

Alberta Gaming Research Institute
Annual Report 2007

A Voyage
of the 7Cs



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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

It gives me great pleasure, as Board Chair of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute, to welcome you, our stakeholders, colleagues and other interested readers, to the Seventh Annual Report of the Institute, for the year ending March 31, 2007. This Report reflects the Institute's continued growth and development in the field of gaming research. As it expands its scope to include more strategic and collaborative research, the Institute has increased its reputation both nationally and internationally as a significant and respected contributor to the advancement of gaming knowledge. In this sense we continue to be gratified with the extent to which we are solidifying linkages with national and international research affiliates as well as the recognition and awards given to our researchers at meetings and conferences.

The Institute continues to promote and support research in the four fundamental domains: bio-psychological, sociocultural, economic and public policy. It is pleasing to see many Institute-funded research projects completed and their results made available both within the research communities and to the general public. The information from Year 1 of the largest project

ever funded by the Institute, the "Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project," is being analyzed and promises to provide both beneficial and useful baseline data as it evolves over its five-year mandate. This year, in response to the identified stakeholder priorities, we are initiating a call for a second major study in the field of economics. The stakeholders' meeting is emerging as an increasingly useful feedback and recommendation mechanism for the Institute's work.

I want to acknowledge our researchers, supporters and all those who work with the Institute to make it a success. On behalf of the Board, I confirm our commitment to develop research expertise in all four domains and to continue to sponsor high quality, independent research that best informs Albertans and others of how gambling affects society.



Nady el-Guebaly, MD



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



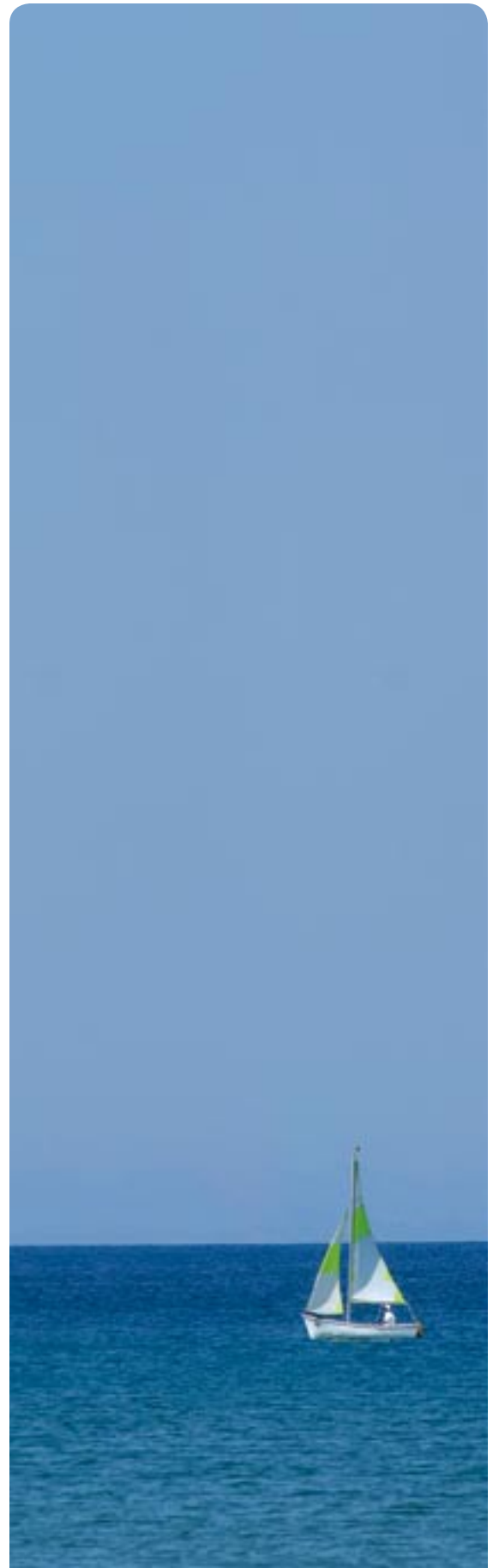
In 2006-07, the Alberta Gaming Research Institute focused on the implementation of the tri-university based research initiative Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle project. Approximately 2,000 Albertans from five age cohorts were recruited to participate in the five-year study. A team of research assistants conducted interviews in Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Grande Prairie over a six-month period. Following the participant recruitment and interviewing phases of the study, preliminary data analysis was commenced. This study promises to provide extensive information on the gambling behavior of Albertans.

Research findings were disseminated by Institute-affiliated researchers through peer-reviewed academic journal articles and scholarly conference presentations; this collaborative effort continued to contribute to a body of broad-based knowledge on gambling and gaming research. Another channel through which research findings were communicated under the Institute's auspices was through its timely and appealing annual conferences. Both 'Social and economic costs and benefits of gambling' (held April 21 & 22, 2006) and 'Addressing Gambling-related Harm through Evidence-based Practices' (held March 30 & 31, 2007) were held within the 2007 fiscal year. The events were well attended and attracted a contingent of international experts and delegates in addition to a number of interested Albertan citizens.

Once again, I acknowledge that Alberta's leading position in the field of gambling research is a tribute to the commitment and dedication of its rapidly expanding network of academic researchers from the partner universities, together with the funding support from the provincial government through the Alberta Lottery Fund.

As always, I extend my appreciation for your endorsement and support of the work of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute. In recognition of the confidence vested in me, I re-affirm my commitment to ensuring that the highest standards of research excellence are maintained. I welcome your comments on this Annual Report, encourage you to attend our future research events and conferences, and look forward to addressing any questions you may have about the Institute's research activities.

Vickii Williams



ABOUT THE ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE:

Vision

An Institute that is internationally recognized for its contribution to the scientific knowledge base in gambling research

Mission

To significantly improve Albertans' knowledge of how gambling affects society

Core Purposes

The focus of the Institute is to facilitate and support excellent academic research that guides the development of effective public policy and contributes to developing the depth and breadth of scientific knowledge.

The Institute's core purposes are:

1. To expand the depth and breadth of scientific knowledge of gaming and gambling in the following four broad-based and overlapping domains:
 - a) Biopsychological and health-care
 - b) Sociocultural
 - c) Economic
 - d) Government and industry policy and practice;
2. To promote or direct research in those priorities and areas identified as part of the Strategic Research plan;
3. To sponsor peer-reviewed research of the highest academic quality and related to emergent gaming activities;
4. To act as a clearing house for gaming research and as a gateway to research materials;
5. To act to facilitate the ready access to, and the development of, the applicable library collections of the Institute universities;
6. To forge strong collaborative links with national and international scholars and organizations involved in gaming/gambling research and studies; and
7. To provide education about current knowledge through research publications and reporting of research results.

