Liquor and Gaming Authority



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Executive summary

Liquor and Gaming Authority is responsible to supervise Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority's (SIGA) operations. SIGA operates four casinos for Liquor and Gaming. We report that Liquor and Gaming's progress towards proper supervision of SIGA's operations is slow. We also report that SIGA's progress towards proper management of public money is slow.

In our previous reports, we made several recommendations for both Liquor and Gaming and SIGA to improve their management of public money. They both accepted our recommendations. Almost two years have gone by since we made those recommendations, but they have not implemented most of them. We expected that both Liquor and Gaming and SIGA would have prepared a detailed plan, setting out who would do what and by when, to implement the recommendations. Liquor and Gaming's plan is not adequate, and SIGA does not have a plan.

SIGA spends approximately \$28 million on staff pay and benefits and \$8 million on marketing. These are SIGA's two biggest expenses. We recommended that SIGA establish processes to control these expenses including a process for evaluating the results of its marketing activities. SIGA has not yet done so.

SIGA's practices continue to allow the improper use of public money. SIGA continues to make payments that are not for operating casinos. Also, SIGA continues to make payments without due care.

Liquor and Gaming, SIGA, and their senior management will need sustained commitment to bring about the necessary improvements to SIGA's management of public money. Failing to do so may result in Liquor and Gaming continuing to pay expenses that may not be reasonable to operate the slot machines at SIGA's casinos. This would result in reduced profits available for Government programs such as health, education, and the First Nations Fund.