you think you might need help, call the *British Columbia Association for Problem Gambling*. In *British Columbia* call *Area Code 604-507-4099* or *toll-free 1-866-507-4099*. The call is free and confidential. No one will know you called, but you'll feel better knowing that you did.

## WHAT IS COMPULSIVE GAMBLING?

Gambling, for most people, is a recreational activity. However, for an estimated 2 to 4% of the general population, gambling results in an addiction. Compulsive gambling is a progressive disease, much like an addiction to alcohol or drugs.

In many cases, the gambling addiction is hidden until the gambler cannot function without gambling, and he/she begins to exclude all other activities. Not all compulsive gamblers show the same signs and symptoms of addiction, there are differences in gender, age or cultural backgrounds, but most will:

- Use gambling as a coping strategy called Escape/Relief to mask underlying emotional pain.
- Rely on the excitement to make themselves feel good.
- Wager higher amounts to win back their losses.
- Believe that they can get out of debt with a big win.
- Hide their gambling from family and friends and lie about money.
- Find the financial problem becomes an emotional one.

➤ Eventually become emotionally, mentally and physically distressed.

## THERE IS HELP

A TREATABLE DISEASE

Compulsive gamblers, in the grip of this disease, feel trapped and helpless. They often make promises to themselves and to others to stop gambling – yet they will continue to gamble. Willpower alone has proven ineffective to stop gambling. There is hope!

Many compulsive gamblers ask for help only after they have exhausted all means to stay "in action". In many cases they will have lost their home, business, family, friends, self-esteem and have created legal problems along the way. These problems may seem overwhelming. There is help!

They can stop gambling, regain their self-esteem and, once again, earn the trust and love of family and friends. Treatment is available by trained and certified counselors who understand this addiction. There is also the twelve-step program of Gamblers Anonymous for continued support. Compulsive gamblers can return to a normal life.

*In British Columbia  
Area Code 604-507-4099  
We understand, listen & can help!  
Call is free and confidential*

## Some Problem Gambling Warning Signs

### Do you .....

- gamble more often, or with more money, than you intend?
- Chase losses?
- Neglect family, friends self or work in order to gamble?
- Gamble to escape worries or troubles?
- Constantly think of gambling?
- Hope for a "big win" to resolve financial or other problems?
- Borrow money or juggle funds to gamble or pay debts?
- Have conflicts with others over money or gambling?
- Have mood swings because of your gambling, or experience anger, depression, suicidal thoughts or anxiety?
- Continue to gamble despite negative consequences and efforts at control?

If you would like support to cut down, or to stop gambling, please contact:

### BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING

Our services are free and confidential

Our programs aim to be accessible and responsive to the unique needs and concerns of women.

We strive to maintain a climate of safety and respect.

### We offer:

- Initial counseling ( in person or by phone)
- Group workshops for professionals
- Support and information in such areas as:

Relapse prevention  
Life enrichment:

Rebuilding relationships  
Coping with stress  
Leisure and nutrition  
Self-esteem  
Dealing with guilt and shame

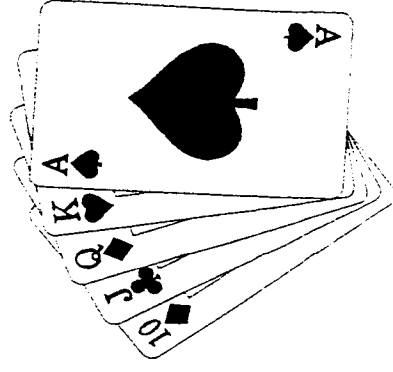
## WOMEN

&

## PROBLEM

## GAMBLING

*When  
Dreams  
Become  
Nightmares*



### BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING

Area Code 604- 507-4099  
Toll-Free 1-866-507-4099

E-mail – [800gambler@shaw.ca](mailto:800gambler@shaw.ca)  
Visit Our Website at  
[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)

## When Dreams Become Nightmares

I used to feel good about myself. I had a successful career. I was good with money, honest and dependable. All that has changed. The roulette wheel has spun my world into chaos. I hate lying to my boss, cheating the bank, scrambling to pay bills, living in fear.