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute partners with research-focused organizations and individuals for the purpose of improving knowledge about gambling and gaming practice. Its goals are achieved by improving research

capacity at partner universities, facilitating knowledge transfer, and promoting strategic and collaborative initiatives. Multidisciplinary collaboration occurs within and between the Institute and Alberta's partner universities (i.e., University of Alberta, University of Calgary, and University of Lethbridge) as well as with national and international partners. Varied arrangements allow for research expertise on specific projects and initiatives to be maximized. Research capacity is improved through conference sponsorship support of focused research initiatives, and the dissemination of information through print and electronic media.

The Institute is located at the University of Alberta, where the Institute's Executive Director and administrative staff coordinate the operations of the Institute. The Institute librarian is located at the University of Lethbridge.

Core Businesses

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute has four core businesses:

1. Develop and promote gambling-related research and disseminate results;
2. Develop and sustain gambling-related research infrastructure;
3. Establish and encourage national and international gambling-related research linkages; and,
4. Establish and efficiently conduct gambling-related research governance and administration.

Institute Board

The Institute is governed and managed by a seven member board consisting of two directors appointed by and from each partner university and an 'external member' appointed by the provincial government (department of Solicitor General and Public Security). The Executive Director serves in an advisory role on the Board.

Stakeholder Consultation on Research Priorities

For the purpose of identifying key strategic research priorities and for advising on the Institute's research progress, and as a term of the Government/Universities' funding agreement, an annual stakeholders' meeting is held.



The **7C**^s
of 2007





CREDIBILITY

The Institute ensures a high level of research reliability and credibility through the facilitation of a peer-review process for all funded major research investigations.

The peer review process involves the critical review of research proposals and submitted manuscripts by experts in specific areas of research. This process is of paramount importance in ensuring that only the highest quality research proposals are supported by Institute funding. Further, upon completion of Institute-funded research projects, researchers are encouraged to submit their findings to peer-reviewed academic journals. An indication of the earned credibility of Institute sponsored research projects are the numerous invitations extended to Institute-funded investigators to present scholarly findings at conferences, in refereed journals and edited monographs.

The following major research projects were completed within the 2006-07 fiscal year:

- Validation of the gambling cognitions inventory (#34)
- An exploratory study of the influence of gaming revenue on Alberta amateur sport organizations (#36)

- Investigating the efficacy of 'Gambling decisions': an early intervention program for problem gamblers (#38)
- The structure of impulsivity in pathological gambling (#40)

Major research projects that continued to be active, in process, during the year included:

- A transtheoretical perspective on individual determinants of help-seeking for and change in gambling problems (#35)
- Cue-induced and gambling task related brain activity in pathological gamblers (#39)
- CRAFT (Community Reinforcement and Family Training) with problem gambling (#42)
- The Alberta Lottery Fund and funding amateur sports and recreation: Public awareness and willingness to support (#43)
- Exploring offender gambling from prison through re-entry: A cross-national investigation (#44)
- The effects of ethnicity, participation in gambling and other leisure activities, and leisure satisfaction, on quality of life (#45)
- Culture and gambling: Research on ethno-cultural minorities' involvement (#46)

Small research grants that were active in 2006-07 included:

- Affect regulation expectancies among gamblers (W. Shead)
- Probability discounting among problem gamblers (W. Shead)
- Gambling and risk-taking: Individual differences in risk-acceptance and variance preference (S. Mishra)
- The influence of just world beliefs and personal deprivation on gambling (M. Callan)
- A prospective study on the impact of the placement of gambling casinos in Aboriginal communities in Alberta, Canada (G. Smith)
- Analysis of the impact of online gaming using data mining (H. Leung)
- Examining market efficiency in exotic bets at Hong Kong and Japanese horse tracks (W.D. Walls)

For descriptive information, timelines, and research progress for all Institute-funded research projects, please see the 'Research' webpage on the Institute's website: <http://www.abgaminginstitute.ualberta.ca/research.cfm>.



COLLABORATION

The Institute collaborates with provincial, national and international organizations to facilitate, conduct and promote gambling research.

Since the commencement of the Institute's Strategic Partnership and Collaborative Research Grants program in 2003-04, six major inter-organizational and multi-jurisdictional collaborative research initiatives have been approved for joint or sole funding. Collaborations have been undertaken between researchers from the Institute's member universities and researchers from other academic institutions and agencies (i.e., public and private sectors in national and international locals). These affiliations serve to strengthen the overall quality of results. At the end of fiscal 2006-07, the following five initiatives were active:

1. 'What is a Crime?': Challenges and Alternatives (The Legalization of Gambling and its Consequences: A Cross National Comparison)

[C. Campbell (PI), Dept. of Criminology, Douglas College, New Westminster, BC; G. Smith, Gambling Research Specialist, Government Studies, Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta; T. Hartnagel, Dept. of Sociology, University of Alberta]

Organizational affiliates: Law Commission of Canada (LCC - lead agency); AGRI; OPGRC

Recent changes to the Criminal Code of Canada clearly indicate a transition from criminal prohibition to legalization of specific forms of gambling, as well as a consistent pattern of lesser federal responsibility and greater provincial authority over gambling matters.

Legalization tends to blur public perception about the status of gambling. Some forms of legal gambling behavior, despite their "legal and licensed status," are still nevertheless singled out for social censure independent of the criminal law. As gambling's legal status has been transformed, new forms of deviance associated with gambling have emerged (e.g., "excessive" gambling). Despite an obvious transformation towards greater legalization, crime and gambling are nevertheless still directly linked in numerous ways (e.g., illegal gambling, criminogenic problem gambling, gambling venue crimes, family abuse, and organized crime). This study examined the transformed status of gambling in Canadian society, with particular emphasis on the social, economic and cultural forces that changed the public perception of gambling from a sin, to a vice, to a mode of entertainment. "The Legalization of Gambling and its Consequences: A Cross-National Comparison" study is complete. Results of this study are expected to be published by the University of British Columbia Press in the near future.

2. Measuring Problem Gambling in Adolescent Populations

[J. Wiebe (PI), Research Director, Responsible Gambling Council (Ontario) & Research Associate, CCSA; H. Wynne, Gambling Research Specialist, Wynne Resources, Edmonton, Alberta; R. Stinchfield, Clinical Psychologist & Asst. Prof., Dept. of Psychiatry, University of Minnesota Medical School; H. Skinner, Prof. and Chair, Dept. of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; J. Tremblay, Clinical Researcher, Ubalde-Villeneuve Rehabilitation Centre and ALTO, Quebec; Expert panel - comprising approximately 15 researchers including two Alberta researchers: G. Smith, Gambling Research Specialist, Government Studies, Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta; R. Williams, School of Health Sciences, University of Lethbridge]

Organizational affiliates: CCSA - lead agency; AGRI; Addictions Foundation of Manitoba; Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, Quebec; Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, BC; Nova Scotia Gaming Foundation; OPGRC

An identified and pressing need in the adolescent population called for a carefully developed and validated survey instrument for assessing gambling behavior and identifying problem gambling.

