

## Backgrounder

### Introduction of disentitlement of winnings at Casinos Regina and Moose Jaw Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation

- In 2014, The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation (SaskGaming) approached the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) to propose an amendment to *The Gaming Regulations, 2007* which would allow Saskatchewan casino operators to withhold winnings from excluded patrons. The amendment went to Cabinet on June 10, 2015 and was passed.
- The amendment allows SaskGaming to withhold winnings from ineligible individuals. Ineligible individuals include:
  - Voluntarily self-excluded individuals (those who have entered into a self-exclusion agreement at any casino in Saskatchewan).
  - Involuntarily excluded individuals (those who have been banned from a SaskGaming casino).
  - Any individuals under the age of 19 years.
  - Individuals subject to SaskGaming's Human Resource Manual, Employee Gaming Policy (all employees of the corporation, certain contracted service providers, etc.).
- SaskGaming developed policy and procedures to implement the disentitlement of winnings at Casinos Regina and Moose Jaw. These come into effect on October 1, 2015.
- SaskGaming is required to provide written notice to excluded individuals prior to withholding any winnings. Self-excluded individuals receive written notice as part of their voluntarily self-exclusion agreement. Involuntarily excluded individuals are notified in writing during the exclusion process.
- There are currently 545 voluntarily self-excluded individuals and 112 involuntarily excluded individuals between SaskGaming's two properties.
- All funds withheld through disentitlement of winnings will be directed to SaskGaming's Community Relations program which will disburse the funds to groups, projects and events in Saskatchewan.
- Saskatchewan is the second jurisdiction in Canada to amend regulations to allow for the disentitlement of winnings.
- In 2009, the British Columbia Lottery Corporation (BCLC) introduced jackpot entitlement rules to withhold jackpot prizes in specified circumstances, but was challenged legally on the basis that the rule was not written into statute. In 2010, *The Gaming Control Act* in British Columbia was amended to legally allow BCLC to withhold winnings from excluded individuals.
- SaskGaming's responsible gambling program currently includes:
  - Mandatory responsible gambling training for all employees, including how to identify possible signs of problem gambling.
  - GameSense Information Centres on the gaming floor at Casinos Regina and Moose Jaw.

- A team of dedicated employees at Casinos Regina and Moose Jaw who are specially-trained to interact with guests on responsible gambling issues.
- A voluntary self-exclusion program.
- Educational and awareness materials, including brochures, posters, messaging on ATMs and slot machines, and more.
- The ability for Players Club Members to request their player activity statement.
- Licence plate recognition technology at Casino Regina.
- GameSense kiosks featuring interactive content and educational information located on the gaming floor.