- Kate

It started as fun, buying a few scratch tickets. I felt lucky when I won \$1000. I thought it was an easy way to get extra money to treat the kids. Soon I was buying tickets every day. I was spending the little money we had. The kids want to know why we never have any food or fun anymore.

- Rosa

After my husband died, friends took me to the casino for a night out. I loved the slots, the noise, the special treatment. It helped me forget my grief and fill the lonely hours. I started going on my own, and moved from the quarter to the dollar slots. How can I tell my kids I've lost all the money their father worked so hard to save? I'm so ashamed. I'm glad my husband isn't here to see what I've done.

- Gladys

These women have run into trouble with gambling. Like many people who begin gambling for money, fun or time out from everyday worries, they have become trapped. Winning can create an urge to play more and create hopes of even bigger wins. Losing leads to desperate efforts to win back the money. The spiral is downward as the gambler moves through cycles of despair and hope. Over time, the debts mount as self-esteem plummets. The dreams become nightmares.

## Turning on the Lights

For years my friends and I played Bingo every week. When I was laid off I started to play more often. The kids were grown and I was bored. My husband worried about the money and the changes in our relationship. It was hard to cut back, but with his help, and the support of my women's group, I'm enjoying life without going crazy at bingo.

- June

My whole family gambles. When I was young my mom took me to the track every day. My dad played poker with my uncles. I met my husband in Vegas. He went to jail for gambling related crimes....I went for help. I'm learning about balance, about being gently but assertive, about honouring my needs and feelings, about self-respect. I feel so much more in control of my life and my future.

- Fiona

I gave everything I had to be the perfect wife. Gambling was my only break. Eventually it broke me. I collapsed in exhaustion trying to keep the secret. It's been a journey of discovery to share my struggles with others, to have someone to listen and care.

- Suelyn

Women often nurture and care for others while neglecting their own needs. These women have found the support of a treatment program critical to re-establishing a healthy, balanced lifestyle that promotes a sense of well-being.

## Women and Problem Gambling

With increased acceptance of gambling, and easy access to it, women have been swept into the gambling current. For some, the high of the action, or the escape of gambling, becomes addictive. Ultimately it can threaten relationships, disrupt work, damage values, create financial and legal problems and impact on moods.

Problem gambling can affect any woman. It affects as many women as men. Sometimes it is related to other life issues such as troubled relationships, a history of trauma, abuse, loss, mental health concerns or addiction to drugs or alcohol.

Problem gambling tends to be invisible. A woman struggling with urges to gamble, and the pain of losing control, may be secretive – silenced by shame, guilt and fear. She may feel isolated and overwhelmed by mounting financial, spiritual and emotional losses. She often lacks the support to make changes. Family and friends may be judgmental or rejecting.

### Too often women

suffer alone

even when help

is available.

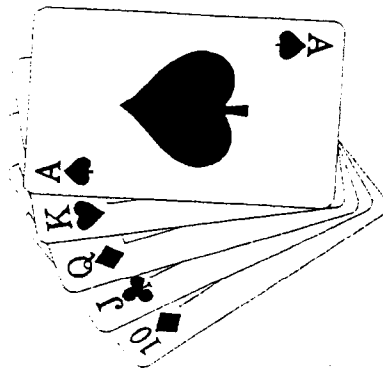
## PROBLEM GAMBLING WARNING SIGNS

- INVESTING INCREASING AMOUNTS OF TIME & MONEY GAMBLING
- NEGLECTING FAMILY, FRIENDS, SELF OR WORK IN ORDER TO GAMBLE
- PREOCCUPATION WITH GAMBLING
- HOPES FOR A "BIG WIN" TO SOLVE FINANCIAL OR OTHER PROBLEMS
- DISTORTED OR UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS ABOUT WINNING, MAGICAL OR SUPERSTITIOUS THINKING, DENIAL RATIONALIZATION
- BORROWING, JUGGLING FUNDS, SELLING POSSESSIONS, AVOIDING BILLS, TO FINANCE GAMING OR DEBTS
- ENGAGING IN ILLEGAL ACTS (FRAUD, THEFT, PROSTITUTION)
- MOOD SWINGS RELATED TO GAMBLING (GUILT, SHAME, IRRITABILITY, DEPRESSION, FEAR)
- GAMBLING TO SEEK A HIGH OR ESCAPE
- CONFLICTS WITH OTHERS OVER GAMBLING, LYING, HIDING DEBTS
- CONTINUING TO GAMBLE DESPITE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES AND EFFORTS TO CONTROL IT

