

October 10, 2008

## Events and programs to support responsible gambling

Responsible Gambling Awareness Week, October 20-26, highlights programs and initiatives that educate Albertans about responsible gambling.

### Open Houses – Responsible Gambling Information Centres (RGICs)

Each RGIC representative will host an open house during Responsible Gambling Awareness Week. Albertans are invited to drop into the RGICs in 13 casinos and the Northlands Racing Entertainment Centre and find out more about responsible gambling, including the odds and randomness of play. Visit [setalimitalberta.ca](http://setalimitalberta.ca) for information on dates, locations and times.

### Preventing Problem Gambling – Presentation by Dr. Robert Williams

MacEwan Student Centre, University of Calgary

Tuesday, October 21

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Williams is a professor at the School of Health Sciences at the University of Lethbridge and a Coordinator with the Alberta Gaming Research Institute. He is an internationally recognized expert in the field of gambling studies and a leading authority on the prevention of problem gambling. For more information, visit [www.abgaminginstitute.ualberta.ca](http://www.abgaminginstitute.ualberta.ca).

### Setalimitalberta.ca

Visit this new website for more information about Responsible Gambling Awareness Week. [Setalimitalberta.ca](http://Setalimitalberta.ca) is also a valuable source of information about responsible and problem gambling, with tips, myths and quizzes to help identify personal gambling behaviours.

### Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) Responsible Gambling Programs

The AGLC has developed a number of responsible gambling education and industry awareness programs in partnership with the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. From educating and supporting gamblers, to helping casino staff develop the knowledge and skills to assist gamblers, the AGLC's responsible gambling programs play a vital role in the commission's commitment to social responsibility.

### Other AGLC programs

- *Responsible Gambling Information Centers (RGICs)* - RGICs are located in 13 traditional and First Nation casinos and at Northlands. The centres are manned by an AGLC representative and equipped with a variety of responsible gambling information materials. The representatives are knowledgeable about responsible gambling and can provide gamblers with information on accessing help with problem gambling.
- *Player Awareness Terminals (PATs)* - A new addition to the RGICs, the PATs feature a series of interactive screens offering a self-test, myths and tips to gamblers on how to develop safe, responsible personal gambling guidelines.

- *Voluntary Self-Exclusion (VSE) Program* - The VSE Program helps people who feel it is in their best interest to take a break from gambling and who wish to be excluded from play at casinos and Racing Entertainment Centres (RECs).
- *Smart Responsible Gambling Awareness Industry Training* - This initiative includes a group of training programs to help gambling venue staff promote healthy attitudes towards gambling and understand the signs of problem gambling. Programs include *Deal Us In* (casinos and REC staff), *Reel Facts* (VLT retailer staff) and *A Good Call* (bingo hall staff).
- *Responsible Gambling Features on VLTs* - Added to VLTs in 2003-2004, Responsible Gambling Features are designed to help players manage their time and money. Features include an AADAC scrolling banner message, pop-up reminders regarding time, including a query to continue or end play, wager tracking and a screen clock.
- *Information materials* - Brochures, posters, and self-tests provide information about gambling responsibly to gamblers in casinos, RECs, VLT outlets and bingo halls. All materials include the AADAC help-line number (1-866-332-2322).

### **Tips for Responsible Gambling**

- Remember, the house always has the advantage.
- Before playing, educate yourself on how the game works.
- Always! Set a limit. Stay within it.
- Do not chase losses; accept them as a cost for the entertainment.
- Take frequent breaks.
- Use only money from your entertainment budget. Do not borrow.
- Balance gambling with your other leisure choices.
- Know the warning signs of problem gambling.

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