

# BCACG SYMPOSIUM 2011

October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>

## Day 1 – WORKSHOP

*Establishing a Community Charitable Gaming Association in Your Community*

### 1<sup>st</sup> SPEAKER


**URSULA COWLAND**, Director of Licensing, Grants and Use of Proceeds.

- a. Ursula discussed the change of Boards since Derek Sturko has left and a new Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager - Douglas Scott has been appointed.
- b. There was discussion on how the new Community Charitable Gaming Associations Across B.C. was formed through discussions with BCACG and BCBC, Ursula and Derek Sturko. It was felt there is a definite need for this communication to continue. Please click on links below to read more.

#### **Feb 2, 2011 - Formation of Community Charitable Gaming Associations across B.C.**

As previously announced at the BCACG Symposium in October 2010, Community Charitable Gaming Associations (CCGAs) will be established across B.C. These organizations will enhance the working relationship between community organizations and the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch by providing assistance with issues related to community gaming grants and gaming event licences.

Click the following links for more information about Community Charitable Gaming Associations and community gaming grants:

- [Community Charitable Gaming Association Information](#) 
- [Community Gaming Grant Information \(Overview and Applications\)](#)

- c. Ursula was given a very limited time to disperse the **extra \$15 million** that Premier Christy Clark had designated back to the non-profits.
  - i. 50% of recipients got a portion of the \$15 million
  - ii. Recipients of the extra funds wondered about the extra money. As it had to be dispersed quickly the money was deposited 1<sup>st</sup> and the letter of explanation was sent later.
  - iii. Most of the Service organizations received the 50% that they had been cut..... that is why extra money turned up in your accounts.
- d. Last year of multi-year affiliates – all will now be on the grant system
- e. As of April 2010 there is now REGIONAL areas of funding \$125 -225,000.

**[Guidelines – June 2011](#)**

Groups designated as provincial organizations, which deliver services province-wide, may be eligible for up to \$250,000 per year. Groups designated as regional organizations may be eligible for grants of between \$125,000 and \$225,000 per year. (An organization may be considered regional if it meets one or both of the following conditions: It delivers programs/services from more than one office and the offices are located in separate communities OR the organization provides programs/services to a sufficiently large number of people, to be determined by the branch.)

Each application is assessed on its own merit, and within the context of available funding and demonstrated community need. An application does not guarantee any level of funding. The requested amount may not be approved. The amount approved may vary from year to year.

The amount approved may be limited if the amount requested raises federal and provincial government funding to more than 75 per cent of the total program cost. Community Gaming Grants are included in this calculation.

The remaining 25 per cent may be satisfied in a variety of ways, such as fundraising, municipal contributions and in-kind support. This will ensure communities support funded programs.

In-kind support may be fulfilled in any combination of volunteer time, donated labour, equipment, services and materials from other sources. Valuation of volunteerism and donations is based on:

- Donated materials at verified fair market value
- Donated accredited professional services at verified fair market value
- General labour (e.g., administrative support): \$10.00/hour
- Skilled Labour (i.e., marketing, communications, Internet support): \$25.00/hour

Complete records of all volunteered hours and donated services or materials must be retained as part of the organization's gaming records

- f. It was stressed that Gaming **must have correct emails and contact numbers.**
- g. Grant approval is now being done on a 12 week turn-around.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> SPEAKER

### RICHARD ROGERS

- a. He is the X- Deputy Registrar of the Registrar of Societies
- b. Discussed was how to Establish a New Society or Modify and Existing Society
- c. A slide-show was presented on how what the registry and what is expected of the applicants. For further information follow the link below.

<http://www.bcregistryservices.gov.bc.ca/bcreg/index.page?>

## Other SPEAKERS

1. Discussions from Association Presidents on how they have been working to establish and solidify the new Community Charitable Gaming Associations in BC.
2. First to speak was: **Caroline Miller** from the Central Okanogan Gaming Association. They were among the first to convert to a Gaming Association back in 2009.
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> to speak was **Shawn Bellamy** – original association formed in 1992 as Bonanza Charity. They are now the “Northern Interior Communities Association”
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> to speak was myself – I spoke about what we have had to comply with and what is entailed in the process of converting to a Community Charitable Gaming Association from a Bingo Association. I explained how we are in the process of doing that and what roadblocks we have found to date.

