

Q&A: Charitable casino events and eligible use of charitable gaming proceeds – COVID-19

On March 17, 2020, the government of Alberta declared a public health emergency in response to COVID-19. As part of the efforts to limit the exposure of staff and the public to the novel coronavirus, licensed gaming venues including casinos, racing entertainment centres and bingo halls are closed to the public until further notice.

1. Will charitable casino events be rescheduled?

Charitable casino events that have been cancelled due to casino closures will be given priority and rescheduled when casinos re-open.

2. When can I expect my event to be rescheduled?

We are not sure when casinos will re-open. AGLC will communicate details to charities about casino events once a plan is in place. To accommodate all charities, it will take AGLC staff some time to reschedule casino events. Please direct casino event inquiries to licensing.casino@aglc.ca.

3. How are charitable gaming proceeds eligible to be used?

Charitable proceeds are intended for charitable purposes. AGLC works directly with charitable groups to support their program delivery, specifically regarding requirements set out in legislation and policies for the use of charitable gaming proceeds.

The Charitable Gaming Policies Handbook includes a wide range of eligible purposes for use in direct charitable program delivery such as equipment, donations, emergencies, travel, wages, etc.

4. Are there any changes to how charitable gaming proceeds may be used during the COVID-19 crisis?

AGLC recognizes that charitable groups may need expanded use of proceeds in order to maintain key charitable programs while addressing impacts of the crisis.

The following uses are eligible *without the requirement for submission of forms normally used for these requests*:

- **Facility:** groups that normally use a maximum 50 per cent use from gaming proceeds may use 100 per cent for operating expenses at this time.
- **Wages/Salaries:** groups may use gaming proceeds any positions that provide charitable services, even if the group is not able to carry out normal operations during the crisis.

- **Emergency Assistance:** groups may use gaming proceeds to assist members or individuals who are facing dire or serious circumstances.
- **Donations:** groups may use gaming proceeds for donations to other licensed groups or non-licensed groups to assist with charitable purposes. If the donation is made outside Alberta or Canada, AGLC staff are available to provide prior approval using the out of country donation request form, along with the [Statutory Declaration](#) and [Recipient Agreement](#) forms.
- **Canadian Red Cross:** groups may use gaming proceeds for emergency purposes relating to COVID 19 anywhere in the world if the proceeds are provided directly to the Canadian Red Cross.
- **Aid of the Distressed:** groups may use gaming proceeds for programs and services that address issues of social concern such as poverty, mental or physical illness, or disability.
- **Case by case:** upon request, gaming proceeds may be considered for other uses not included above. Please contact AGLC directly at the email address noted below.

Inquiries may be directed to gaming.useofproceeds@aglc.ca with the subject line: **COVID 19 UOP Request. Please note that AGLC staff are operating remotely and responses to requests may be delayed.** We thank you in advance for your patience.