



Connections

Connecting Governments Through Information

Summer 2008

**An Independent
Regulatory Agency of the
United States of America**

www.nigc.gov

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UPDATE:

Indian Gaming Working Group

The Indian Gaming Working Group (IGWG) held its first training conference of 2008 related to the protection of Indian gaming in San Diego, California, January 28-31 and the second conference in Portland, Oregon, May 20-22. Approximately 200 individuals attended the multi-day training during these two sessions. The efforts of this group, in which NIGC plays a significant role, continue to help provide tribal gaming with technical assistance and training opportunities.

The IGWG was established in 2003 to combat crimes and scams related to Indian gaming. The major focus of the IGWG is to enhance cooperation between law enforcement agencies, coordinate roles and functions, pool resources and develop effective strategies to investigate and prosecute Indian gaming-related crime.

Beginning in early 2007, the IGWG began a series of regional training conferences to provide tribal gaming regulators with information designed to improve their understanding of their federal compliance obligations and to enable them to work more effectively with law enforcement agencies.

Other important issues were discussed during the conference, including gang activity throughout Indian country, computer security and cyber threats, table game security, organized crime and terrorist financing and the prosecution of crimes against tribal gaming facilities.

During the training, IGWG used a classic "classroom" setting including PowerPoint presentations, written handouts and break-out sessions to provide and disseminate information related to the topics being discussed.

At the January training, experts illustrated methods of detecting card game cheating by demonstrating the steps required for a false shuffle and other similar card scams. A lot of practice is required to pull off these sleight of hand tricks to ensure the motion is smooth, quick and natural, experts told attendees.

Law enforcement officials have ratcheted up resources in an effort to send a message loud and clear to cheats, scam artists, employees involved in embezzlement, and unscrupulous vendors, that they will be prosecuted for engaging in illegal activity at Indian gaming facilities.

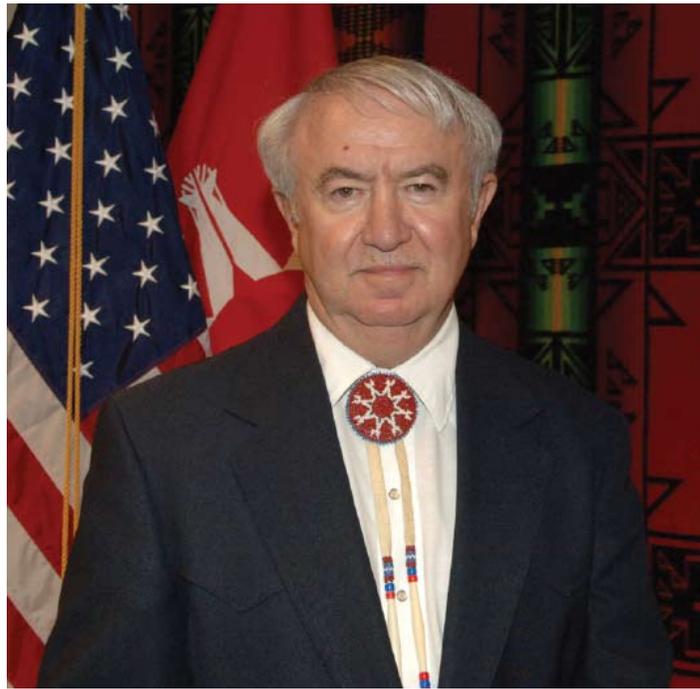
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Summer 08

Message from the Chairman

As summer comes to the Nation's capitol, NIGC finds it is focusing on some new areas, and moving in some new directions. The same old topic that has consumed most of the time and attention of the Commission, and much of Indian gaming community, for the last several years has been the Commission's effort to formulate rules to better distinguish the equipment that tribes can use for gaming, depending whether they are doing Class III, with compacts, or Class II, without compacts. While attending a meeting in Oklahoma this month, I announced that NIGC was not going to further consider the proposals that had been made relating to the amendment to the definition of electronic facsimile of games of chance, as that term is used to define Class III gaming equipment, or the "classification standards" which had been proposed. Instead the Commission will narrow its focus to the

technical standards and minimum internal control standards which have been drafted to apply to the relatively new, unique technology that comprises the systems



Philip N. Hogen

that electronically inter-connect bingo players to central computer servers. The Commission is awaiting completion of a cost-benefit study, which we hope to receive in July, and perhaps soon thereafter we will be able to make final decisions with respect to these issues. If that

project can be moved from our "front burner," more time and energy will be devoted to revisions to the long term planning tool, the Government Results Performance Act

(GPRA) plan, that we have been developing, and to further consult with tribes with respect to long term goals for NIGC, and identifying tools and measures to assess progress toward those goals. Also, a package of "house keeping" regulations to rectify some long standing inconsistencies

in NIGC's regulations can be soon in final form, and additional comment with respect to those will be sought.