## SPECIAL ISSUES FOR WOMEN WITH GAMBLING CONCERNS

Society's stereotype of the gambler, a male image (big shot, big spender, big ego) does not match the female experience. A woman struggling with gambling habits is more likely to be a closet gambler and harbour considerable guilt. Her self-esteem is often low. She is socially stigmatized and holds high expectations of herself, feeling shame about her imperfections. Women often have a strong sense of responsibility for the well-being of others but limited permission to nurture themselves. The female gambler is often isolated from supports. The hidden nature of the gambling and low visibility means the problem is often not readily identified.

## WOMEN + GAMBLING



## BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING

PH: (604) 507-4099

Toll-Free: 1-866-507-4099

E-Mail – [800gambler@shaw.ca](mailto:800gambler@shaw.ca)

Our Website:

[www.problem-gambling.com](http://www.problem-gambling.com)

BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ASSOCIATION  
FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING

*I first visited the casino with my mom. We had a great time. I won a jackpot of \$3000 on the slots. I thought, "Wow, what an easy way to make money". It gave me hope that I could change my life. My life has changed. Today, I am \$35,000 in debt and facing fraud charges.*

*Terry*

## **GAMBLING IN THE 90'S**

Twenty years ago gambling was thought to be a male domain. Gambling by women was given little attention. With the legalization of gaming and the increased accessibility of venues, gambling is Canada's fastest growing industry.

Gambling engages people of all ages, socio-economic levels and cultures. The number of women who gamble is increasing rapidly and now equals the number. For 86% of the adult population, gambling is a form of entertainment. It ceases to be fun and progresses to problematic, often desperate, levels for 2-6% of gamblers. Half of the problem gamblers in Canada are women.

## **GAMBLING & GENDER**

The research suggests that women are somewhat different from men in their gambling preferences and patterns. \* Men are drawn to competition and fast action with big money stakes. Women prefer a more solitary, less

combative, type of game where luck rather than skill is involved. \* Although the lure of financial gain and aura of excitement attract both groups, men indicate that they like the challenge, status and ego boost of winning.

Women name that they also gamble to escape unpleasant feelings (anger, boredom, loneliness, pain). \* Favoured gambling activities for men are sports betting, table games, lotteries and racetrack events. Women sometimes prefer bingo, lotteries, slot & video poker machines.

*For years I went to Bingo with my friends every week. When they brought in the Nevada tickets I lost control, spending more and more of my pension cheques. After a while my family got fed up and refused to help. I feel so stupid and alone.*

*Gladys*

- Many problem gamblers (2 out of 3) turn to illegal activity to keep playing or pay debts. Women are more likely to pass bad checks or embezzle than involve themselves in larceny, tax evasion or violence.

*My relationship was troubled, my job stressful. The only thing that made me feel alive and offered some relief was the excitement of the*

*poker games. It was a way to beat men at their own game. Being in action became all that mattered. I neglected the kids and forgot what really mattered. I ended up morally, emotionally and financially bankrupt. Riddled with shame and feeling desperate, I considered suicide.*

*Laura*

## **THE FEMALE PROBLEM GAMBLER**

Although most women begin gambling as adults, the progression into problems can be rapid. Women who gamble are more likely to be alone (single, divorced or separated) than their male counterparts. Research suggests more troubled pasts such as abuse, trauma, addicted or mentally ill parents. There is a high rate of suicide attempts (17-24%) by problem gamblers. Rates of depression, mental health concerns and stress related ailments are higher than for non-problem gamblers. Rates of drug/alcohol abuse are 2-3 times higher than in the general population. Problem gambling causes financial, emotional, social, psychological and spiritual devastation for women of all ages, cultures, sexual orientations, and socio-economic levels.

Things that used to count (friends, sports, and what you want to do with your life) don't matter anymore.

- Treat the money you lose as the cost of your entertainment. Look on whatever you win as a "bonus".

## how TO KEEP IT "JUST FOR FUN"

- to keep gambling where it belongs (just one of the many things you do for entertainment)

Here are some tips that have worked for others.  
They may also work for you.