**Day 2 – SYMPOSIUM**  
*Speakers and Sponsors*

**1<sup>st</sup> SPEAKER -**

**MINISTER IDA CHONG**, Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

- a. Minister Chong opened the Symposium
- b. She spoke on the Premiers “Families 1<sup>st</sup>” platform. Click link below to read more.  
  
<http://www.bccare.ca/pdf/Christy%20Clark%20-%20Families%20First%20Agenda.pdf>
- c. She spoke to how wonderful it was for the Gaming Sector to have given to the Non-profits \$120 million and then an additional \$15 from the Premier.
- d. She spoke on how arts & sports are part of the Community.
- e. **We apparently will only be given the \$120 million again this year (\$15 Premier Clarks’ \$15 million was a onetime shot). This still leaves us \$21.3 million short for 2011.**
- f. **HOWEVER** – Minister Chong did not address the fact that we will again be (based on the cuts in 2008) \$36.3 million short for 2012.
  - a. We have gone from 6,800 grant recipients in 2008 when \$156.3 million was distributed to only 5,000
  - b. Recipients in 2010/2011 receiving \$120 million + \$15 million

**2<sup>nd</sup> SPEAKER -**

**MARGO ROSS**, Executive Director Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

- **replaced** David Galbraith Assistant Deputy Minister, Arts, Culture and Sport for the Symposium.
- Ms. Ross explained how ½ the funding from the Sport Sector came from Gaming Grants.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> SPEAKER

#### **DOUGLAS SCOTT, Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager**

- a. Mr. Scott replaces ADM Derek Sturko  
***Approved and Ordered May 9, 2011***  
***Douglas Scott is appointed as an Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.***
- b. ADM Scott's new boss is the Honourable Shirley Bond. She is now the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and replaces Rich Coleman.
- c. Mr. Scott has a background in counselling troubled youth in Toronto and is a former member of the RCMP with an MBA in economic crime
- d. His function is to support us and says that he is very accessible.
- e. He explained the need to have tight controls on the money due to organized crime, money laundering etc. Considering there is about \$2.6 billion at stake.
- f. Audits by the branch are random.
- g. He stated that the casino are more opportunities for Charity \$'s.
- h. New special limits on gambling will be imposed in November 2011.

### 4<sup>th</sup> SPEAKER

#### **URSULA COWLAND, Director of Licensing, Grants and Use of Proceeds**

- a. Ursula reviewed again the merging of the two Grant systems in March 2010 and the problems of transitioning. The final groups will be transitioned this year.
- b. 12 week turnaround on applications**
- c. all Gaming grants are based on the new rules
- d. **CONDITIONS for a Community Gaming Grant August 2011**  
[www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/gaming/](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/gaming/) A
- e. **GUIDELINES June 2011**  
***Applying for a Community Gaming Grant***
  - a. *The community gaming grant program is a consolidation of the former direct access and bingo affiliation grant programs*  
[www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/gaming/grants/docs/quide-cqg.pdf](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/gaming/grants/docs/quide-cqg.pdf)

Regional funding levels were added on June 2011 (delivering services to more than 1 organization)

#### **JUNE 2011 AMENDMENTS**

##### **CLARIFICATIONS**

Section 1.2	Grant recipients are required to notify GPEB's Investigations Division regarding unlawful incidents, or activities that may affect the integrity of gaming.
Section 3.5	Clarification regarding cash on hand: unrestricted, internally restricted and externally restricted.

Sections 4.2, 5.3, 6.1 and 6.3	Grants availability.
Section 5.6	Grant funds cannot be used for costs related to annual general meetings and board meetings or for unapproved programs.
Section 5.7	Clarification regarding acknowledgement of grant funding.

#### REVISION

Preamble and Section 2.2	New category and funding levels: Regional organizations are eligible for \$125,000 to \$225,000 per year.
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#### F. SECTOR/SUBSECTOR CHANGES

A new sub-category of grants has been created specifically for museums, fairs and festivals.

##### **Eligibility Criteria Summary: Arts & Culture - Fairs, Festivals and Museums Sub-Sector**

##### **General Eligibility Criteria**

Fairs, festivals and museums represent one of two sub-sectors in the Arts & Culture sector.

