

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 28, 2012

In late May of this year, the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) announced their intention to expand private sector gaming in Ontario by issuing a Request for Information (RFI) seeking input from potential providers as it expands regulated private-sector gaming in Ontario.

Wasaga Beach has been identified in Zone C7 along with the Town of Collingwood, Clearview Township and the Township of Springwater. The OLG has indicated that each identified zone will only support one gaming facility and will ensure any new gaming facilities are not in close proximity to an existing gaming operation.

Since the announcement made by the OLG in late May, the following steps have been undertaken in order to explore the opportunity further:

- 1. Town officials attended a meeting with the OLG in June to learn more about the process involved with the expansion and the newly established gaming zones.
- 2. The OLG hosted an education session on September 5<sup>th</sup> in Wasaga Beach for the Mayors and Councils from each community located within Zone C7 (Wasaga Beach, Collingwood, Clearview Township and the Township of Springwater.
- 3. Mayor Patterson and Members of Council discussed the potential opportunity at the September 18<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting. At this meeting, Council determined their desire to undertake a thorough public consultation. The public consultation will form an important part of the Town's decision to either express an interest to host a potential gaming facility or oppose a potential gaming facility.
- 4. The municipal Councils in Zone C7 have agreed to host a joint Public Information meeting on **Tuesday**, **October 16<sup>th</sup> at the RecPlex in Wasaga Beach located at 1724 Mosley Street at 7:00 p.m.** OLG officials will be in attendance to provide information on the proposed gaming facility opportunity for Zone C7 to Members of Council and the public. Due to the nature of the meeting, OLG representatives will only be taking questions from members of Council. Any questions from the public are required to be provided to members of Council from the respective municipalities so that they can be posed to the OLG representatives at the meeting.
- 5. In addition to the joint Public Information meeting, the Town of Wasaga Beach will be holding a Public Information meeting for members of the community from Wasaga Beach only on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at the RecPlex in Wasaga Beach located at 1724 Mosley Street at 7:00 p.m. OLG officials will be in attendance to provide information on the proposed gaming facility opportunity to Members of Council and the public. Due to the nature of the meeting, OLG representatives will only be taking questions from members of Council.

As part of the public consultation process, the Town of Wasaga Beach is seeking input of residents and business owners on whether or not it should support the OLG possibly locating a gaming facility in Wasaga Beach. Input will be sought by way of an online survey; hard copies of the survey will be available at Town facilities, public information meetings and written correspondence by way of letter or e-mail addressed to the Office of the CAO.

To complete the online survey, be informed on public meeting dates and learn more about the potential opportunity please visit <u>www.wasagabeach.com</u>.

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## For media requiring additional information, please contact:

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