

# EX20.16.7

## **Identical communications submitted by 477 individuals to the Executive Committee for its meeting of May 14, 2012, respecting the Casino at Woodbine.**

His Worship Mayor Rob Ford  
& City of Toronto Councillors  
c/o Frances Pritchard  
10<sup>th</sup> floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Email: [exc@toronto.ca](mailto:exc@toronto.ca)  
Fax: 416 392 1879

Dear Mayor Ford:

I am writing you today in response to the City's request to hear the public's views on a Toronto Casino. As a proud employee of Woodbine Entertainment Group (WEG), I am a supporter of a casino at Woodbine Racetrack. As a pre-existing gaming facility with the support of Etobicoke residents, a referendum should not be required to have a casino at Woodbine.

Over the years I have watched WEG grow beyond the engine that drives horse racing in Ontario into a multi-dimensional entertainment business. Everyone who works for WEG believes that a strong horse racing industry helps to keep the City of Toronto vibrant and the Province of Ontario strong.

Through progressive leadership and innovation, Woodbine Racetrack's racing circuit is regarded as the best in North America. Large field sizes and purse structure continually attract many of the world's best horses, owners, jockeys, drivers and trainers to compete at our facilities.

The backstretch community of Woodbine Racetrack is a village within a city where people not only work but live. It provides employment to over 2,500 men and women, 300 of whom are permanent residents in WEG subsidized on-site dorms during the racing season.

As a responsible corporate citizen, WEG is dedicated to using its human and financial resources to make a difference in our community. Since 2001, our combined corporate and facilitated contributions to community programs and charitable organizations have totaled over \$6-million.

I have had the opportunity to see the incredible "need" in the Rexdale area, but more importantly, the positive impact that our operations and philanthropic work are having on the community.

A casino at Woodbine Racetrack would guarantee the City of Toronto a business partner that is committed to the highest standards of integrity and corporate governance practices, service excellence in its daily operations, safety of its patrons and an uncompromising commitment to corporate social responsibility.

Respectfully yours,