

# LGA news

On April 1, 2014, the Manitoba Gaming Control Commission and the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission's Regulatory Services Division will combine to become a single regulatory agency: the **Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba (LGA)**.

## What does this mean for municipalities?

- *The Liquor and Gaming Control Act* will modernize Manitoba's current liquor laws, which have been in place since 1956. This will lead to some changes and options for municipal involvement in the liquor licensing process. Highlights of this new legislation include:
  - The new laws clarify municipalities' role in granting liquor licences through by-laws and zoning. The LGA will not approve a new liquor licence until the applicant has complied with all municipal zoning requirements and obtained all required municipal licences, permits and approvals.
  - Restrictions on Sunday hours have been eliminated; however, municipal councils may pass by-laws to restrict the sale and service of liquor on Sundays.
  - Municipalities will continue to have local option to reduce or prohibit liquor sale or service, as well as to prohibit VLT operations. If restrictions and/or prohibitions are in place in a municipality before April 1, these will transfer under the new legislation and continue to apply until changed or revoked by municipal plebiscite.
  - There will be a formal mechanism for municipalities to request that the LGA suspend or revoke a liquor licence for reasons of public interest (e.g. parking, proximity, noise and public safety).



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## Will we still be able to issue **gaming licences**?

- Licensing authorities, including municipalities, will be called local gaming authorities under our new legislation. This is a name change only. Municipalities will continue to be authorized to license raffles.
- Minor revisions have been made to LGA raffle terms and conditions. The revised terms and conditions will be available for your reference on April 1 at [www.LGAmanitoba.ca](http://www.LGAmanitoba.ca).
- Revised local gaming authority annual report forms will also be available on our new website on April 1. All local gaming authorities will continue to be required to maintain records and submit an annual report, whether or not they license charitable gaming events.
- The LGA will continue to work closely with municipalities to provide assistance in financial record-keeping to facilitate annual reporting. Inspectors will also continue to monitor local gaming authority licensing activities as usual.

**Questions?** Contact us at 204-954-9400 or toll-free at 1-800-782-0363. You can also email:

- [gaminglicence@LGAmanitoba.ca](mailto:gaminglicence@LGAmanitoba.ca) for questions about raffle licensing
- [audit@LGAmanitoba.ca](mailto:audit@LGAmanitoba.ca) for questions about local gaming authority annual reporting