

## INFORMATION BULLETIN

### GOVERNMENT COMPLETES OMBUDSMAN LOTTERY RECOMMENDATIONS

VICTORIA – Gaming Policy and Enforcement (GPE) has completed all of the recommendations from B.C.'s Ombudsman and is nearly complete implementing the recommendations made by the firm of Deloitte & Touche regarding improving B.C.'s lottery system. GPE has released several reports today detailing the work that has been done.

In May 2007, the Ombudsman made four recommendations to GPE to strengthen its regulatory oversight of the BC Lottery Corporation (BCLC). The report also included 23 recommendations to BCLC to improve its retailer lottery winnings and prize validation procedures. Almost all of the recommendations made to BCLC had implications for GPE.

Government and BCLC accepted all of these recommendations. A final status report summarizes the work done relating to the Ombudsman recommendations.

Key accomplishments include completing the registration of all lottery retail managers in the province; enhancing GPE's audit program to include B.C.'s lottery business; expanding GPE's lottery ticket and equipment certification program; enhancing GPE's lottery investigation work to address all real or suspected wrongdoing related to lottery gaming; and implementing systems to detect systemic or reoccurring problems.

In June 2007, the Solicitor General appointed Deloitte & Touche to conduct an independent review of BCLC, its management of the lottery retail system and GPE's regulatory oversight. The goal was to ensure the Province was on the right track in enhancing its lottery industry.

Deloitte's report concluded BCLC and GPE have made significant progress towards ensuring greater integrity in B.C.'s lottery industry. The report also made 44 recommendations for further improvements. The fourth quarterly status report on all of the recommendations made by Deloitte & Touche details GPE's response to recommendations that had implications for GPE.

GPE has completed nearly all of the recommendations the Province accepted from the Deloitte report. In the coming months GPE will formalize its own risk management program and coordinate the integration of the gaming industries efforts concerning risk management.

For a summary of actions in response to both reports, detailed progress reports and additional gaming information, visit [www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/gaming/news](http://www.hsd.gov.bc.ca/gaming/news) online.