### If you're involved in games of chance or betting:

- Expect to lose (The odds are that you will).
- Set a cutoff point. Decide how much you're willing to lose. (quit while you're ahead)
- Make it a private rule not to play on credit. If you borrow to gamble, you may not be able to pay it back.
- Don't get taken in by the glitz and the glamour. The flashing lights and the clanging bells look and sound exciting when you're winning. They're little comfort to you when you lose.

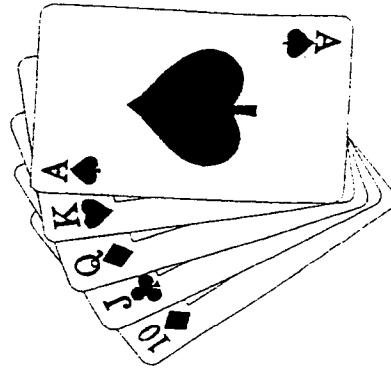
# JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT!

For information please call:  
**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ASSOCIATION FOR  
PROBLEM GAMBLING**

Area Code 604 507-4099 or  
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When you're not in school, there are lots of things you do for entertainment.

You play sports, watch movies or hang around, just talking. Or you may see who can beat who at your favourite video game.

Like most young people you enjoy taking a chance on things. You bet on the high school basketball game. You join in a family pool for the football finals. You scratch and hope you win. (At the very least, you hope you win another ticket!)

## what MAKES THIS KIND OF THING SO MUCH FUN?

24 It could be because of the risk you take. In most cases, you risk a little... to win a lot.

Or it could be the chance to show your colours. When you make a bet, you go out on a limb for something. You're an all-out fan for the home team. And you're willing to bet that extra \$5 you make that they'll take the game this Friday.

Or you just have this hunch. You're "sure" that this week's draw will make you an easy million. So you plan to buy a couple of tickets. (Just think what you could do with all that money!)

## You day-dream a little.

The thing some people like best about betting is the hope it gives you. You may need money for clothes, entertainment, even for college. You see yourself driving a snazzy new car. Or buying nice things for your family. It's fun playing "What could I do if..."

## "What'd I tell you?"

You not only said which team would win the game. You predicted how much they'd win it by. (Isn't it nice for a change to be right?)

## It makes you a winner, too!

When you bet on your favourite team, you're part of the action. In a way you're right there on the field with them. You see yourself throwing the ball, or catching it, and weaving your way into the end zone to score the touchdown that wins the game.

## and "SO WHAT" IF YOU DON'T WIN?

Since the real fun is thinking about winning, it's no big deal when you get cards that no one could possibly win with, or (with just one number to go) someone else yells "Bingo" first.

Since it's only a game, you take it all in your stride. Along with all the other people who didn't win, you shrug it off and move on to other things that are fun to do.

That's gambling for the fun of it.

## Too bad it's not always like that.

While you and your friends may not take gambling all that seriously (and a lot of you don't gamble at all) for some people, losing doesn't come easy. When they bet on something they feel they just have to win. It's this need to win that can lead to problem gambling.

When people feel this way they can develop a gambling problem. Once they're "into it", the more they gamble, the more they want to gamble.

**They start by gambling more than they ever meant to. And wind up losing more than they can afford.**

As time goes by, they spend more time gambling, and less time enjoying sports, studying, and just having fun with their friends.

That's why it's important to keep an eye on it. Because once gambling problems develop more and more money and time is lost.



May 22, 2002

Mayor Brodie and Council Members  
Richmond City Hall  
City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC  
V6Y 2C1

	FM	
✓	DW	DW
	KY	
	AS	
	DB	
	WB	

4040-04



Dear Mayor Brodie and Members of City Council,

I was in attendance at the May 13<sup>th</sup> council meeting and listened to a number of speakers address the topic of gaming in Richmond. Several of the speakers made reference to the Problem Gambling Program, which I currently manage on behalf of the Province. Several statements about our program were presented as "facts", but were incorrect, and I wanted to take this opportunity to provide clarification.

One speaker commented that the only help for problem gamblers in BC was a toll free line, which sent callers to "volunteers".