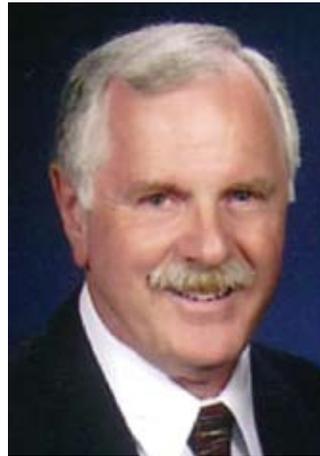
We've added a director of training to our staff, Davide Burk moved from Field Investigator in our Flowood, MS office to join us in Washington, DC, and he will be studying and discussing with tribal leadership, what areas NIGC should be focusing upon with respect to the technical assistance and training that NIGC will provide to tribal leadership, tribal gaming regulators, and operators.

While there will be some new focus in our efforts, the ongoing task of receiving reports from tribes, monitoring tribal gaming operations and regulation, and providing assistance where and when it is needed, will give us plenty to do throughout the summer, and into the fall.

NIGC Selects Director of Training

The National Indian Gaming Commission has selected David Burk as Director of Training. David has served the NIGC the past four years as a Senior Field Investigator in Flowood, Mississippi. Prior to joining the NIGC he was the Chief Internal Auditor for the Rincon Gaming Commission in Valley View, California. David served eight years with the Ft. McDowell Gaming Commission in Arizona and started his career in Indian Gaming with the Cow Creek Tribe in Oregon.

As a part of NIGC's efforts to offer training and technical assistance to the Indian gaming community, David will work with tribal leaders and other professionals currently involved with Indian gaming to prepare a comprehensive curriculum that will enhance ongoing training and technical assistance offered by the NIGC. Burk has extensive experience in the Indian gaming industry as well as significant experience as a professional trainer, a major asset to the NIGC.

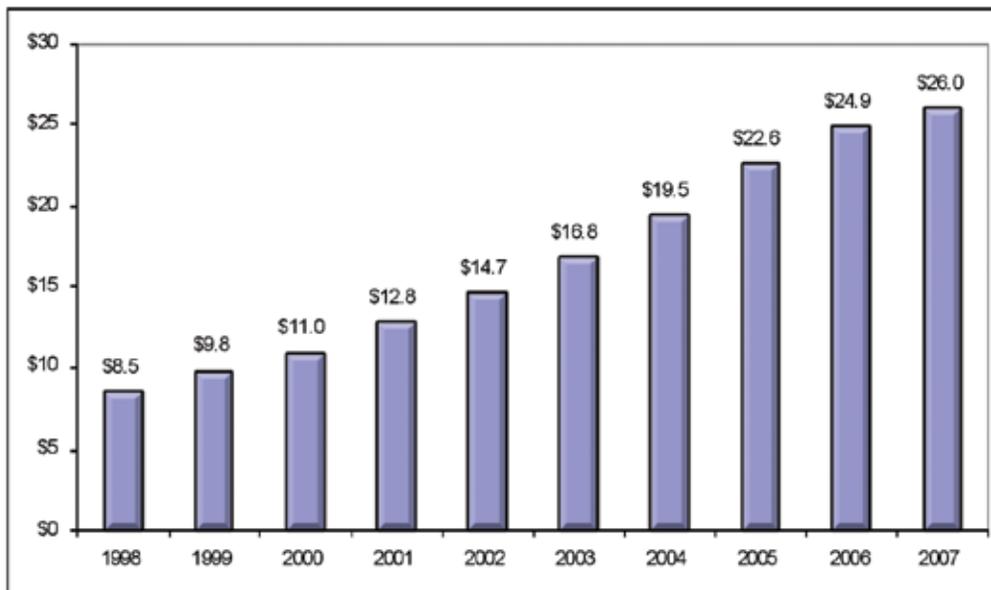


David Burk

He was a Deputy Sheriff in Tucson, Arizona, for five years and a Los Angeles

Police Officer for eight years before being injured in an on-duty motorcycle accident. He is an ordained minister and has been a pastor at several churches and spent five years in Mexico establishing orphanages. He is married with five children and four grandchildren.

Growth in Gaming Revenues (in billions)



The National Indian Gaming Commission recently announced that net revenues from Indian gaming continue to grow, increasing 5% from 2006 and generating \$26 billion in revenues in 2007. Gaming revenues represent amounts wagered less prizes paid. Revenue calculations are based on the audit reports NIGC receives annually from tribes conducting gaming operations in accordance with IGRA. The 2007 revenue data was compiled from the audit reports of 382 Indian gaming operations. Please visit our website for further information at www.nigc.gov

NIGC Region Director Set to Retire

Congratulations to Randy Sitton, Director of NIGC Region I Office, who retires at the end of June. Randy is a lifelong resident of the State of Oregon and played a vital role in the development of the National Indian Gaming Commission. When Randy joined the NIGC in 1999, he became the first director of the



From left to right: Norm DesRosiers, Randy Sitton, Phil Hogen

Region I office and spent long hours on the road visiting Indian gaming facilities in the northwest.

Randy was with Oregon State Police (OSP) from 1970 to 1999 rising to the rank of Captain. In 1995, he joined the Tribal

gaming section of the Oregon State Police and remained there until 1999.