This research project aimed to:

- develop a conceptual framework and operational definition that accurately reflects adolescent gambling; and
- identify and evaluate adolescents experiencing gambling problems using developed instruments used in population surveys

Originally, the instrument was provisionally called the Adolescent Problem Gambling Instrument (APGI); it is now referred to as the Canadian Adolescent Gambling Inventory (CAGI).

This research project was undertaken in two phases over a two-year period. Phase I focused on reconceptualizing the construct, formulating an operational definition of gambling and problem gambling in the adolescent population, and developing a measure or instrument that would identify adolescent problem gamblers. Phase II involved testing the new instrument to determine its reliability and validity in assessing gambling and identifying problem gambling among youth.

This initiative is currently in its final stages; the full report and instrument will be made publicly available upon their completion. Visit the OPGRC website (<http://www.gamblingresearch.org>) for updates.

3. Factors Influencing the Development of Responsible Gambling: A Prospective Study (The "Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecyle Project")

[Research team/Steering Committee: Dr. Nady el-Guebaly, Head, Addiction Centre, Foothills Medical Centre & Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary; D. Hodgins, Professor, Dept. of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Calgary; G. Smith, Gambling Research Specialist, Government Studies, Faculty of Extension & Professor Emeritus, University of Alberta; R. Williams, Professor, Addictions Counselling Program, School of Health Sciences, University of Lethbridge; R. Wood, Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Faculty of Arts, University of Lethbridge; D. Schopflocher, Biostatistician, Health Surveillance, Alberta Health and Wellness & Adjunct Professor, Epidemiology, Dept. of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine & Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Nursing, University of Alberta; V. Williams, Executive Director, AGRI]

Organizational affiliates: AGRI (lead agency)

The project, the largest ever sponsored by the Institute, was undertaken mainly to discover the determinants of gambling and disordered gambling, what factors lead people to gamble in any form, and why some of them become problem gamblers. The project is in its second year of a five-year study that involves 1,800 Albertans from Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie and surrounding

communities, and Lethbridge and surrounding communities. At time one there were three age groups - adolescents, adults, and seniors, of both genders. At the beginning of the study there were five distinct age cohorts: 13-to-15-year-olds; 18-to-20-year-olds; 23-to-25-year olds; 43-to-45-year-olds; and 63-to-65-year-olds. Using the process of random-digit dialing (RDD), the research team recruited non-gamblers, social gamblers, and at-risk gamblers to participate in the study. Measures of expenditure on and frequency of gambling were used to help identify individuals who were at greater risk for developing gambling problems. All 1,800 participants will be contacted for regular follow-up over the next four years; to allow participants greater convenience, the contact process will be primarily web-based assessments. A candidate gene sub-study will also be completed as part of the larger study of gambling. Researchers will attempt to identify genes that are associated with problem gambling. The benefit of including a genetic sub-study is that the effect can be examined of a gene on behavior before and after gambling problems develop.

The following questions were developed as the basis of the study, the answers to which would be reached through the collection and analysis of data from each cohort group over the length of the project:

1. What is the prevalence of gambling behaviors (type, range and degree of involvement) across the life cycle and in both genders?
2. What are the patterns of continuity and discontinuity (including incidence) in gambling behaviors, as well as patterns of recovery from problems?
3. What behavior patterns constitute responsible or problem gambling?
4. What is the impact on the various age cohorts of the changes that will occur within five years in gambling legislation, public attitudes and availability of preventative programs?
5. What are the biopsychosocial variables (risk and resilience) predicting the spectrum of gambling behaviors from responsible to problematic?

The researchers suggest that the development of a comprehensive biopsychosocial model of gambling behavior will clarify the study's principal questions, as well as questions relating to the impact of gambling availability, legislative initiatives, and prevention programs on the development of problem and responsible gambling. They also hope to determine how all of these vary as a function of age and gender. The answers will have the potential to inform effective educational and legislative initiatives to maximize the benefits of gambling and minimize its harmful aspects. The Alberta cohort study has already attracted

national interest. Using the Alberta design, similar cohort studies are at various stages of planning in Manitoba and Ontario. For more information about the "Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle Project," contact Dr. David Casey, Project Coordinator, at dcasey@ucalgary.ca.

4. Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI) Update

Organizational affiliates: Inter-provincial Steering Committee (advisory); OPGRC - fund administration; CCSA- operating agency; provincial bodies that fund gambling research in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia in addition to the AGRI. Project consultants: Healthy Horizons Consulting.

In February 2001, a new instrument was launched to measure the prevalence of gambling and problem gambling in the general population. The Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI), introduced under the aegis of the CCSA on behalf of a consortium of provinces, was developed to provide a more accurate measure than other existing instruments. CPGI provides a more holistic view of gambling, including more indicators of social context, and allows for degrees of problem severity. Other instruments were constructed using clinical samples of problem gamblers who are known to be different from problem gamblers in the general population. As a result, CPGI provides greater distinction among gambling subtypes and should improve our understanding of the progressions from low-risk to problem gambling.

Since its launch four years ago, CPGI has been used in most Canadian provinces and in several countries, including Queensland and Victoria in Australia, Denmark and Iceland. A number of researchers have, therefore, gained significant experience and insight in the use of the CPGI. If pooled, this base of experience could be used to assess the instrument's performance in meeting its objectives and pave the way to possible refinement.

In the process of using the CPGI, several principal investigators have gained substantial experience in the use of the CPGI. The Funding Partners anticipated that this researcher base would provide valuable feedback on the instrument's performance in meeting its objectives, and would provide a strong basis for refining the instrument.

The citation for the CPGI review report is:

McCready, J., & Adlaf, E. (2006). *Performance and enhancement of the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI): Report and recommendations*. Healthy Horizons Consulting [completed in 2006-07].

5. Social and Economic Impact of Gambling

Organizational affiliates: Interprovincial Steering Committee (advisory); OPGRC – fund administration; CCSA - operating agency; provincial bodies that fund gambling research in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, and AGRI, Dr. Mark Anielski, Principal Investigator; other researchers.

In September 2000, an international symposium was held in Whistler, BC to discuss issues involved in estimating the social and economic impact of gambling. The meeting was organized by the CCSA in partnership with a number of provinces, including Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Quebec and Ontario.

