

"Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest"

## **State Centennial Accord Plans**

Updated April 2016

# 1. Programs

The Washington State Gambling Commission is responsible for the regulation of gambling in Washington State. Included in this responsibility is the negotiation of Class III Gaming Compacts on behalf of the state and co-regulation of Tribal Class III Gaming in conjunction with the tribal gaming agencies. The terms of this tribal/state relationship are governed by the Class III gaming compacts between the state and the individual tribes and the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

The agency's negotiation function is primarily the responsibility of the director's office and tribal regulatory functions are primarily the responsibility of the Tribal Gaming Unit, the Electronic Gambling Laboratory, and the Licensing Unit. In addition to our regulatory functions and certification/suitability determinations of tribal certification/eligibility, the agency provides gambling regulatory training and advice to the Tribe, tribal gaming agencies, and employees.

# 2. Contacts within the Gambling Commission

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## 3. Funding Distribution

As a regulatory agency, the Gambling Commission does not have funds for distribution to tribes. The commission recovers the costs for regulatory services from tribes.

#### 4. Consultation Process-Procedures

The Gambling Commission is committed to consulting with tribes on all issues that affect our respective governments. The agency will make reasonable efforts to collaborate with Tribes in the development of policies, agreements, and program implementation that directly affect them.

Meetings with individual Tribes or with the Tribes as a group may be used to communicate policy and/or program changes. TGA Directors' meetings, TGA/State Gaming Agency (SGA) licensing meetings, surveillance meetings, Commission study sessions or similar types of meetings may be used. Meeting requests may be initiated by the agency or a Tribe. Discussion topics may include, but are not limited to: proposed new policies or changes to existing policies that may impact a Tribe, existing policies or procedures that impact a Tribe, agency requested legislation that may affect a Tribe.

The agency participates in all Centennial Accord meetings.

## **5. Dispute Resolution Process**

The dispute resolution process for Class III gaming issues is set forth in the Class III Gaming Compacts between the individual tribes and the state. This process involves several levels of dispute resolution from consultation, to mediation and arbitration.

Agency employees are strongly encouraged to resolve disputes on an informal basis whenever possible.