Upon retiring from OSP, Randy joined the NIGC on May 23, 1999, and soon thereafter opened the NIGC Region I Office in Portland, Oregon on June 1, 1999.

Randy has 5 children and enjoys spending his spare time with family and friends and big game hunting.

NIGC Mourns Loss of Former Vice Chair

Former NIGC Vice-Chairman Nelson W. Westrin passed away on May 28, 2008, after being diagnosed with prostate cancer earlier this year. This unfortunate passing has impacted current and previous members of the NIGC Staff and our thoughts and prayers are with the Westrin family.

In 2002, Nelson was appointed by then Secretary of the Interior, Gale Norton, to serve on the three-member National Indian Gaming Commission, where he was elected Vice Chair. During his tenure, Nelson was instrumental in shaping the NIGC's policy and practices. Nelson was a true believer in consultation with tribal governments when developing policies affecting the industry and was instrumental in the

development of the NIGC's first ever Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation Policy, and also helped to promulgate amendments to the MICS and new regulations clarifying the distinction between Class II and Class III machines. Upon the completion of his term at the NIGC in December of 2005, Nelson joined Detroit Law Firm, Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP.

Prior to Nelson's appointment to the NIGC, he served as the first Executive Director of the Michigan Gaming Control Board. As the Board's first Executive Director, Westrin was responsible for developing, organizing, implementing and managing every facet of the new agency, which was created by state law to



Nelson W. Westrin

properly license and regulate Michigan's three authorized private commercial casinos in Detroit. Mr. Westrin also previously served as Michigan's racing

commissioner and as an assistant state attorney general and assistant county prosecutor in Michigan.

Indian Gaming Working Group

(continued from Pg. 1)

The following government agencies provided speakers for the IGWG training conference in San Diego and Portland:

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- National Indian Gaming Commission
- Tohono O'odham Nation
- Department of the Interior, Office of Inspector General
- Internal Revenue Service
- United States Department of the Treasury
- California Gambling Control Commission
- California Division of Gambling Control
- United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- United States office of the Attorney
- Office of Foreign Asset Control

The IGWG will hold additional training in Albuquerque, New Mexico, later this year.

About the NIGC

Washington D.C. is our Headquarters Office, we have six Regional Offices (one of which is housed in our D.C. offices) and five Satellite Offices.

104 Total Employees

57 Headquarter Personnel

47 Field Personnel

IGT Gaming Agent Training (4 days)

This class is designed for Gaming Agents in all gaming jurisdictions. This course will give you a better understanding of machine operations. Through lecture, discussion and hands-on practice you will learn about the machine hardware and firmware, security features, program summary reports, pay tables and resolving problems.

This course will discuss:

- Orientation
- Safety/ESD
- IGT Product overview
- Machine Components
- Game operation
- Information resources
- Reel assembly and PAR sheets
- Coin-in components
- Coin-out assembly
- Bill acceptor module
- Logic Components
- Program software
- Program verification
- Theft Scenario reviews

Upon completing this course the student will be able to:

- Identify IGT machine types,
- Identify machine components,
- Practice the proper safety procedures for both personal and machine safety,
- Identify security features, and
- Utilize machine firmware to assist in resolving disputes.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILS



Training location:
NIGC Region I Office
Portland, OR
• Court Room 71 (7th Floor)

Sponsored by:
NIGC – Region I
620 SW Main Street
Portland, OR 97205

No Cost or Fee

Training Announcement International Gaming Technology (IGT)

Training including:

- ✓ Orientation
- ✓ Safety/ESD
- ✓ IGT Product overview
- ✓ Machine Components
- ✓ Game operation
- ✓ Information resources
- ✓ Reel assembly and PAR sheets
- ✓ Coin-in components
- ✓ Coin out assembly
- ✓ Bill acceptor module
- ✓ Logic Components
- ✓ Program software
- ✓ Program verification
- ✓ Theft Scenario reviews

3 Sessions of IGT Training in 2008:

August 5 – 8 / September 16-19 / September 22-25

(Each days hours are 9 am – 4 pm)

Class space is limited to 12 persons.

Registration limited to one (1) member per Tribe per Session

If space allows, additional registrations could be accepted on final registration date.

Please **check** the session you wish to attend for the IGT training:

August 5 – 8, 2008 ___ September 16 – 19, 2008 ___ September 22 – 25, 2008 ___

(Please PRINT)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Tribe _____ Title _____

Please FAX enrollment form to:

(503) 326-5092

National Indian Gaming Commission

620 SW Main Street, Suite 212

Portland, OR 97205

Final Registration Deadline:

July 28 for Aug Session / Sept 10 for Sept Sessions

For further information, please contact:

Vicki Naval-Geistlinger (503) 326-5095

Government-to-Government Consultations Great Plains Indian Gaming Association



Winnebago Tribe of NE



Delaware Nation



Three Affiliated Tribes



Northern Cheyenne Tribe



Shakopee Mdewakanton



Yankton Sioux



Ho-Chunk Nation