Following the Whistler Symposium, an Interprovincial Oversight Committee composed of representatives of provincial agencies responsible for addressing gambling issues and the CCSA was convened to plan next steps and secure the necessary funding for implementation. The end result is the current SEIG initiative. Its short-term goal (i.e., open-ended two-year time frame) is to evolve the existing methodology to a point where it can be presented as a set of *draft international guidelines for impact estimation*, along with a research agenda that identifies the data requirements for implementation. Medium-term goals are to undertake the identified research in order to: establish the required Canadian and international data sets; develop preliminary formulas for attribution fractions; develop and test the guidelines in different settings; and refine the model accordingly. In the longer term, the goal is to apply the newly developed impact estimation methodology to comprehensive cost benefit analyses of gambling in various jurisdictions.

Plans have been developed to: review existing methodology; identify required data sets; identify research activities required to support SEIG; draft a preliminary methodology; promote the investigation of causality connections between gambling and associated outcomes; and stage a meeting to produce a first draft of the guidelines.

As of March 2007, the initial phases of this project were nearing completion, with a draft report having been distributed for review by the Interprovincial Oversight Committee as well as an Expert Panel. The final report is expected to be posted by Fall 2007. Planning for follow-up steps to the project are continuing.



COOPERATION

The Institute ensures that activities related to its governance and operations are shared amongst the three participating Alberta universities.

Services that contribute to the operations of the Institute are shared equitably amongst the Institutes' board members and collegiate research representatives. Node coordinators at each partner university coordinate and promote gambling research activities. They frequently work together on research initiatives (e.g., Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle project) and, on a rotational basis, organize the Institute's annual conference program.

The University of Alberta houses the Institute's administrative office. In addition, the Institute's website is hosted by Creative Services at the University of Alberta. The University of Calgary provides and operates the Institute's Institutional Repository (DSpace) while the University of Lethbridge coordinates the library and provides reference services on behalf of the Institute.



CONSULTATION

The Institute solicits input from a representative group of provincial stakeholders to assist in the prioritization of gambling-related strategic research priorities.

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute's second stakeholder meeting was held on March 29, 2007 at the Banff Centre. Members from various constituencies, including treatment agency, policy maker, youth, research agency, gaming industry, law enforcement and the general public were invited to join Institute Board members for a strategic priority identification deliberation. In addition to other relevant research that is currently underway, the following strategic initiatives were confirmed as being of continuing importance from the initial (August 2005) stakeholder meeting and recommended for attention as funding and research expertise permits.

Biopsychosocial:

- Consult and liaise with the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC) for, among other topics, the purpose of translating research findings into policy and practice recommendations
- Include prevalence research within broader research topics
- Commission a literature review on specific areas of Neurobiology

Sociocultural:

- Commission a literature review on risk behaviors including gambling
- Examine the possibility of jointly (with other stakeholder agencies) commissioning a study of Albertans' attitudes and risk behavior focusing on children and adolescents

Economic:

- Issue a Request for Research Proposal on the 'Social and economic impacts of gambling in Alberta'

Public Policy:

- Adopt the Reno Model to address the disconnect between research data and public perspectives
- Recommend that the theme of AGRI 2008 conference focus on gambling policies

Institute invited to participate at Symposium Session on Centers & Institutes in Lake Tahoe

May 26, 2006

On behalf of the Institute, Dr. Garry Smith attended the 13th International Conference on Gambling and Risk-taking in Lake Tahoe and presented highlights pertaining to the accomplishments and initiatives of the Institute.

New Zealand Think Tank

September 11 & 12, 2006

Ms. Vickii Williams, Executive Director and Dr. David Hodgins, Professor of Clinical Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Calgary participated in the 3rd Annual International Think Tank on Presenting Gambling Populations and First Contact Services as representatives of the Institute. The event was co-hosted by the Gambling Research Centre, Auckland University of Technology and the Gambling Helpline New Zealand.

The Institute's Board Chair presented in Madrid, Spain & Oporto Portugal

September 27 - 30, 2006

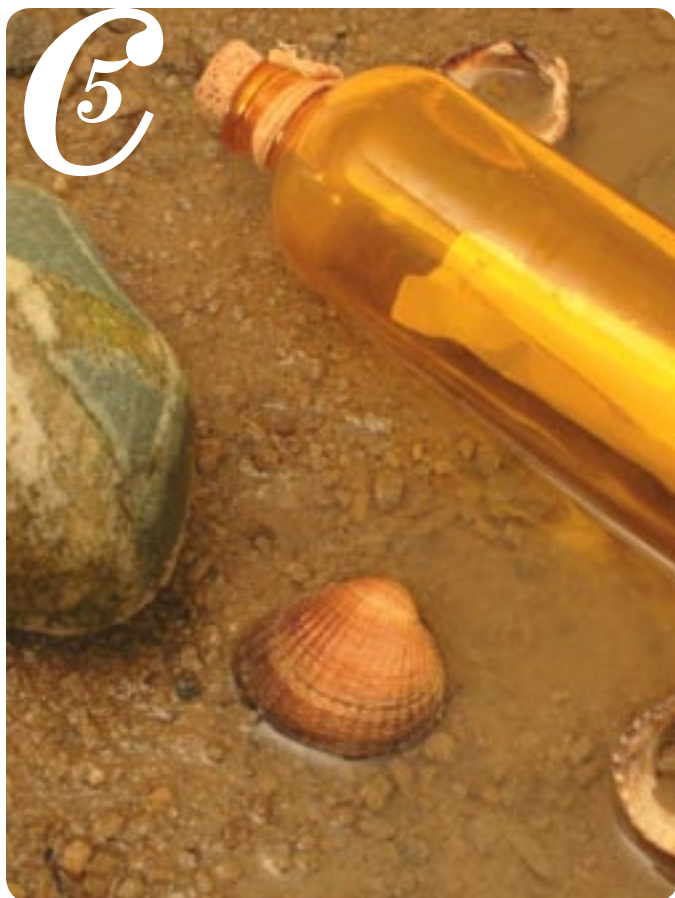
Dr. Nady el-Guebaly, Board Chair, was invited by Fundacion Guadium of Madrid, Spain to be the plenary speaker on the topic "Management of Problem Gambling: Therapeutic Options" for the Organization of Responsible Gambling in Spain and subsequently to chair a symposium and make a presentation at the International Society of Addiction Medicine Annual Meeting in Oporto Portugal.

Nova Scotia's Responsible Gambling Conference

October 2 & 3, 2006

At the invitation of the Nova Scotia Gaming Foundation, Institute Executive Director, Ms. Vickii Williams, addressed the topic "Filling the Research Gap: The Role of Academic Research in Promoting Socially Responsible Gambling" in her presentation.





COMMUNICATION

The Institute communicates the results of its funded research investigations through a series of coordinated research dissemination initiatives.

The Institute contributes to the expanding knowledge base through the funding of research investigations that serve to inform the broader research community as well as the general public. Throughout the course of 2006-07, Institute-funded researchers have published on a variety of scholarly topics. Following is a list of related academic publications (articles, chapters and reports):

Belanger, Y. (2006). *Gambling with the future: The evolution of aboriginal gaming*. Saskatoon, SK: Purich.

