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## INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

### **OMBUDSMAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS BEING IMPLEMENTED**

VICTORIA – The Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch has hired 16 new staff members and reassigned four to assist with the implementation of recommendations contained in the Ombudsman's report "Winning Fair and Square: A Report on the British Columbia Lottery Corporation's Prize Payout Process," released in May. Staff will concentrate on retailer registration, investigation and audit.

In her recommendations, the Ombudsman supported GPEB's decision last year to register all lottery retail managers and others. GPEB has now identified lottery site staff that need to be registered, made a number of regulatory changes and initiated a registration program that will include background and criminal record checks for lottery retailers. Approximately 8,000 individuals will ultimately be registered.

As recommended by the Ombudsman, GPEB is also enhancing independent investigations regarding BCLC's lottery business and its retailers. GPEB has formally written BCLC to reconfirm BCLC's obligation to report to GPEB any real or suspected conduct, activity or incident with a lottery scheme that impacts the integrity of gaming, or involves an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada or B.C.'s Gaming Control Act. GPEB will also audit BCLC's compliance with this obligation.

In future reports on implementation of recommendations, GPEB will also report publicly on its satisfaction with BCLC's implementation of the Ombudsman's recommendations.

When the Ombudsman's report was released, government accepted and began implementing all 27 recommendations of the report. As well, to ensure a comprehensive blueprint to move forward, Solicitor General John Les appointed the firm Deloitte & Touche LLP to conduct a broad and independent audit of the retail lottery system in B.C. and make recommendations to bring about a lottery system that all British Columbians can have confidence in.

To read the detailed GPEB progress report, please visit [www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/gaming/news](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/gaming/news).

-30-

Media        Cindy Rose  
contact:     Public Affairs Bureau  
               Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor  
               General  
               250 356-6961

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