

December 20, 2001

Dear Charitable Organization:

Since assuming my responsibilities as Solicitor General, I have heard numerous concerns from recipients of gaming funds that the policies governing gaming and the distribution of funds are onerous. I am pleased to announce that I am introducing a number of changes that reflect the confidence I have in your ability to evaluate your own individual needs, allocate your resources appropriately, and manage your organizations.

The changes to be implemented include:

- allowing gaming revenues to be used for capital projects;
- removing the requirement for community service groups to get government permission each time they donate over \$1,000;
- removing the cap on how much money a group can raise in a given year through raffles so that success will not be penalized;
- eliminating the geographical restrictions on sales and advertising for raffles;
- extending charities' licences of affiliation with bingo halls from two years to three;
- easing residency requirements for non-profit boards;
- removing the restrictions preventing charities from donating to another recipient of gaming funds;
- streamlining the application process, including removing the need for non-profit groups to resubmit documents already on record with government; and
- increasing the amount organizations can use for administrative purposes from five per cent to seven per cent.

I believe these changes will support and facilitate the valuable work performed by you. Accountability will be maintained, and the Government will no longer micromanage the work of your Boards of Directors.

Details regarding implementation of these changes will be available in the new year. If you require additional information at that time, please contact Derek Sturko, Acting General Manager, Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, at 250 387-0757.

Wishing you and yours all the very best over the holidays and a joyful and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. T. Coleman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

R. T. (Rich) Coleman
Solicitor General