



## Halton Women's Place

*Healthy Relationships • Healthy Communities*

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Mayor Rob Ford  
And Members of Council  
City of Toronto  
100 Queen Street West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

I am writing to express my concern about the termination of the Slots at Racetrack Program and the negative impact it will have on Woodbine Entertainment Group's operations at Woodbine and Mohawk racetracks and the support they provide to Halton Women's Place.

WEG is a strong community partner focused on building a strong sustainable community, working in collaboration with various stakeholders to ensure the most vulnerable in our community experience quality of life. To achieve their commitment to community, over many years WEG have consistently supported programs for healthcare, youth and the community.

The Rexdale community is economically deprived and any changes that do not focus on economic stability will further marginalize its residents. Specifically, Rexdale continues to be disproportionately impacted due to loss of employment, especially job loss due to the decline in the manufacturing sector. Woodbine presents itself as a beacon of hope in this community. As such, changes that reduce their ability to support programs that address poverty in our community is ill advised.

Woodbine has worked in co-operation with many organizations, including Halton Women's Place. Throughout the years, WEG has donated to a variety of our programs, most recently, as a Safe Shelter Sponsor for our Milton shelter.

I understand the Executive Committee is considering whether Toronto will host a full casino. I want to express support for Woodbine Racetrack being the identified location for a casino. With approximately 3,000 slot machines already located there, it is an existing major gaming site. Expanding this is a natural evolution. The community recognizes the strong ties and first-class operation that Woodbine Entertainment Group has. With the already demonstrated public support, there should be no need to conduct a referendum. I urge you to consider Woodbine Racetrack as a facility for a full casino.

Yours truly,

Carm Bozzo  
Development Manager