Blue Thorn Research, Population Health Promotion Associates, & Williams, R. J. (2006). *Determining socio-economic impacts of new gaming venues in four lower mainland communities*. First impact measures report. Report submitted to the British Columbia Lottery Corporation. May 2006.

Currie, S. R., Hodgins, D. C., Wang, J., el-Guebaly, N., Wynne, H., & Chen, S. (2006). Risk of harm among gamblers in the general population as a function of level of participation in gambling activities. *Addiction*, 101(4), 570-580.

Hodgins, D. C., Mansley, C., & Thygesen, K. (2006). Risk factors for suicide ideation and attempts among pathological gamblers. *American Journal on Addictions*, 15(4), 303-310.

Hodgins, D. C., Peden, N., & Cassidy, E. (2005). The association between comorbidity and outcome in pathological gambling: A prospective follow-up of recent quitters. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 21(3), 255-271.

McCready, J., & Adlaf, E. (2006). *Performance and enhancement of the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI): Report and recommendations*. Healthy Horizons Consulting.

Nixon, G., Leigh, G., & Nowatzki, N. (2006). Impacting attitudes towards gambling: A prison gambling awareness and prevention program. *Journal of Gambling Issues*, 17.

Nixon, G., Solowoniuk, J., & McGowan, V. (2006). The counterfeit hero's journey of the pathological gambler: A phenomenological hermeneutics investigation. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, 4(3), 217-232.

Robson, E., Edwards, J., Smith, G., & Newman, S. (2006). *Investigating the efficacy of the Gambling Decisions program in three Alberta communities: Report of the one year community trial*. Edmonton, AB: Capital Health, Public Health.

Walker, G. J., Courneya, K., & Deng, J. (2006). Ethnicity, gender, and the theory of planned behavior: The case of playing the lottery. *Journal of Leisure Research*, 38(2), 224-248.

Walker, G. J., & Hinch, T. D. (2006). Segmenting casino tourists by mode of experience. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 33(2), 568-571.

Walker, M., Toneatto, T., Potenza, M. N., Petry, N., Ladouceur, R., Hodgins, D. C., el-Guebaly, N., Echeburua, E., & Blaszczynski, A. (2006). A framework for reporting outcomes in problem gambling treatment research: The Banff, Alberta Consensus. *Addiction*, 101(4), 504-511.

Williams, DJ, & Hinton, M. L. (2006). Leisure, prison culture, or victimization? Sex offenders report on prison gambling. *Victims and Offenders*, 1, 175-192.

Williams, R. J. & Connolly, D. (2006). Does learning about the mathematics of gambling change gambling behavior? *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 20(1), 62-68.

Following is a list of content included in 2006-07 from the Institute newsletter, *Gambling Research Reveals - An update on gambling research in Alberta*:

Issue 3, Volume 6 - February / March 2007

Delinquency among student gamblers: A laboratory investigation / My experience with the leisure, lifestyle, lifecycle project: From the desk of a research assistant

Issue 2, Volume 6 - December / January 2007

Conference 2007 to address gambling-related harm through evidence-based practices / Community reinforcement and family training (CRAFT) for families of problem gamblers: An interview with Nicole Peden

Issue 1, Volume 6 - October / November 2006

5-year funding agreement for Institute / The transformative journey of the pathological gambler / New board member appointed: Dr. Daniel Mason

Issue 6, Volume 5 - August / September 2006

The "Leisure, Lifestyle, Lifecycle" project: A progress report

Issue 5, Volume 5 - June / July 2006

Summaries of presentations from the 5th Annual Alberta Conference on Gambling Research

Issue 4, Volume 5 - April / May 2006

Civic morality and gambling: An intersection of past and present



CAPACITY BUILDING

The Institute utilizes a variety of programs and initiatives to ensure that adequate research infrastructure and expertise as well as scholarly resources and materials are available to researchers undertaking groundbreaking research investigations.

Each year, the Institute allocates funds to each of the member universities to support gambling-related research and acquisition of research resources. Capacity building funds support Node Coordinator positions at each of the three universities and the Institute Librarian. Each of the Institute universities are responsible for reporting directly to the Institute regarding the expenditure of funds on a bi-annual basis (mid-April and mid-October).

University of Calgary

Node Coordinator: Dr. David Hodgins (M.A., Ph.D., Queens)

During 2006-07, Dr. Hodgins actively researched and published in the area of gambling treatment. He supervised a number of doctoral and undergraduate students. His research focus continued to be in the process of recovery (i.e., the prevention of problem gambling relapse).

He served on many academic journal editorial boards and received the 2006 National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) research award, which is given annually for “the best contributing and original research on problem and pathological gambling”.

Gambling research activity at the University of Calgary

- 19 funded researchers from 9 different disciplines
- Sponsored student involvement in AGRI conference
- Monthly research group meetings on Addiction Research and Education with 15 participants
- 3 undergraduate students and 3 graduate students working on AGRI funded projects
- 3 external awards conferred to graduate students
- Invited to conduct clinical workshops in Auckland, New Zealand & Adelaide, Australia

University of Alberta

Node Coordinator: Dr. Garry Smith (B.P.E., Alberta; M.A., Western Ontario; Ph.D., Alberta)

Dr. Smith has researched gambling-related topics for more than twenty years. In 2006-07, he continued to maintain an international network with gambling researchers, perform consultation work, and serve as an expert witness on matters regarding gambling and ethics. Dr. Smith served as a member of three expert review panels, reviewed articles for several academic journals and was a principle investigator on two AGRI research projects. He supervised two graduate students and taught a senior undergraduate course on Gambling as a Social and Cultural Phenomenon. He was a frequent media commentator on national and local area broadcasts on various gambling public policy issues.

Gambling research activity at the University of Alberta

- 21 researchers (faculty and students) from 10 disciplines
- Approximately 80 media interviews conducted (broadcast and print)
- Course offered at senior undergraduate level ('Gambling in Canadian society')
- Numerous academic presentations
- Expert witness testimony and panel participation
- Proposal and article reviews completed by researchers for academic institutions and scholarly journals

University of Lethbridge

Node Coordinator: Dr. Robert Williams (B.A., Ph.D., McMaster, CPsych)

Dr. Williams has occupied the position of node coordinator since January 2001. During fiscal year 2006-07, his research interests continued to be diverse and follow several areas of gambling. He was involved in six different gambling research projects. He also supervised an AGRI research associate who is completing a master's degree in the area of gambling research and continued to make various gambling-focused presentations at conferences, public forums and for the media.

