

WASHINGTON STATE GAMBLING COMMISSION

Executive Summary

Of the 29 federally recognized Tribes in Washington State, 28 have Compacts for Class III gaming; currently, 21 of the Tribes operate 27 casinos. In 2006, the Tribes had over \$1.3 billion in net receipts, the amount wagered less prizes paid.

This report highlights some of the activities and changes that the State has implemented to better enhance the co-regulatory relationship between the State and Tribal gaming agencies and to support our mission to protect the public by ensuring gambling is legal and honest.

2008 Highlights

Compacts and Compact Amendments

When Appendix X2 took effect in May 2007, the Tribes agreed not to request renegotiations concerning the Tribal Lottery System (electronic gaming machines) until June 30, 2009. This moratorium contains an exception for technical changes, and we continue to work with the Tribes to implement necessary operational changes for the Appendix X2 systems, as requested.

We have ongoing discussions with a few Tribes to amend their Compact provisions. So far, we have reached a tentative agreement with the Snoqualmie Tribe that would amend their compact to allow the operation of two facilities, similar to other Tribal Compacts.

Tribal Certification

In our continuing effort to improve our licensing and certification relationship with the Tribes in Washington, the scope of the Tribal Certification Manager position expanded to include coordinating vendor certification of gambling equipment manufacturers and service suppliers. We proactively notify our Tribal regulatory partners of vendor licensing issues and we conduct formal training on our processes and procedures.

The following are a few examples of improvements made in consultation with our Tribal regulatory partners: five Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) for reduced fees for Tribes that process fingerprints of gaming employees; three MOUs allowing potentially qualified gaming employees to begin work prior to receiving State certification; provided formal training for each Tribe's respective certification process; developed and provided an on-line, abbreviated application form; and posted on-line a list of expired certifications for gaming employees, vendors, and their representatives.

2008 Centennial Accord -DRAFT

Agency Highlights

In 2007, we coordinated a joint training meeting for the licensing staff of both the Tribal and State Gaming Agencies. Due to its success, this meeting is now held every four months.

Updated New Agent Training

A group of Tribal Gaming Agency Directors and our agency continue to improve training provided to new tribal and state agents. Classes are team-taught by our agency and tribal gaming agency staff. On average, 418 individuals attend the classes each year. We expect this number to increase as new classes are added. The training is attended by tribal and state regulators from across the nation.

Quarterly Tribal Gaming Agency Director's meetings

Since 2003, our agency has participated in meetings with almost all the Tribal Gaming Agency Directors approximately four times a year. These meetings are designed to share information and get ideas to solve gambling regulatory problems.