Information and Referral Specialists staff the Problem Gambling Help Line and they refer callers to funded counselling agencies across the province for ongoing assessment and treatment for problem gambling. Agencies employ professional counsellors to deliver treatment services. The only volunteer organization for which information might be provided to a caller would be Gamblers Anonymous, a self-help organization designed in a 12-step model similar to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Another speaker stated the Problem Gambling Program had provided information on the "levels of addiction for slot machines" and that slots were "designed to hook women and seniors in particular". There is no evidence to support the speaker's statements.

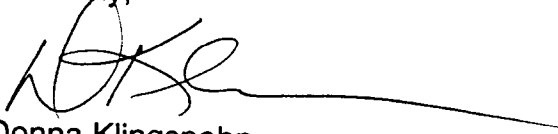
The Problem Gambling Program takes a gaming neutral approach. We recognize that there are benefits and impacts from gaming in communities. Various biological and socio-economic factors can leave certain groups vulnerable to addiction, whether alcohol, other drugs or gambling. We respect an adult's right to choose how they spend their leisure time. It makes sense that we support healthy lifestyle choices and encourage responsible play for those who choose gambling as a form of entertainment. We are working with the gaming industry, developing awareness initiatives, to ensure that players are fully informed to minimize risks related to gaming.

2.

I will be attending the meeting scheduled for May 28 and will bring some information about our program and some specific data related to Richmond.

Please contact me if you have any questions about problem gambling or about our program. I will be pleased to provide you with any information that will assist you in understanding this issue.

Sincerely,



Donna Klingspohn  
Manager  
Problem Gambling Program

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL,  
% CITY CLERK,

RE- GAMBLING POLICY  
TO BE DISCUSSED  
MAY 28 2002



MAY 23, 2002

TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF RICHMOND,  
AS YOU KNOW OVER THE YEARS  
THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL PROPOSALS  
FOR A ONE MILE RACETRACK IN  
RICHMOND.

AS YOU KNOW SEVERAL PROPOSALS  
HAVE BEEN REJECTED FOR DIFFERENT  
REASONS

WOODBINE RACETRACK IN TORONTO  
HAS RECENTLY ACQUIRED HASTINGS  
PARK RACETRACK, WHICH HAS SIMULCAST  
RACING WHERE YOU WAGER ON  
DIFFERENT TRACKS AND WATCH THE  
RACES ON MONITORS BEAMED IN BY  
SATELLITE FROM SUCH TOP LINE  
RACETRACKS AS BELMONT, GULF  
STREAM ETC.

THE REASON IS RICHMOND COULD BE  
ONE OF THE SEVEN OUTLETS PROPOSED  
FOR THE LOWER MAINLAND.

I WOULD ENCOURAGE ONE OR TWO  
OF THE COUNCIL TO ATTEND HASTINGS  
PARK ON A SIMULCAST ONLY DAY  
PREFERABLY ON A WEEK DAY AND SEE  
HOW WELL THEY ARE RUN.

P.S. I HAVE NO R. LOCKHART #304-4900  
ULTERIOR MOTIVE! FRANCIS RD. VTC 4R5

# GAMING POLICY

## Input into City Bylaw Respecting Operations of the Great Canadian Casino

With respect to city council desiring public input into a new bylaw governing the operations of Richmond's Great Canadian Casino.

It is imperative that city council include into the new casino bylaw exclusive taxi parking for pickup and drop-off near side the casino entrance.

Previous bylaws have failed to include a taxi policy, this is caused continuous annoyances and aggravation for taxi drivers who are trying to provide a public service picking up and dropping up customers, but continuously being hassled by the casino parking security who are demanding taxis to move away from the casino doors and sometimes parking security go to the extent of asking the taxis to move from the casino grounds altogether.

Taxis are only trying to provide a customer service, and should not be exposed to overzealous security that have nothing better to do with their time but bother taxi drivers.

I have had personal experiences with parking security at 3:00 A.M. To 4:00 A.M. in the mornings and I find that the parking security's attitude repugnant.

This situation can only be resolved with the City of Richmond imposing that the new Great Canadian Casino provide taxi stands.

Since there are two competing taxi companies in Richmond, the Great Canadian Casino bylaw should include that taxis line up on a first come, first serve basis at the taxi stand.

Thanks for taking to reading my input into the casino bylaws.

Sincerely,



Arne Sanders  
4231 Brown Road  
Richmond, B.C.,  
V6X 2E9

Phone #: 604-816-3702