Gambling research activity at the University of Lethbridge

- 17 Faculty/Students engaged in gambling-related research
- 13 gambling-related articles submitted for publication and/or published
- 5 presentations at conferences or public forums within Canada (3 in Banff, 1 in Edmonton and Toronto)
- Several print and television media reports, some regarding Aboriginals' gambling habits
- Bev West, M.Sc. candidate working on thesis entitled Strategic Contingency Management to Enhance Treatment Outcomes for Problem Gamblers. She occupies the position of AGRI's research associate
- Component on gambling studies incorporated into three Native American Studies (NAS 100 - Introduction to Native American Studies; NAS 2500 - Canadian Indian History; NAS 2800 - Native American Politics) course offered to 19, 25, and 21 students respectively

Institute Library Collections and Clearinghouse

Funding is allocated on an annual basis to the University of Lethbridge Library to provide library and web site services for the Institute.

The Library Service involves the development of comprehensive collections of materials published on gambling and gambling-related topics. Purchases include books, print journals, e-journals, government documents, audio-visual materials, graduate student theses, conference proceedings, etc. Each of the three university libraries receive funding to select, acquire and process relevant materials. In addition, a librarian at the University of Lethbridge provides in-depth reference services to researchers and the general public. These services include responding to requests for information, the development of bibliographies, guides, newsletter creation, and literature reviews. Over the course of 2006-07, the Institute Librarian responded to 157 detailed information requests.

The Web Site Service involves the development and maintenance of the Institute's web site and other innovative online applications (e.g., Gambling Literature Database, DSpace Repository of Gambling Materials, etc.). The Institute web site is a key location for the dissemination of information about the Institute and its work. Included on the site is a vast array of material related to finding and using scholarly gambling research. As of March 31, 2007, there were approximately 1,500 documents included in the Gambling Literature Database online collection and 302 "full-text" items in the DSpace online collection.



COST ACCOUNTABILITY

The operations of the Institute are administered in a way that is effective, efficient and transparent.

As in the previous fiscal years of the Institute's existence, cost accountability received continuous and serious attention and oversight. Only peer-reviewed and endorsed research projects are approved for funding by the Institute. Bi-annual narrative and financial progress reports continue to be required for each of the Institute-funded research grants as well as from the partner universities for the awarded capacity-building funds. Following Board review and approval, current information on the status of the research projects is posted on the Institute website. The annual audit by the Office of the Auditor General (see enclosed 'Report of the Auditor General' and 'Financial Statements') further ensures that the most rigorous standards are enforced in conducting the business of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute.

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT MARCH 31, 2007

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute

I have audited the statement of financial position of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute as at March 31, 2007 and the statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Institute's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Institute as at March 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Edmonton, Alberta

July 27, 2007

*Original Signed by
Fred J. Dunn, FCA*

Auditor General

Note: The official version of this Report of the Auditor General, and the information the Report covers, is in printed form.

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2007

	2007	2006
Assets		
Cash (Note 4)	\$ 3,028,501	\$ 3,497,431
Accounts receivable (Note 5)	-	3,067
Prepaid expenses	-	2,025
Capital assets (Note 6)	2,330	375
	<u>\$ 3,030,831</u>	<u>\$ 3,502,898</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 23,006	\$ 120,138
	<u>23,006</u>	<u>120,138</u>
Net Assets		
Net assets at beginning of year	3,382,760	3,613,262
Net operating results	(374,935)	(230,502)
Net assets at end of year	<u>3,007,825</u>	<u>3,382,760</u>
	<u>\$ 3,030,831</u>	<u>\$ 3,502,898</u>

The accompanying notes and schedule are part of these financial statements.

Approved by the board:

<u>Original signed by N. el-Guebaly</u>	<u>Chair, AGRI Board</u>	<u>Aug 24, 2007</u>
Signature	Position	Date
<u>Original signed by S. Murphy</u>	<u>External Board Member</u>	<u>Aug 24, 2007</u>
Signature	Position	Date

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

	2007 Budget (Note 11)	2007 Actual	2006 Actual
Revenues			
Contributions from the Department of Solicitor General/Gaming	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Interest and Other Revenue	35,000	84,667	51,661
Total Revenues	1,535,000	1,584,667	1,551,661
Expenses (Schedule 1)			
Research	2,020,000	1,449,558	1,314,682
Infrastructure and Library	220,000	241,258	211,207
Research Linkages	65,000	47,302	38,701
Research Administration	230,000	221,484	217,573
Total Expenses	2,535,000	1,959,602	1,782,163
Net Operating Results	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ (374,935)	\$ (230,502)

The accompanying notes and schedule are part of these financial statements.

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

	2007	2006
Operating Transactions		
Contributions from the Department of Solicitor General/Gaming	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 3,000,000
Interest and Other Revenue	84,667	51,661
Research Expenditures	(1,566,550)	(1,182,975)
Infrastructure and Library Expenditures	(222,227)	(227,434)
Research Linkages Expenditures	(42,682)	(38,701)
Research Administration Expenditures	(219,742)	(211,469)
Cash Flows used in Operating Transactions	(466,534)	1,391,082
Capital Transactions		
Purchase of capital assets	(2,396)	-
Cash Flows used in Capital Transactions	(2,396)	-
Net Cash (Used) Provided	(468,930)	1,391,082
Cash, Beginning of Year	3,497,431	2,106,349
Cash, End of Year	\$ 3,028,501	\$ 3,497,431

The accompanying notes and schedule are part of these financial statements.

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2007

Note 1 Authority and Reporting Entity

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute (the Institute) is an unincorporated organization. It is a research consortium comprised of the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, and the University of Lethbridge (the Institute Universities). Relations between the Institute and the Government of Alberta are defined in an Agreement between the Institute Universities and the Alberta Government dated April 1, 2006. The Institute is directed by a Board comprised of seven members including two appointees (senior administrators and researchers) from each of the three Institute Universities in addition to a representative who is appointed by the Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security (previously Minister of Gaming). As a result of restructuring of government ministries announced on December 13, 2006, the responsibilities of the Ministry of Gaming for the Institute have been transferred to the Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Security.

As required under the Agreement, the Institute reporting entity for the purpose of these financial statements is that portion of Institute operations funded by the Department of Solicitor General and Public Security (2005-06: Department of Gaming). The Institute Universities contribute certain services and supplies, including research and administrative personnel and services, to the consortium. The fair value of these contributions, and the cost of these services and supplies, is not reflected in these financial statements.

Note 2 Purpose

The purpose of the Institute is to:

- expand the breadth and depth of scientific knowledge into gambling;
- provide education about current knowledge through research publications and reporting of research results;
- provide research related to emergent gaming activities;
- act as a clearinghouse for literature related to gambling research; and,
- forge strong collaborative links with national and international scholars and organizations involved in gaming/gambling research and studies.

Note 3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

REVENUE

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Cash received for which goods or services have not been provided by year end is recorded as deferred revenue and included in accounts payable.

