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March 21, 2023

**Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission** 50 Corriveau Avenue

St. Albert, Alberta T8N 3T5

Attention: Len Rhodes Chair – AGLC Board

Attention: Kandice Machado CEO - AGLC

**RE: OPEN LETTER: ECVO Objection to the Capital City Casinos Ltd. Proposal to Relocate the Camrose Casino from 3201 48th Avenue, Camrose, Alberta to 420 Parsons Road SW, Edmonton, Alberta**

Dear Len and Kandice:

*(insert your org name)*, along with our non-profit sector colleagues, the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations (ECVO), Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues, Edmonton Heritage Council, and Edmonton Sport Council, are deeply concerned about the upcoming appeal hearing regarding the proposed relocation of the Camrose Casino into Edmonton.

It is our understanding from discussions with our sector colleagues that the AGLC have been advised that:

1.Even after the relocation of the Camrose Casino to Edmonton, an urban casino market as defined by AGLC, the Camrose Casino, will continue to be classified as a rural casino in which Edmonton area

charitable organizations will not be permitted to work.

2.The AGLC has predicted that the relocation will result in a decline of $6.7 M in charitable gaming revenue being available to existing Edmonton area charities as a result of the cannibalization of the Edmonton

area gaming market by the Camrose Casino once it commences operations in Edmonton. The Edmonton area gaming operators have also advised that based on their analysis of the Edmonton gaming market,

the projected loss of $6.7 M in charitable gaming revenue is probably low.

Whilst the Camrose Casino has indicated that efforts to ensure Edmonton charities will be ‘made whole’ are underway, there remains no actionable plan to ensure that this is the case.

By allowing the Camrose Casino to be relocated to an urban market, but somehow retain its designation as a rural casino for the purposes of the charitable groups that can hold casino licenses in Camrose Casino, the Camrose area charities are being permitted to increase their charitable revenues at the expense of the Edmonton area charities. ECVO was one of the 90+ organizations that participated in AGLC’s stakeholder engagement in 2021 and this was never mentioned as a recommendation. This move is not about an equitable distribution of funds as this will only negatively impact Edmonton and area organizations.

As our final note of concerns, we’d also like to reiterate the need to consider the local impact that such a relocation would result in, namely, the economic loss in Camrose due to the loss of an employer, and the increased barriers for organizations and the volunteers who help staff casinos through increased time and cost requirements

incurred from the additional travel time that will be required.

In summary, **we strongly object to the proposed relocation of the Camrose Casino.** Without additional consultations and time to evaluate and understand the impacts that a relocation will cause, combined with the unchanged funding formula, an approval for relocation will be at the direct expense of the Edmonton and area charitable causes which benefit from the revenues generated by working casinos. This move is a local response to a provincial issue – we welcome further conversations with AGLC on the proposed changes to the model.

I trust that the foregoing clearly sets out our objection to the proposed relocation of the Camrose Casino to Edmonton.

Yours truly,

Insert Signature Here

Add contact details here