

TO: CITY MANAGER

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: 17.812

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED GAMING FACILITY IN NEW WESTMINSTER**

PURPOSE: To provide information on potential impacts on Burnaby's infrastructure and/or resources resulting from the development of a destination casino in the Queensborough area of New Westminister.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council forward the comments outlined in Section 2.0 of this report to:
 1. Queen's Motor Hotel
1110 Ewen Avenue
New Westminister, B.C. V3M 5E4
Fax: 521-0030
 2. Provincial Lotteries Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 9311 Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9N1
Fax: 1-250-356-1910

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

As part of the current Provincial process for approving additional gaming facilities in British Columbia, the Province requires proponents of gaming facilities to notify adjacent municipalities of their intentions. The purpose of the notification is to provide adjacent municipalities with the opportunity to express any concerns regarding material issues they believe would affect them as a result of the project. The Province has defined *material issues* as "demonstrable impacts on the adjacent local government's infrastructure and/or resources by the proposed gaming establishment".

At its meeting of 1997 November 24, Council considered a report outlining possible impacts on Burnaby from two proposed riverboat casinos to be based in New Westminister and a proposed hotel-based casino in downtown Vancouver. Council adopted the recommendation to forward the comments to both the proponents of the casinos and the Provincial Lotteries Advisory Committee.

Since 1997 November 24, the City has received notification regarding the following additional gaming facility proposal in New Westminster:

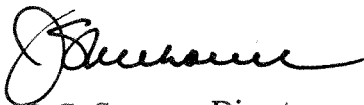
- ▶ ***a destination casino in a redeveloped Queen's Hotel and convention centre in the Queensborough area of New Westminster.*** Under Provincial regulations, destination casinos are allowed to operate 14 hours per day (from noon until 2:00 a.m.), to offer up to 30 table games with betting limits of \$500 and 300 slot machines, and to have a licensed premises as part of the gaming complex (but separate from the gaming floor).

2.0 POSSIBLE IMPACTS FOR BURNABY

Staff do not believe that the proposal will affect transportation, site servicing or infrastructure requirements in Burnaby. No environmental or nuisance concerns have been identified. The Burnaby RCMP have requested assurances that security for the proposed casino is adequate to address any criminal activities which may arise not only inside the premises but in areas surrounding the casino.

3.0 CONCLUSION

Staff recommend that the proponent of the proposed casino in New Westminster and the Provincial Lotteries Advisory Committee be informed of the policing/security concerns outlined above.


D.G. Stenson, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING


JS/ma

cc: Deputy Director, Labour Relations
Director Engineering
Director Culture and Recreation Services
Director Finance
OIC, Burnaby RCMP