

# FACT SHEET

RESPONSIBLE • PROGRESSIVE • ACCOUNTABLE

January 2012

## Who Does What in the Gaming Industry?

### **Nova Scotia Government**

- The Nova Scotia Government, and ultimately the people of Nova Scotia, are the shareholders and owners of the gaming industry in the province. Cabinet may make policy decisions about:
  - ▶ the province's involvement in gaming;
  - ▶ limitations or changes in gaming; and
  - ▶ overall gaming policy.
- The *Gaming Control Act* requires the Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation (NSGC) to report to the Minister any defect, abuse, illegality, or criminal activity regarding gaming and provide quarterly and annual financial reports.

### **Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation**

- NSGC is responsible for the business of gaming in Nova Scotia. It is a Crown corporation governed by the *Gaming Control Act*, and is charged with leading an economically sustainable and socially responsible gaming industry for the benefit of Nova Scotians and their communities.
- As an initiative of the 2011 Responsible Gaming Strategy, government announced the conduct and manage function of NSGC would be migrated to a division within the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage. A team will be established to guide the transition.

### **Atlantic Lottery and Casino Nova Scotia**

- NSGC operations include ticket lotteries, video lotteries and casinos. The day-to-day operations of these business lines are carried out by NSGC's operators, the Atlantic Lottery and Casino Nova Scotia (CNS).
- Atlantic Lottery was established in 1976 by the four Atlantic Provinces to operate lotteries for the benefit of Atlantic Canadians. Nova Scotia is a one-quarter shareholder in Atlantic Lottery which operates the ticket lottery and video lottery business lines in Nova Scotia on behalf of NSGC. All profits generated by these products are provided to NSGC for the benefit of Nova Scotians and their communities.

- Great Canadian Gaming Corporation (GCGC) owns and operates two CNS locations in Nova Scotia, Halifax and Sydney, under the terms of an operating contract with NSGC. GCGC is a publicly traded company and a leading entertainment provider with casino and entertainment operations in three Canadian Provinces.

### **Alcohol and Gaming Division of the Department of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations**

- The Alcohol and Gaming Division (AGD) of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations licenses and monitors the conduct of casinos, bingos, lotteries, and other games of chance (except harness racing, and gaming activities conducted in First Nations communities), to ensure that these games are carried out in the best social and economic interests of Nova Scotians.
- The AGD also issues gaming licences to organizations that raise funds for charitable purposes, including bingos, ticket lotteries, and carnival games of chance.

### **Office of Aboriginal Affairs**

- Gaming on First Nation reserves is governed through agreements between the province and individual First Nations. The Office of Aboriginal Affairs is responsible for the negotiation of these agreements and acts as a liaison between First Nations and government on matters related to gaming.

### **Department of Health and Wellness**

- The Addiction Services Division of the Department of Health and Wellness is responsible for defining core services; the development and review of standards and best practices for service delivery; the development of provincial policy; monitoring and auditing of programs; consultation with service providers in the District Health Authorities (DHAs); the facilitation of provincial program development and research; and the management of the Problem Gambling Help Line (1-888-347-8888).

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- Addiction programs and services are delivered to Nova Scotians through the DHAs. Services span the continuum from prevention, community education, early identification, and referral, to treatment and rehabilitation.

## **Gambling Awareness Nova Scotia (formerly Nova Scotia Gaming Foundation)**

- Gambling Awareness Nova Scotia is a not-for-profit, arms-length government organization that offers funding to Nova Scotia community groups and researchers creating projects in their communities to help address the consequences of gambling problems.
- NSGC and video lottery retailers provide funding to Gambling Awareness Nova Scotia, which was \$0.6 million in 2009-10.
- As part of the 2011 Responsible Gaming Strategy, government announced that Gambling Awareness Nova Scotia would be integrated into the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation.

## **Harness Racing**

- Live harness racing began in Nova Scotia in 1765 and continues today. Last year, three harness racing tracks offered wagering on live and simulcast races at the tracks and at teletheatres throughout the province.