



G A M I N G R U L E S !

VOLUME #2 ISSUE #2

APRIL 2006

IGR COMMUNITY LIAISON'S TOUR THE PROVINCE

Once again, IGR communications staff have been busy on the road. For the past three months our Community Liaison Officers have been traveling every week. In the New Year we have visited over 30 communities. Our staff have been delivering updates on charitable gaming regulation and licensing processes.

IGR's travels include trips to the south, such as Ocean Man and Nekaneet. We have also been as far north as the beautiful community of Fond du Lac. These trips have been very valuable as they have been giving Chiefs, Councils and band membership the opportunity to ask questions or concerns involving their community's on-reserve charitable gaming matters.

The IGR negotiation team has nearly finalized a Licensing Agreement. This agreement will allow us to begin licensing and regulating on-reserve gaming. The terms and conditions agreed to take into account the needs of the First Nations.



Buffalo River Band Office

If you are (or plan to be) involved in charitable gaming and would like us to visit you, please contact IGR toll-free at 1-877-477-4114.



"Welcome to Big River First Nation"

FSIN WINTER ASSEMBLY—KEY TOPICS

White Bear Raid—The FSIN honoured five people who were involved in the White Bear clubhouse raid. The RCMP raided the White Bear clubhouse in 1993. The band had set up a gaming operation including slot machines. Five employees of the fledgling Bear Claw Casino were charged. The charges were eventually dropped. Their bravery opened the door for the creation of SIGA and IGR. Blankets were presented by the Assembly in recognition of their courage. It was also reported that SIGA has had a net profit of nearly \$200 million dollars since its first casino officially opened in 1995.

Police Chief Russell Sabo—The FSIN Assembly acknowledged outgoing Saskatoon Police Chief Russell Sabo with a blanket and an eagle feather. Sabo was a key player in improving relationships between the Aboriginal community and the police. He graciously accepted his gifts, stating that he was extremely honoured to be recognized by the First Nations community.



Fond du Lac is farther north than Juneau, Alaska.

Assembly of First Nations Chief Phil Fontaine spoke at the Assembly on the second day. He stated that First Nations issues need to be a priority for the federal government. He also talked about poverty in First Nations communities, unemployment, and the residential school compensation package.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

COUNCILLOR TOM BEAR PROFILE	2
BIG RIVER FIRST NATION PROFILE	2
LICENSING AGREEMENT UPDATE	2
VICE CHIEF LAWRENCE JOSEPH	3
IGR ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING	3
BCR UPDATE	3
IGR CHALLENGE CROSSWORD	4

TANSI!

Send us your completed IGR crossword and we will enter you to win!

See Page #4!

IGR now has 67 BCR's and more are on their way.

See Page #3

Some famous people are from the Big River First Nation.

See page #2 to find out who!

IGR BOARD PROFILE—COUNCILLOR TOM BEAR

The board member profile for this issue is Councillor Tom Bear. Tom is from the Big River First Nation. Tom was born on Big River and went to school on the reserve. He graduated from high school at Prince Albert Riverside Collegiate.

Tom went on to receive his Industrial Mechanic Certificate in 1975. Later, he attended Indian Teachers Education Program (ITEP). He received a degree in education in 1981.

Tom was one of the first graduates of that program. ITEP graduates receive accreditation from the University of Saskatchewan.

Tom has extensive work experience in many areas. He has worked at the P.A. Pulp Co. Ltd. and as a trainer with Amok Cluff Mining. His education and experience helped him to implement and direct the Satellite Industrial Mechanics Program. This program is run through the

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN).

Tom has served on Council of Big River First Nation for the past 15 years. He was also the Chief of Agency Chiefs Tribal Council (ACTC) for two years. He has sat on the IGR board as the ACTC representative for 3 years. He likes to spend his spare time on the trap-line and playing hockey.



Councillor Tom Bear from the Big River First Nation

THE BIG RIVER CREE NATION

The Big River Cree Nation is located about 100 km northwest of Prince Albert, SK.

Cree Chief See-See-Way-um signed Treaty 6 on September 3, 1878. For the next 20 years his band remained self-sufficient as they hunted, trapped, and fished the bountiful resources of the area. Today, economic development opportunities include agriculture, forestry, trapping, tourism, and commercial hunting and fishing camps.

Big River is also well known for the Whitefish Jrs., the world



Big River's Elementary School

famous drum group. The Whitefish Jrs. have traveled the world playing their style of pow-wow music for all to enjoy.

The much-traveled ensemble have performed in Germany, hosted many pow-wows, and have won numerous singing

contests across North America. They even performed in front of former United States President Bill Clinton.

(History provided by the Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan-A Living Legacy)

IGR's mandate is to license and regulate Bingos, Breakopens (Nevada tickets), Raffles and SIGA table games.

IGR ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our first Annual General Membership Meeting, held on March 14th, was a success.

The IGR Board of Directors and Chairman are pleased that almost half of our members were represented at this meeting.

Each attendee had the opportunity to voice their opinion on the business at hand and the future of IGR.

IGR will host a general membership meeting every year. Members will vote on items such as the financial statements and the appointment of directors.

Membership includes all of the Chiefs of the 67 First Nations who have designated IGR as their on-reserve charitable gaming regulator.

For more information call IGR toll-free at 1-877-477-4114.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE IGR CHAIRMAN
VICE CHIEF LAWRENCE JOSEPH**

Tansi! IGR continues to work toward a licensing agreement. I am pleased to announce that we have the framework for an Agreement-in-Principle with the province. Our negotiators have now completed all terms and conditions of this document.