In all cases, in order to be eligible for a community gaming grant:

- The overall purpose of a fair, festival or museum must be non-commercial and non-promotional; and
- Eligible fairs and festivals typically are small to medium-sized celebrations of a region or local community.

##### **Fairs and Festivals**

Generally, these include celebratory fairs and festivals of broad regional or local community interest in which there is involvement by community members that focuses on community, regional or cultural characteristics. They must be suitable for all ages.

<b>Eligible</b>	Examples include, but are not limited to, regional or local community heritage celebrations, fall fairs, rural fairs and cowboy days.
<b>Ineligible</b>	Examples of ineligible fairs and festivals (unless they can demonstrate they reflect, and are specifically a celebration of, a region or local community) include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medieval fairs, fashion fairs;</li> <li>• Performing arts festivals, storytelling festivals, media and visual arts festivals;</li> <li>• Food and/or drink festivals, religious festivals, science</li> </ul>

	festivals, dragon boat festivals.
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**Museums**

Generally, these include cultural or heritage museums of broad community interest. They are suitable for all ages. Art galleries are not eligible.

<b>Eligible</b>	Museums operated by a non-profit community organization that meets the Province’s general eligibility requirements for community gaming grants may be eligible for a grant. Typically this includes smaller museums around the province.
<b>Ineligible</b>	Museums operated and/or funded by a publicly funded, corporate or for-profit commercial organization (e.g.: run by a local government, Royal BC Museum) are ineligible for a grant

- g. **SERVICE GROUPS** will still continue to get only 50% of what they did.
- h. **REIMBURSEMENT of EXPENSES for your fiscal year** for eligible expenses that you covered from other money prior to receiving your grant money may be reimbursed.

**5<sup>th</sup> SPEAKER**

From the Great Canadian Gaming Corporation “RiverRock”

**HOWARD BLANK**, Vice-President, Communications, Entertainment & Responsible Gaming

- Mr. Blank welcomed us to the RiverRock on behalf of his company who is a major sponsor of the BCACG Symposium

**6<sup>th</sup> SPEAKER**

**SANDRA SAJKO**, Executive Director, Community Gaming Grant Review

- Premier Christy Clark appointed **Skip Triplett** to lead the Community Gaming Grant Review to create a sustainable funding system for non-profits and charitable organizations.
- Sandra worked side by side with Skip Triplett in the review. She was there to represent and to discuss the process that the Review too.
  - **KEY** no one on the Review Team was to have a background in Gaming
- The Review held visit to 14 communities during August and September to gather input from individuals and non-profit organizations at a series of Community Forums
- Skip Triplett delivered his final report to the Province on Oct. 31, 2011.

**FINAL SPEAKERS**

Panel of speakers from Community, Regional & Provincial Organizations on their Effort to Restore Funds and Stability to the Distribution of Gaming Funds.

1. **JOHN McDONALD** - Optimist Club of Victoria

- The following link gives you a good read on what his group has been going through

[http://www.yougottabehere.com/media/147357-Submission-Human\\_and\\_social\\_services-Sept2web.pdf](http://www.yougottabehere.com/media/147357-Submission-Human_and_social_services-Sept2web.pdf)

2. **GERRIE FOSTER** - Valley Charitable Bingo Society

- I spoke on our efforts with the Petition – online and the hard – copied one that was delivered to our MLA and presented in the legislature
- Stressed that continues contact and pressure with the MLA of your area is vital. We must keep the pressure on with regards to the % of Gaming dollars we are receiving and that this needs to be agreed upon and entrenched in our legislature. We were promised 30%..... we are currently getting about 9%.
- The original Memorandum of Agreement between the Charities and the Government will not be forgotten regardless of the fact that Minister Coleman/ Derek Sturko did not recognize it.
- We need to stress that more than a 1 year commitment .
- Basic core funding is sometimes required and we should see if that can be worked into the grant.
- use the money from NEW SLOTS to increase our gaming grants
- **REMINDE** your MLA and the Government that this should not be their NEW Industry and that it is the Charities that give a legitimacy to gaming.
- **CONTACT your City Councils** that are **HOST COMMUNITITES** to lobby on your behalf. They receive a guaranteed 10% through a binding contract – this makes them all the more willing to increase the slots in their areas.

