



**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
**Thursday, May 5, 2016**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall Council Chambers**

**Present:** Mayor D. Canfield  
Councillor M. Goss  
Councillor R. McMillan  
Councillor L. Roussin  
Councillor S. Smith  
Councillor C. Wasacase

**Regrets:** Councillor D. Reynard

**Staff:** Karen Brown, CAO  
Heather Kasprick, City Clerk  
Andrew Glasco, Community & Development Services Manager

**Call Meeting to order – Deputy Mayor R. McMillan**

**Public Notices**

Take Notice that as required under Notice By-law #144-2007, Council intends to adopt the following items at this Special Meeting of Council:  
N/A

**Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature thereof**

- i) On Today's Agenda
- ii) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance

**There were none declared.**

**Deputations**

None.

**Items:**

**1. Ontario Lottery and Gaming – Responsible Gaming Update**

Paul Pellizzari, Executive Director of Policy and Social Responsibility for the Ontario Lottery and Gaming introduced his delegation.

The Team present along with Mr. Pellizzari include:

Janine Robinson, Advance Practice Clinician/Educator with the Problem Gambling Institute of Ontario, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Lena Quilty, Independent Scientist at Canadian Association of Mental Health, Addictions Research

Renee Linklater, Director, Aboriginal Engagement and Outreach, Provincial System Support Program, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Shona Hurd, Director of Strategy – Social Responsibility, Ontario Lottery and Gaming

Paul expressed that the delegation was before Council to discuss the work that they have been doing around responsible gambling related to modernization. Modernization program started in 2012, with the change in operating model they have redefined what OLG will be doing in the future. Responsible gambling and all efforts are still their priority. They will still determine direction and set policy and oversight for the facilities. The mandate is grounded in provincial statutes and overseen by AGCO and have government policy program. Facilities must have gold standards for responsible gambling.

He noted that their program has grown significantly. Highlights include: setting policies and programs, training all staff, training methodology, look for signs for problem gambling. The program is delivered to all employees. It does not stop at training as they have to build a culture to ensure they understand. They have taken steps to build a culture in the employees and will take on additional responsibilities with teams of different disciplines.

They believe that if they can prevent problem gambling early on that is what they want. They have been expanding their programs and it is all about people understanding their own behaviours. They are using new technology where there are money limits and time limits right on the slot machines.

The OLG wants to understand what are the risks for an individual community? They want to know what they can do for a specific community to do the best job to prevent before a casino opens.

Janine Robinson, Advance Practice Clinician/Educator with the Problem Gambling Institute of Ontario, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, spoke of the "NOW Program" (Northwestern Ontario Wellness Program). They have had meetings with community stakeholders and are looking at what are some of the program delivery needs. What are some of the research questions – what makes a community resilient, and what are some of the risk factors that may exist. Dr. Linklater is engaged in our community and the work being done is specific to the community. This initiative is the first of its kind. Someone has taken a long look at what the pressures are in the community before the casino comes. Can they provide support for youth? Ways to support program delivery.

Dr. Linklater advised of her role which is to be mindful of impacts and engage in partnerships that they can have. There is a strong element around training, role internally around KMH. Her indigenous research is the relationship pieces and the ethics pieces are in place before we move forward.

Ms. Lena Quilty referenced her priority which is on evidence based information. They want to explore and evaluate the programs and the community needs which are very much linked to service. What kinds of impacts that people are seeing. What can they do to continually optimize efforts they are making? They do not know what will be important to this community, but they are working together to ensure they address each need. Local partnerships and advisors are their priority. They have a valued interest in the local community having input into the development of the program.

Ms. Robinson has been able to implement research in a year. If the community agencies require training and support, they provide that to them.

It was questioned what the prevalence rate for problem gambling was. It was noted that it is between 1 & 3% of the general population. That number is fairly typical.

90% of the players come in for the pure entertainment. Most do not come in because they are professional gamblers or truly believe they are coming in to win. Most of the focus is on the 90% who come in with the entertainment to ensure the thrill is done responsibly.

Mayor and Council thanked the delegation for their information.

Meeting closed at 3:08 p.m.