This agreement between IGR and the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority is important. It marks the beginning of the work we are undertake as described in IGR's mandate. We are close to being fully operational and to begin regulating gaming activity on First Nations land.

IGR staff have been busy collecting information from First Nations across the province. This

information is being used to prepare a bingo model which suitable for First Nations needs. We have negotiated for some key terms and conditions that address the unique circumstances of First Nations people on-reserve. Some key terms we have pushed for based on our feedback from First Nations are:

- Most bingo employees can be paid;
- More operating expenses for bingo events;
- Waiver of fees associated with applying for a licence; and
- Unique provisions for "Class A" Bingo Halls.

Once we have an agreement-in-principle it will be fully reviewed by the IGR Board. Once the IGR Board is satisfied that we have achieved our objectives, the agreement will be sent through the FSIN and eventually be considered by the Chiefs-in-Assembly.

The support we have received from the Chiefs of the FSIN has been very gratifying. Our hope is that they give us consent to continue our work based on this agreement.

Once again, I thank the leaders of our communities for their endorsement of IGR. I fully expect that IGR will begin issuing charitable gaming licences in this calendar year. We look forward to serving you in our full capacity.

over 91%. There are two bands who will not conduct any form of gaming. IGR hopes the remaining six bands will sign BCR's in the coming months.

We thank all of our communities for hosting meetings, consultations and workshops over the last year.

Of the bands who conduct gaming on their land, IGR has been designated by



FSIN Vice Chief
Lawrence Joseph

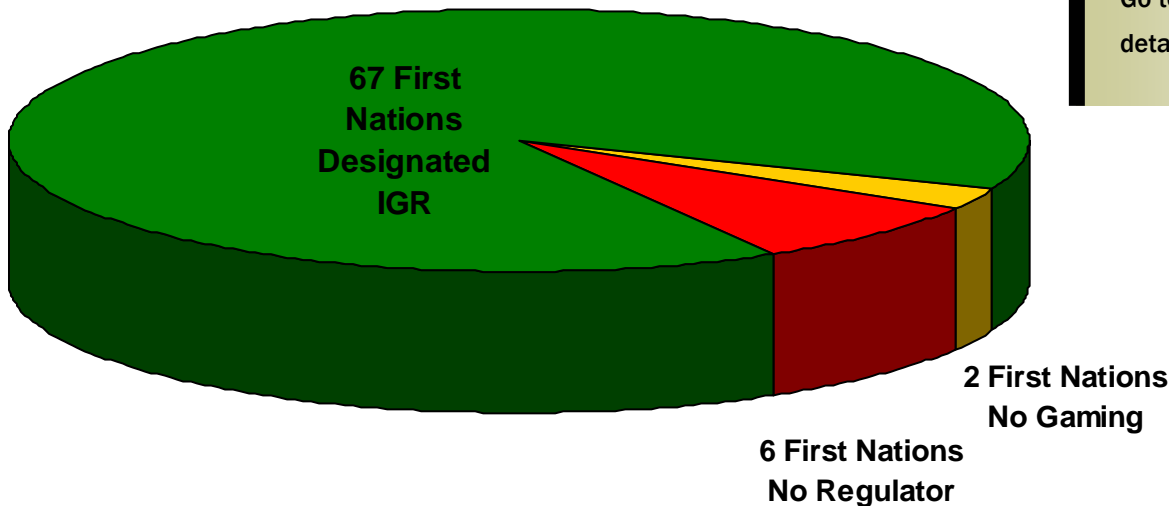
BCR UPDATE

IGR has now been designated by 67 First Nations in Saskatchewan.

IGR's Board of Directors, management and staff have worked very hard to gain this support.

Groups may be eligible for charitable gaming licences if their mandate is (PERC):
P—Relief of Poverty
E—Advancement of Education
R—Advancement of Religion
C—Broad Community Benefit.

Go to www.igr.ca for more details.





INDIGENOUS GAMING REGULATORS

Suite 400—203 Packham Avenue
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7N 4K5

Phone: (306) 477-5700

Fax: (306) 477-5704

Toll Free: 1-877-477-4114

Email: info@igr.ca

Check out our website—

www.igr.ca

IGR APRIL CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

Take your best shot at completing our crossword puzzle. Once you are done, send it to us at the address above. We will make a random draw out of all of the entries. One lucky person will win \$100.00 worth of IGR gear! The draw will take place on May 1, 2006. All the answers are contained in this newsletter.

Proceeds from charitable gaming can be used for

C-R-O-P:

Charitable or

Religious

Objects or

Purposes.

Across

- Also known as "Breakopens"
- The "C" in IGR's PERC acronym
- A mini lottery
- Bingo is legal if licensed and the proceeds go to a _____
- Greeting
- FSIN Vice Chief with the IGR Portfolio
- Operates 4 casinos in SK
- Proceeds from charitable gaming can be used for _____ (acronym)
- Popular form of gambling for First Nations

Down

- The "E" in IGR's PERC acronym
- The "P" in IGR's PERC acronym
- 1-877-477-4114 is IGR's _____ number
- Table game
- The "R" in IGR's PERC acronym
- Political body representing SK First Nations
- "Regulate the _____ to preserve the past"
- The Painted _____ Casino
- A First Nation may designate IGR by signing a _____

