

## **Background**

Gambling in British Columbia is a source of entertainment for adults, a revenue driver for the province and an attraction for tourists.

However, unregulated or under-regulated gambling, or inadequate compliance can lead to problems with organized crime, fraud, violence and addiction.

These are problems that no community wants to, or should have to, deal with.

The support of British Columbians for the gaming industry in the province is dependent on government regulating this industry adequately and responding to issues promptly as they arise.

B.C. has a proud history of an exceptionally well-managed gaming industry.

## **Issue**

On assuming responsibility for provincial gaming, B.C.'s Attorney General was provided with briefings from law enforcement and B.C.'s gambling regulator, the Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch, and has now requested the appointment of an independent, expert advisor on the issue of money laundering and organized crime.

## **Terms of Reference**

The minister requires an independent expert to inquire into whether there is an unaddressed, or inadequately addressed, issue of money laundering in Lower Mainland casinos, and if there is, the nature and extent of this issue, along with the history of the issue.

If an issue is identified, the minister requires advice on:

1. What connection, if any, the issue has with other areas of B.C.'s economy, laws or policies that require government, law enforcement, statutory or regulatory attention;
2. What connection, if any, the issue has with other crimes; and
3. What steps, within existing laws, or what new laws, are required to address the issue.

Recommendations resulting from the review should be reported to the Attorney General as soon as they are ready; they should not be held pending submission of the final report.

In order to complete this review, the independent expert may meet with any individual or organization that will assist in addressing the areas of review, but must meet at a minimum with the following groups:

1. The Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch;
2. The B.C. Lottery Corporation;
3. The Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit British Columbia – Joint Illegal Gaming Investigation Team;
4. The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC)
5. Service providers of any facilities identified during the review; and

6. Where possible, employee organizations at identified facilities.