



research reveals...

an update on gambling research in ALBERTA

About The Alberta Gaming Research Institute

The Alberta Gaming Research Institute is a consortium of the Universities of Alberta, Calgary, and Lethbridge. Its primary purpose is to support and promote research into gaming and gambling in the province. The Institute's identified research domains include bio-psychological and health care, socio-cultural, economic, and government and industry policy and practice. The Institute aims to achieve international recognition in gaming-related research. It is coordinated by a Board of Directors working in collaboration with the Alberta Gaming Research Council. The Institute is funded by the Alberta government through the Alberta Lottery Fund.

OUR MISSION:

To significantly improve Albertans' knowledge of how gambling affects society

Your comments and queries are welcome either by e-mail abgaming@ualberta.ca or phone 780.492.2856.

2006 Conference on Gambling Research

THE BANFF CENTRE will be the site of the 5th Annual Alberta Conference on Gambling Research, "Social and Economic Costs and Benefits of Gambling," taking place on Friday, April 21, and Saturday, April 22, 2006, with an opening reception on Thursday evening, April 20. This year's conference features researchers from several countries who have studied the social and economic impacts of gambling. The 2006 conference will be of particular interest to government regulators, commercial gambling operators, economists, social scientists, treatment providers and gambling researchers.



"Social and Economic Costs and Benefits of Gambling" has three themes, which will be presented sequentially at the conference. The first deals with the methodological issues associated with Cost/ Benefit Analyses (for example, difficulties in quantifying social costs; the degree to which impacts are specific to the form of gambling, etc.). The second theme addresses jurisdictional studies of costs/benefits that have been done from around the world (including Canada, the United States, as well as specific states or provinces, among others.). The third theme focuses on research that has studied the impacts on specific sectors (for example, Aboriginals, government, societal values, the non-profit sector, crime, and other areas.).

Among the confirmed feature presenters are the following individuals, listed in order of presentation. The title of the presentation is shown in italics.

Methodological Issues

- **Dr. Eric Single**, Professor of Public Health Sciences, University of Toronto, and Scientific Advisor Emeritus, Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse – *Estimating the Costs of Substance Abuse: Implications for the Estimation of Costs and Benefits of Gambling.*
- **Dr. Rob Williams**, Professor, School of Health Sciences, and Alberta Gaming Research Institute, University of Lethbridge, and **Mr. Rhys Stevens**, Alberta Gaming Research Institute Librarian, University of Lethbridge – *The Devil in the Details: Overview of the Primary Methodological Issues in the Socioeconomic Analyses of Gambling.*
- **Dr. Doug Walker**, Associate Professor of Economics, Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, Georgia – *Quantification of the Social Costs & Benefits of Gambling.*
- **Mr. Mark Anielski**, President, Anielski Management Inc., and Coordinator, Social and Economic Impact Study of Gambling (SEIG Initiative), Edmonton, Alberta – *The Genuine Progress Indicator.*

Jurisdictional Studies of Cost/Benefits

- **Dr. Earl Grinols**, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Hankamer School of Business, Baylor University, Waco, Texas – *Costs and Benefits of Casino Gambling in the United States*.
- **Dr. Dean Gerstein**, National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago – *U.S. National Gambling Impact Study*.
- **Mr. Robert (Bob) Hann**, President, Robert Hann & Associates, Toronto, Ontario – *Ontario Charity Casino Impact Studies*.
- **Dr. Deepak Chhabra**, Assistant Professor, Health, Physical Education and Leisure Studies, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa – *Socioeconomic Impact of Gambling in Iowa*.
- **Dr. Jan McMillen**, Director, Centre for Gambling Research, Australian National University, Canberra – *Socioeconomic Impacts of Gambling in Australia*

Registration

Registration details are available on the Alberta Gaming Research Institute's website (www.abgaminginstitute.ualberta.ca).

Call for Posters

The 2006 Conference Committee invites poster submissions of recent empirical research in any area of gambling. Please submit a 200-word abstract in electronic format (MS-Word is preferred) to Dr. Robert Williams, robert.williams@uleth.ca. Abstracts should include: title of research, names of authors with the presenting author underlined, and author affiliation and contact information. The submission deadline is **February 15**, with notification by March 1. All poster presenters must register for the conference.

Alberta Centennial Medals Awarded

On November 20, 2005, **Mrs. Sheila Murphy**, Chair of the Alberta Gaming Research Council, and **Dr. Nady e-Guebaly**, Chair of the Alberta Gaming Research Institute Board, were awarded Alberta Centennial medals. The Medal celebrates Alberta's first 100 years by paying tribute to Albertans whose achievements have benefited their fellow citizens, their community and their province. The Alberta Gaming Research Institute congratulates Mrs. Murphy and Dr. el-Guebaly on receiving this honour.

Impacts on Specific Sectors

- **Dr. Kate Spilde**, Managing Director, Center for California Native Nations, University of California at Riverside, Riverside, California – *The Impact of Gambling on North American Aboriginals*.
- **Dr. Harold Wynne**, President, Wynne Resources, Edmonton, Alberta – *The Impact of Gambling on Communities*.
- **Dr. Garry Smith**, Gambling Research Specialist, Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta – *The Impact of Gambling on Crime*.
- **Dr. David Hodgins**, Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology – *The Impact of Gambling on Problem Gambling*.
- **Mr. Jason Azmier**, Senior Policy Analyst, Canada West Foundation – *The Impact of Gambling on the NonProfit Sector*.

13th International Conference on Gambling and Risk-Taking

The Institute for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaming of the University of Nevada, Reno is sponsoring the 13th International Conference on Gambling and Risk-Taking. The conference will take place **May 22-26, 2006**, at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, at the South Shore of Lake Tahoe, Stateline, Nevada. The Alberta Gaming Research Institute is an associate sponsor of this conference.

The International Conference on Gambling and Risk-Taking is among the premier academic and professional conferences dealing with gambling. Leaders and representatives from commercial gaming industries, academia, research organizations, regulatory agencies, and the helping services—as well as gamblers and the general public—have gathered every three years since 1974 to present and evaluate research, discuss new trends and technologies, and explore the changes and challenges created by the increased presence of commercial gaming throughout the world. Information about the Conference is available at <http://www.unr.edu/gaming/index.asp>.

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