



Attention: News Editors
For immediate release

Alberta's Charitable Casinos to Close Temporarily Amid COVID-19 Crisis.

Effective immediately, Alberta casinos will cease operations due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic crisis in the province of Alberta. This decision has been made by the Government of Alberta through declaring a State of Public Health Emergency, that included a directive to close casinos, racing entertainment centres, and bingo hall operations throughout the province of Alberta immediately.

Up until this time, licenced casino operators have followed the guidance of Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health by adding extra cleaning and health protocols and continuing to monitor the situation as it evolves in order to assist in the prevention and spread of the COVID-19 virus.

"The health and safety of patrons and staff is our primary concern" said Executive Director, David Johnson, "We applaud the Government of Alberta for their decisive action to close casino properties across the province in their continued effort to do what is right for the people of Alberta to help in the fight against COVID-19".

Effective as of Tuesday March 17th, Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, have all taken similar measures to close casino properties within their jurisdictions. The decision to re-open Alberta properties will be made when it is determined by Government of Alberta, AGLC and local operators that it is both safe and appropriate to return to regular operations.

About ACCO

The ACCO represents 100% of traditional charitable casino operators and 19 casino properties across Alberta. In total, Alberta's (28) of casino properties contribute \$1.1billion to Alberta's economy in net gaming sales. These funds flow directly into the Alberta Government's provincial revenue stream in addition to significantly supporting Alberta's charitable sector and many local economies across the province.

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