

**From:** Rural Charities <[ruralcharitiesalberta@gmail.com](mailto:ruralcharitiesalberta@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 12:31 PM

**To:** Rural Charities <[ruralcharitiesalberta@gmail.com](mailto:ruralcharitiesalberta@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Camrose Casino Relocation Townhall & Rural Charities Revenues

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find below further information on the proposed Camrose Casino Relocation and its impact on rural charities revenues in Alberta.

Our group will be holding a town hall in person at the Camrose Casino on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM which will also be broadcasted on Teams via this link:

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Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 229 829 655 294

Passcode: unhBZc

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

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This issue affects and sets a precedent for **all Rural Communities and Charitable groups in Alberta** to provide equality and fairness for the allocation of AGLC charitable gaming revenues.

We would appreciate if you could please forward this invitation to your contacts in rural Alberta.

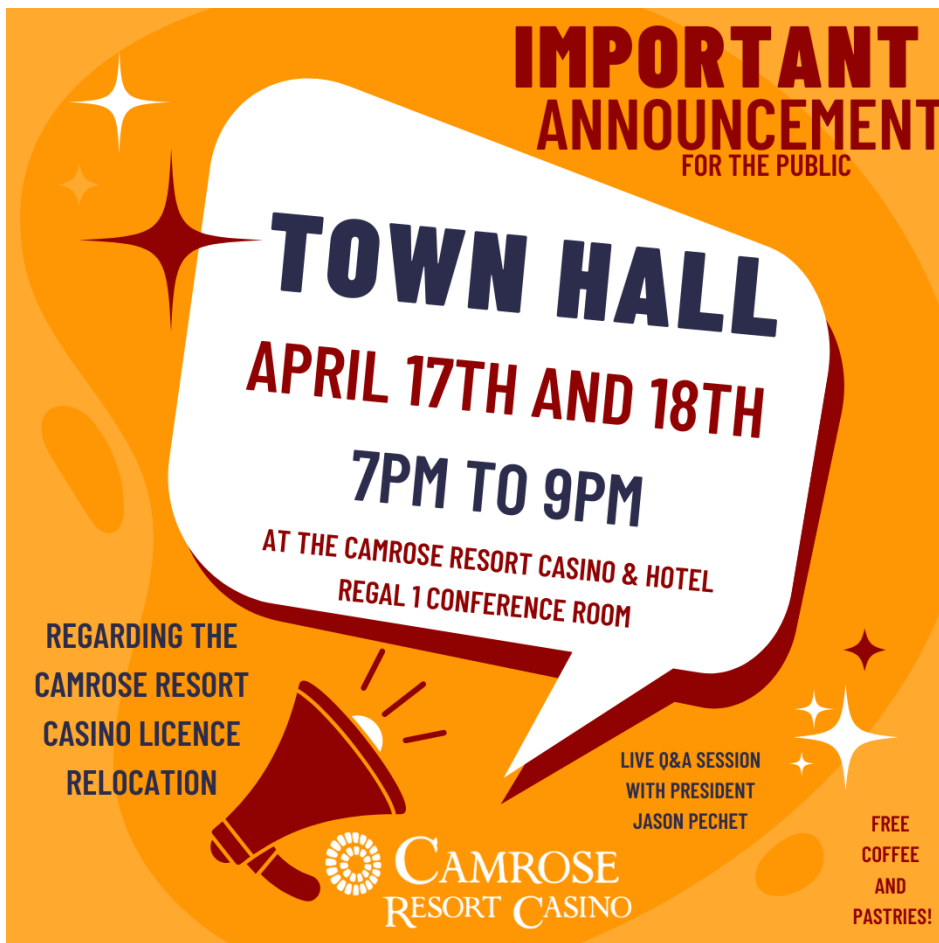
As most of you likely are aware, in 2022 the Camrose Casino applied to Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis (AGLC) to relocate to Edmonton; AGLC [subsequently denied the request](#). You are receiving this email because some or all of your municipality may be located within the Camrose or St. Albert charitable gaming region (or you are in a rural Alberta region), and would be directly impacted by the AGLC's decision to not allow the relocation, which may result in the closure of the Camrose casino in the near future.

Under Alberta's current charitable gaming model, rural charitable organizations are significantly disadvantaged compared to their urban counterparts due to lower per-event revenues at rural casinos, and longer wait times between charitable event opportunities for individual charities. In 2018, RMA [developed a report and recommendations](#) for a more equitable charitable gaming model, which was submitted to the AGLC. No meaningful response was provided to the report.

While relocating the Camrose casino to Edmonton would not address province-wide issues with the current model, it would benefit charitable organizations currently within the Camrose and St. Albert casino regions (funding is pooled

between the regions) as a move from Camrose to Edmonton is projected to significantly increase per-event revenues at the casino, which would likely continue to be the “home casino” for charitable organizations currently in the Camrose region. Camrose and St. Albert regions currently produce among the lowest per-event revenues and have among the highest wait times in the province, while Edmonton’s five casinos currently produce the highest average per event revenues in the province and have among the shortest wait times. Moving the Camrose casino to Edmonton would be a small step in shifting towards a more equitable system, at least for charities in those regions. Despite this, one of the main reasons that the move was rejected was due to advocacy by Edmonton charitable organizations and the City of Edmonton Mayor & Council opposed to potentially losing a small portion of the revenues they currently receive due to the addition of another casino within the city for the benefit of rural organizations. It should be noted that Calgary currently has one casino reserved exclusively for the surrounding rural region charitable groups, whereas Edmonton does not.

The owners of the Camrose casino are appealing the AGLC’s decision and are seeking support from impacted municipalities, community groups, and rural residents. I have attached a presentation and memo developed by the casino owners, both of which provide a more detailed overview of the issue and impacts on rural communities. The best way to weigh in on this issue is by submitting a letter directly to the AGLC. Letters can be sent to Nadja Lacroix, Senior Manager, Inspections Gaming, at [nadja.lacroix@aglc.ca](mailto:nadja.lacroix@aglc.ca), as well as AGLC CEO Kandice Machado at [kandice.machado@aglc.ca](mailto:kandice.machado@aglc.ca) or AGLC Board Chair Len Rhodes at [len.rhodes@aglc.ca](mailto:len.rhodes@aglc.ca). The deadline to submit a letter on this issue is **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**. The owners of the Camrose Casino have also developed a website with further information and ideas on how to make your voice heard on this issue: <https://ruralcharities.ca/>.

A graphic announcement for a town hall. It features a large white speech bubble on an orange background with starburst effects. The text inside the bubble reads: "IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE PUBLIC", "TOWN HALL", "APRIL 17TH AND 18TH", "7PM TO 9PM", and "AT THE CAMROSE RESORT CASINO & HOTEL REGAL 1 CONFERENCE ROOM". To the left of the bubble, it says "REGARDING THE CAMROSE RESORT CASINO LICENCE RELOCATION" next to a megaphone icon. To the right, it says "LIVE Q&A SESSION WITH PRESIDENT JASON PECHET" and "FREE COFFEE AND PASTRIES!". At the bottom center is the "CAMROSE RESORT CASINO" logo.

**IMPORTANT  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
FOR THE PUBLIC**

**TOWN HALL**  
**APRIL 17TH AND 18TH**  
**7PM TO 9PM**  
**AT THE CAMROSE RESORT CASINO & HOTEL  
REGAL 1 CONFERENCE ROOM**

**REGARDING THE  
CAMROSE RESORT  
CASINO LICENCE  
RELOCATION**

**LIVE Q&A SESSION  
WITH PRESIDENT  
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**FREE  
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**CAMROSE  
RESORT CASINO**