

B.6

MOTION ON NOTICE

6. Casino Development

MOVER: Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

SECONDER: Councillor

WHEREAS

1. The proposed expansion of Edgewater Casino on the North East Shore of False Creek in Downtown Vancouver would be the largest casino in British Columbia;
2. Recent news has revealed a concerning link between casinos and organized crime and money laundering;
3. Citizens across Vancouver are concerned about increasing organized crime activity and the accompanying increases in enforcement costs;
4. Recent reports also show record subsidies paid to casinos while non-profits, charities, and arts organizations are being funded at levels lower than during the 1990s;
5. The fact the Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch and the British Columbia Lottery Corporation is being directed by the same ministry represents a serious potential conflict in gaming priorities and raises serious concerns about how gaming will be regulated and promoted in Vancouver;
6. Public confidence in the lottery public system needs to be restored prior to any decision on the expansion of gaming in the City of Vancouver.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the City of Vancouver support calls to have the Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch and the British Columbia Lottery Corporation separated into different ministries.
- B. THAT the City of Vancouver call for a review of public gaming in the province of British Columbia in order to restore public confidence in the integrity of the lottery system and that Vancouver Council support the BC Association of Charitable Gaming's call for the Auditor General to investigate, and review the BC government's obligations to charities for gaming revenues.
- C. THAT the City of Vancouver affirms both the inherent and contractual rights and interests of charities and non-profits to gaming proceeds, and refuses to expand gaming until those rights and interests are protected.

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