

LOBBYIST REGISTRAR'S REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Report to Council on an Inquiry: Unregistered Lobbying about a Casino in Toronto

Date:	October 18, 2012
То:	City Council
From:	Lobbyist Registrar
Wards:	ALL
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The attached report is made to Council under § 3-7B of the Toronto Municipal Code and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, s. 169. Section 3-7B requires the Lobbyist Registrar to report directly to Council on the investigations and inquiries conducted by her. Subsections 169(4) and (5) provide that if the Lobbyist Registrar ("Registrar") makes a report to City Council in respect of an inquiry, the Registrar may disclose in the report such matters as in the Registrar's opinion are necessary for the purposes of the report; and City Council shall ensure that reports received from the Registrar are made available to the public.

This report concerns an inquiry conducted by the Registrar to determine whether unregistered lobbying had occurred about a proposed casino prior to the consideration of a motion for a referendum on this issue by Executive Committee on May 14, 2012.

The Lobbying By-law, § 140-10, requires all lobbyists to be registered in the Lobbyist Registry before lobbying public office holders at the City. All lobbying activities must be reported within three business days after they occur.

The Registrar found that MGM Resorts International (MGM) had lobbied members of Council about a proposed casino during the period before Executive Committee met to consider Item EX20.15. MGM had not registered before lobbying. However, MGM was not aware that they were required to register, and co-operated fully with the inquiry. In order to achieve transparency, which is in the public interest, the Registrar permitted MGM to register and report their lobbying activities after the expiry of the time limits in the by-law.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Lobbyist Registrar recommends that:

1. City Council receive the findings in the attached report.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial impact.

DECISION HISTORY

The Toronto Municipal Code, Lobbying, § 3-7B and *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, s. 169, provide that the Lobbyist Registrar reports directly to Council on investigations and inquiries conducted by her.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Linda L. Gehrke Lobbyist Registrar

ATTACHMENTS

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