

# REPLACEMENT Attachment 1

## Camrose Casino Application Response - Mayor Letter

August 21, 2024

Reference No.: 519268812-002

Gary Peck, Vice President, Regulatory Services  
Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis  
St. Albert Office  
50 Corriveau Avenue  
St. Albert, AB T8N 3T5

**Email: [gary.peck@aglc.ca](mailto:gary.peck@aglc.ca)**

### **Re: Application for the Relocation of Camrose Casino**

Dear Mr. Peck,

I am writing on behalf of Edmonton City Council in response to the letter from the Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis' (AGLC) addressed to interim City Manager, Eddie Robar dated July 10, 2024 regarding the application for the relocation of the Camrose Casino to Edmonton.

By way of a Council motion on August 15, 2024, City Council has identified concerns on this matter that we wish to share with the AGLC as it undertakes the review process of the application.

After careful consideration of previous feedback and the current application for the Camrose Casino's relocation to Edmonton, the City of Edmonton opposes Camrose Casino's relocation application. Although the City of Edmonton supports casinos being built, the City has a number of concerns with this casino application, including:

#### Community Engagement Timelines

We understand AGLC has increased the notice period for allowing objections to be submitted as well as increased time for responses to objections; however, timelines for engagement under this proposal remain inadequate. A notice of the relocation was published in the Edmonton Journal on August 2nd with a deadline for the public to submit objections by August 21, 2024. This proposal has a significant impact on our community and engagement timelines related to this application are not reasonable. Thirteen business days for public engagement over a time period where many people are away on vacation is highly insufficient. We recommend that adjustments to the public participation process for this application are made to increase the time for residents and other affected stakeholders to provide feedback.

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### Impact of Licence Transfer on Edmonton Charitable Organizations

We appreciate the changes you have made to the casino relocation policies, as outlined in your letter on July 29, 2024 to our Interim City Manager; however, our concerns remain regarding the retention of the rural licensing for the Camrose Casino's proposed operations in Edmonton. Without further changes to AGLC's policies, the relocation of the Camrose Casino will result in a 5% decline in revenues to Edmonton charities. According to [AGLC's 2021 Charitable Gaming Review](#), Edmonton charities received over \$87 million revenues during the 2019-2020 time period. Recognizing these figures are somewhat outdated, a 5% decline in revenues represents at least \$4.35 million in lost revenue annually for charitable organizations in Edmonton. This impact is significant for Edmonton charities who are also managing increased demands.

### Infrastructure Investment Requirements

According to Alberta Municipalities, municipalities in Alberta are facing an estimated [\\$30 billion infrastructure deficit](#) that is expected to worsen. Infrastructure investments are needed to support economic investment and livability in the City of Edmonton. This is a particular area where we are looking to the province for support to enable non-residential growth in Edmonton. Appropriate infrastructure funding could be used to support upgrades to Parsons and Ellerslie Road and other roadways in Edmonton to facilitate growth and development in our City.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your letter. We look forward to your consideration of our concerns in your deliberation.

Sincerely,

Amarjeet Sohi  
Mayor

cc: Hon. Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs [minister.municipalaffairs@gov.ab.ca](mailto:minister.municipalaffairs@gov.ab.ca)  
Hon. Pete Guthrie, Minister of Infrastructure - [infrastructure.minister@gov.ab.ca](mailto:infrastructure.minister@gov.ab.ca)  
Len Rhodes, Board Chair AGLC - [len.rhodes@aglc.ca](mailto:len.rhodes@aglc.ca)  
Kandice Machado, Chief Executive Officer AGLC - [kandice.machado@aglc.ca](mailto:kandice.machado@aglc.ca)  
Edmonton City Council - [council@edmonton.ca](mailto:council@edmonton.ca)  
Eddie Robar, Interim City Manager [eddie.robar@edmonton.ca](mailto:eddie.robar@edmonton.ca)  
Aileen Giesbrecht, City Clerk, City of Edmonton - [aileen.giesbrecht@edmonton.ca](mailto:aileen.giesbrecht@edmonton.ca)  
Michelle Plouffe, City Solicitor, City of Edmonton - [michelle.plouffe@edmonton.ca](mailto:michelle.plouffe@edmonton.ca)  
Kim Petrin, Deputy City Manager, City of Edmonton - [kim.petrin@edmonton.ca](mailto:kim.petrin@edmonton.ca)