

## **Lions Clubs Use of AGLC Proceeds**

Across our MD, Lions Clubs often engage in fundraising activities such as raffles, bingos, and casinos. All this activity in Alberta is governed by AGLC, while clubs in British Columbia or Northwest Territories are governed by their local provincial or territorial regulations.

However, it seems that there continues to be a misunderstanding about the policies that govern the use of funds raised by casinos, bingos or raffles.

**LCI POLICY:** *The official policy of LCI is that all funds raised from the public must be used to benefit the public.*

The logic of the LCI policy is clearly understandable - if the public hears that the funds raised by Lions are being spent to benefit the Lions, then our reputation as a charitable group suffers. Finally, the eighth purpose of our "Lions International Purposes" is binding on all Lions:

*"To encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavours."*

**AGLC POLICY:** The policy of AGLC is that a percentage of some funds raised by casinos (or other fundraising charitable projects) may be used to defray the costs of the fundraising effort (buying bingo cards, printing raffle tickets, etc.) The AGLC policy is designed to cover the actual costs of staging the fundraising. AGLC funds ***may not*** be used by Lions to pay dues, attend conferences or conventions (local or International). Our MD C Council has taken extensive efforts to review this with AGLC, and we confirm that member dues are not eligible for payment or subsidy from any AGLC funds.

Council is anxious that all Clubs be aware of and adhere to the policy of LCI, and the guidelines of AGLC. We would be very hampered in meeting service needs in our communities should we lose our status with AGLC.

*Yours in service and friendship,*

***PIP Dr Patti Hill***