EXPENSES

Grants are recorded as expenses when all the terms and conditions of eligibility have been met and the Institute has authorized payment of the grant.

ASSETS

Capital assets are recorded at historical cost less accumulated amortization. Capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives at the following annual rates:

Furniture and equipment 20%

Computer equipment 33 1/3%

Leasehold improvements Over lease term (2 years)

LIABILITIES

Liabilities represent all financial claims payable by the Institute at the fiscal year end.

NET ASSETS

Net assets represent the difference between the book value of assets held by the Institute and its liabilities.

FAIR VALUE

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act. Due to their short-term nature, the fair values of cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities are estimated to approximate their book values.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Intellectual property rights with respect to all research conducted with the financial support, or under the auspices, of the Institute are governed by the policies of the Institute University with which the researcher is affiliated. These rights do not accrue directly to the Institute and are not recognized in these financial statements. The Government of Alberta and the Institute Universities are entitled to freely use and copy, other than for commercial purposes, any intellectual property so created.

Note 4 Cash

Cash is held in trust by the University of Alberta and consists of short-term investments comprised primarily of certificates of deposit, guaranteed investment certificates, government treasury bills and commercial paper with a maturity between 90 days and one year. Interest earned on the Institute's cash balance is credited to the Institute and is reflected in these statements. For the 2007 fiscal year ending March 31, 2007, the average effective yield was 2.95% (2006: 1.64%). Due to the short-term nature of the investments, the carrying value approximates fair value.

Note 5 Accounts Receivable

	2007	2006
Due from Institute Universities	\$ -	\$ 3,067

In the prior year, accounts receivable were unsecured and non-interest bearing.

Note 6 Capital Assets

	2007			2006
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Furniture and equipment	\$ 1,222	\$ 1,222	\$ -	\$ -
Computer equipment	6,896	4,566	2,330	375
Leasehold improvements	9,566	9,566	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 17,684</u>	<u>\$ 15,354</u>	<u>\$ 2,330</u>	<u>\$ 375</u>

Note 7 Grants to Institute Universities

Grants are provided to the Institute Universities for capacity building, nodal research development, library and collections, and research node administration for gaming related operations. The following table provides an accounting for the grant funds received, and amounts spent by the Institute Universities, to the year-end. Any unspent funds held by an Institute University at the conclusion of these programs or activities will be returned to the Institute.

	2007				2006
	University of Alberta	University of Calgary	University of Lethbridge	Total	Total
Opening balance	<u>\$ 198,840</u>	<u>\$ 118,531</u>	<u>\$ 107,278</u>	<u>\$ 424,649</u>	<u>\$ 406,092</u>
Funding					
Capacity building	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000	300,000
Nodal research development	30,000	30,000	30,000	90,000	90,000
Library and collections	-	-	160,000	160,000	160,000
Research node administration	15,000	15,000	15,000	45,000	45,000
	<u>145,000</u>	<u>145,000</u>	<u>305,000</u>	<u>595,000</u>	<u>595,000</u>
Total Funding Available	343,840	263,531	412,278	1,019,649	1,001,092
Actual Expenditures	<u>(104,925)</u>	<u>(142,379)</u>	<u>(299,407)</u>	<u>(546,711)</u>	<u>(576,443)</u>
Unexpended Funds	<u>\$ 238,915</u>	<u>\$ 121,152</u>	<u>\$ 112,871</u>	<u>\$ 472,938</u>	<u>\$ 424,649</u>

The balance of unexpended funds represents funding for new and continuing projects.

Note 8 Commitments

The Institute has the following commitments:

Year	Research Grants ^(a)	Lease ^(b)	Economics position ^(c)	Total
2008	891,364	-	85,000	976,364
2009	113,940	-	85,000	198,940
2010 - 2011	100,000	-	425,000	525,000
Total	\$ 1,105,304	\$ -	\$ 595,000	\$ 1,700,304

(a) RESEARCH GRANTS

The Institute has three types of granting programs. In response to an annual call for proposals for major grants (maximum of \$80,000/annum for up to three years to total of \$160,000) and open application period for small (developmental) grants (maximum of \$10,000 for up to one year), the Board approves researcher identified initiatives.

Upon approval of a major or small research grant and receipt of confirmation of any necessary ethics or other approvals from the host Institute University's Research Services Office, the Institute authorizes payment of 80% of the first year approved award. The remaining 20% is withheld pending satisfactory interim reporting by the principal investigator/researcher. For these types of awards extending beyond one year, authorization of subsequent period amounts is subject to satisfactory reporting and funding availability. Commitments for these awards include the balance of the approved grant awards, subsequent period amounts, and any other approved grant requests for which the researcher has not yet met all of the eligibility criteria.

(b) LEASE

The Institute entered into a lease with the University of Alberta for the period July 1, 2003 to March 31, 2006. To increase accessibility and accommodate the increased business activity of the Institute, effective April 1, 2004, the lease was transferred (with no penalty) to a new campus location (\$12,818/annum payable at \$1,068/month with first and last month of lease due on April 1, 2004). The Letter of Understanding regarding this move was signed on January 22, 2004 and necessary space improvements and computer technical changes were contracted. The Institute renewed the lease for the period April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007 (with a four-year renewal option), with the same terms and conditions. The Institute renewed the lease for an additional one year period April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008 (with renewal options on an annual basis for three years).

(c) ECONOMICS CHAIR

Subject to specific conditions being met, on March 24, 2004, the Board approved a total of \$595,000 payable at the rate of \$85,000/annum for seven years to support the establishment of a research position in the Department of Economics at the University of Alberta.

Note 9 Economic Dependence

The Institute receives its principal funding from the Department of Solicitor General and Public Security (previously Department of Gaming). The five year agreement between the Alberta Government and the Institute which expires March 31, 2011 provides funding of \$1,500,000 per annum. The Institute's ability to maintain viable operations is dependent upon

continued support from the Alberta Government. Permission has been obtained from the Department of Solicitor General and Public Security to continue the trust account until March 31, 2011.

Note 10 Related Party Transactions

During the year, the Institute authorized a deposit of \$14,543 to the research account of a Board member, in the capacity of principal researcher. A balance amount of \$30,662 was returned to the Institute from a grant account of the same Board member for a research project that was completed under-budget.

Note 11 Budget

The revised 2006/07 budget was approved by the Institute's Board of Directors on February 16, 2006.

**ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES**

Schedule 1

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007

	2007 Budget	2007 Actual	2006 Actual
Research			
Grant competition/strategic research (1)	\$ 1,580,000	\$ 1,010,556	\$ 879,627
Position and developmental funding (2)	350,000	349,002	345,055
Nodal research development (3)	90,000	90,000	90,000
	<u>2,020,000</u>	<u>1,449,558</u>	<u>1,314,682</u>
Infrastructure and Library			
Library and collections (4)	160,000	160,000	160,000
Events, colloquia (5)	15,000	36,258	6,207
Research nodes (6)	45,000	45,000	45,000
	<u>220,000</u>	<u>241,258</u>	<u>211,207</u>
Research Linkages			
Communications (7)	45,000	29,670	34,685
Exchanges (8)	20,000	17,632	4,016
	<u>65,000</u>	<u>47,302</u>	<u>38,701</u>
Research Administration			
Personnel costs (9)	170,000	156,410	149,277
Contract services (10)	10,000	--	-
Administrative hub (11)	50,000	65,074	68,296
	<u>230,000</u>	<u>221,484</u>	<u>217,573</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 2,535,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,959,602</u>	<u>\$ 1,782,163</u>

Note 1 Includes annual research grant competition and Board identified areas of strategic, interjurisdictional, and interorganizational collaborative research.

Note 2 Grants to Institute Universities (\$100,000/university/year) to attract research scholars, small grant developmental funding and support (\$85,000 held centrally) for targeted position (economics).

Note 3 Grants to Institute Universities (\$30,000/university/year) to develop internal research expertise.

Note 4 Grant to the University of Lethbridge to build and maintain a special collection of gambling publications at the consortium universities. The grant also provides funding for specialized information services to interested parties on gambling and gaming matters, development and maintenance of the Institute website, and funding for a junior grade professional librarian.

Note 5 Supports program of formative and summative learning events and forums. Includes cost of an annual conference bringing together Institute associates, topical experts, and other interested persons.

Note 6 Costs associated with administering node operations including local/rotating board meetings, internal and administrative support.

Note 7 Includes print materials and promotional broadcasts, annual report development, writing and production costs, and conference attendance by Institute representatives to facilitate information dissemination.

Note 8 Includes support for Alberta scholars and experts to travel to other locales to investigate gambling-related matters as well as the travel of national and foreign scholars and experts to Alberta to assist with Institute research.

Note 9 Salary and benefits compensation (Executive Director and administrative support).

Note 10 Special project consulting (eg., document drafting, graphic design work).

Note 11 Includes business and board members meeting travel, hub operational requirements.

ALBERTA GAMING RESEARCH INSTITUTE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006-07



Murphy, Mrs. Sheila ▲

Mrs. Sheila Murphy serves as an ex-officio Director of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute. Previously, she served on the University of Calgary Senate (1990-1996) as well as the Air Cadet League of Canada and Cubs and Scouts of Canada Society. She owned and operated the Henderson Colleges of Business from 1972 to 1997.

Division, Department of Psychiatry at the University of Calgary. He is also the medical founding director of the addictions program located at the Foothills Medical Centre. His introduction to mental health and addiction medicine dates back to 1969. Currently, he is Chair, Addiction Psychiatry Section of the World Psychiatric Association; and Executive Medical Director and Past-Founding President of the International Society of Addiction Medicine. He has served on the Institute's Board since it was established in 1999 and as its Board Chair since July 2002.



Greenshaw, Dr. Andrew (Andy) ▲

Andrew Greenshaw was appointed Associate Vice-President (Research) at the University of Alberta beginning January 2004. He completed his Ph.D. in Psychology (Behavioral Pharmacology) in 1982 at University College Cardiff, University of Wales. In 1983, he was appointed to the faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Alberta. He has an extensive background in research administration and post-graduate education within the Department of Psychiatry and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. He has served as a Director on the Institute Board since May 2004.



el-Guebaly, Dr. Nady ▲

Nady el-Guebaly is Professor and Head, Addictions

Hosgood, Dr. Christopher (Chris) - no photo

Chris Hosgood is Dean of the School of Health Sciences at the University of Lethbridge and a member of the Department of History. His research has focused on consumerism and popular culture in Victorian Britain and, more recently in Canada, the social history of gambling in Alberta. He has served on the Institute Board since December 2001.

**Mason, Dr. Daniel (Dan)**

Dan Mason was welcomed as a Institute Board Director starting July 2006. Dan is an associate professor with the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and an adjunct professor with the School of Business at the University of Alberta. Dr. Mason's research takes a multi-disciplinary approach and focuses on the business of leisure and sport and the relationships between its stakeholders, including all levels of government, sports teams and leagues, the communities that host teams, agents and players' associations. His research has been funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Alberta Gaming Research Institute and he has authored over 30 refereed publications.

**Peers, Dr. Douglas (Doug)**

In fiscal year 2006-07, Doug Peers served as Associate Dean of Research and Development in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Calgary. He has spent a number of years working on research policy and the mentoring of new researchers at the University of Calgary as well as through various granting agencies, most recently the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. He has served on the Institute Board since November 2004.

Fitzpatrick, Dr. Dennis - no photo

Dennis Fitzpatrick is the Vice President for Research at the University of Lethbridge. He is a biological scientist by training, holding degrees in biological sciences, nutrition and biochemistry. His research program focused on the environment, nutrition and human health. He maintained an active research program for over twenty years conducting research in two major areas, nutrition toxicology and Andean Foods Systems. He has served as a Board Director, including as Vice-Chair, since the inception of the Institute (1999).

Szostak, Dr. Richard (Rick) - no photo

Rick Szostak completed his three-year position as a Director on the Institute Board at the end of June 2006. His expertise and research contribution was a welcome asset to the Institute. He is the author of eight books and over twenty scholarly articles, all of which have an interdisciplinary nature. He served on the Institute Board, including as Audit Committee Chair, since June 2001.

Williams, Ms. Vickii - no photo

Vickii Williams has served as the Executive Director of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute since its inception and serves in an ex officio advisory capacity on the Institute Board. She represents the Institute on a number of inter-organizational and inter-jurisdictional planning bodies for collaborative research initiatives.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006-07 Quick Reference

Dr. Nady el-Guebaly, MD

Board Chair
Medical Director,
Addictions Program,
Calgary Health Region

Professor & Head,
Addictions Division,
Faculty of Medicine,
University of Calgary

Dr. Dennis Fitzpatrick

Board Vice-Chair
Vice-President (Research)
University of Lethbridge

Dr. Chris Hosgood

Dean, School of Health Sciences
University of Lethbridge

Dr. Andrew Greenshaw

Associate Vice-President (Research)
University of Alberta

Dr. Doug Peers

Associate Dean
Research & Development
Faculty of Social Sciences
University of Calgary

Dr. Rick Szostak (To June 30 , 2006)

Professor
Department of Economics
Faculty of Arts
University of Alberta

Dr. Dan Mason (Appointed July 1, 2006)

Associate Professor
Physical Education and Recreation Faculty
University of Alberta

Mrs. Sheila Murphy

External Member



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