3. **SANDY GAROSSINO**

- Sandy spearheaded the campaign in Vancouver with Co-Founder Lindsay Brown.
- She practiced law as a Crown prosecutor for a number of years, with special emphasis on youth crime and gangs. Her knowledge of organized crime and its patterns informed her later opposition to the expansion of a casino in downtown Vancouver.
- Garossino's long record of service to the charitable and non-profit community led her to co-found the Vancouver Not Vegas Coalition, successfully opposing the expansion of Edgewater Casino on the BC Place site.
- Vancouver not Vegas Vancouver Not Vegas opposes the proposed expansion of Edgewater Casino and calls for a moratorium on all expansion of gambling in Vancouver. Who are they? Vancouver Not Vegas! Coalition is a non-partisan group of individuals and groups:
- Sandy talked about how Alberta has entrenched in their legislature a % of gaming monies to be dedicated to charities (not decided by the government as we are)
- The link below has an enormous amount of information and gives insight on what we too could accomplish if we stay strong and continue this fight.

<http://vancouvernotvegas.ca/tag/sandy-garossino/>

4. **Co-Founder Lindsay Brown - Vancouver not Vegas**

- Co-founder, strategist, web and social media campaign at Vancouver Not Vegas Coalition .

- Vancouver Not Vegas Co-Founder Lindsay Brown has filled a petition in BC Supreme Court seeking to overturn the decision by Vancouver City Council approving the relocation of Edgewater Casino to BC Place Stadium.
- Lindsay also keeps the Vancouver not Vegas website current . She and Sandy are ever vigilant as the fight is not over and they cannot stop the pressure on the city or the government and BCLC in their push to expand gaming throughout the province.

**NOTE:** What should we continue to do?

- Keep the pressure on our MLA
  - Visit, letters etc.
- Keep the pressure on our Premier and the legislative assembly to entrench our share in the legislature.
- Continue letters to the paper about the plight of charities.
- Contact our Municipal government and ask them to support us in our request for a firm percentage etc. They have nothing to lose as they have a binding contract that gives them 10% of funds in their host communities.
- Send a copy of the letter below.
- **DON'T** become apathetic ..... fight for what was rightfully yours. **YOU** the non-profit gave legitimacy to gaming and now the government sees it as their new industry and our cutting us out.
- **STAY INVOLVED** with your local gaming association. They are fighting for you. This is not a war that can be won alone.

*Gerrie*

Gerrie Foster, President

Valley Charitable Gaming Society

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# Your Organizations Letterhead

Date:

**Honourable Christy Clark**

Premier, Province of British Columbia  
P.O. Box 9041, Stn. Prov Gov't  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

**Honourable Shirley Bond**

Attorney General  
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
PO BOX 9044 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

**Douglas S. Scott**

Assistant Deputy Minister  
Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch  
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
PO Box 9311, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9N1

Dear Premier Clark et all:

RE: THE NECESSITY OF RE-INSTATING and INCREASING GAMING FUNDS TO CHARITIES

**Your Organizations Name** is a \_\_\_\_\_ in the Comox Valley. We are an integral part of our Community and have been involved since (19\_\_ or # of years).

1<sup>st</sup> paragraph.....what you do in the Community.

2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph ..... benefits to the community (Social etc..... i.e. Keeping kids off the streets, off of drugs etc.)

3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph ..... asking them to recognize the importance of your group.

4<sup>th</sup> paragraph..... Direct statement as to the loss. See sample below.

*Cuts to gaming grants have left a tremendous void. Support of the above programs is a small price to pay for people who have given so much to this country, its current status and its position in the financial world.*

*\$120 million is not enough, in 2008 we received \$156 million . We ask you, therefore, not to reduce gaming program grants but to restore and increase them.*

*We would also like to see a minimum percentage of 20% of gaming revenue dedicated to the non-profits and to have this entrenched in our legislative body.*

*We also ask that our Service Clubs and Environmental groups be re-instated.*

Sincerely yours,

NAME

Chairman, Board of Directors

cc: Comox Valley MLA Don McRae