



STATE OF WASHINGTON
GAMBLING COMMISSION

"Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest"

State Centennial Accord Plans

1. Programs

The Washington State Gambling Commission is responsible for the negotiation of Class III gaming compacts on behalf of the state. Consistent with the terms of any Tribal-State Compact, the Gambling Commission is authorized and empowered to enforce the provisions of the Class III gaming compact. The Gambling Commission works cooperatively with tribal gaming regulatory agencies who have primary onsite responsibility. The terms of this tribal/state relationship are governed by the Class III gaming compacts between the state and the individual tribes and the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

The agency's negotiation function is primarily the responsibility of the director's office and tribal regulatory functions are primarily the responsibility of the tribal gaming unit, the electronic gambling laboratory, and the licensing operations division. In addition to our regulatory functions and certification/suitability determinations of tribal licensees, the agency provides gambling regulatory training and information to the Tribe, tribal gaming agencies, and employees.

2. Contacts within the Gambling Commission

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3. Funding Distribution

As a regulatory agency, the Gambling Commission does not have funds for distribution to tribes. The commission recovers the costs for regulatory services from tribes.

4. Consultation Process-Procedures

The Gambling Commission is committed to consulting with tribes on all issues that affect our respective governments. Specific processes are documented in the agency's Tribal Relations and Consultation policy.

We are committed to conferring with Tribes on all issues that affect our respective governments, and individual plans for communication will be identified that address and include the unique governmental structure of each Tribe. In general:

1. The Director and his/or her designee will work primarily with Tribal government leaders and Tribal gaming commissions regarding policy items.
2. The Deputy Director, Assistant Directors, and Administrators will work primarily with the Tribal Gaming Commissions and Tribal Gaming Agency Directors.
3. The Assistant Directors, Administrators, and Managers will work with each Tribal Gaming Agency Director to create an individualized regulatory plan for their gaming facility.
4. The Managers and staff will implement the co-regulatory plan and work directly with the Tribal Gaming Agencies on gambling regulatory issues on a day-to-day basis.

The agency will make reasonable efforts to collaborate with Indian tribes in the development of policies, agreements, and program implementation that directly affect Indian tribes.

Meetings with individual tribes or with the tribes as a group may be used to communicate policy and/or program changes. Tribal Gaming Agency Directors meetings, Tribal Gaming Agency and Gambling Commission licensing meetings, surveillance meetings, Gambling Commission study sessions or similar types of meetings may be used.

Meeting requests may be initiated by the Gambling Commission or a Tribe. Discussion topics may include but are not limited to: proposed new policies or changes to existing policies that may impact a Tribe, existing policies or procedures that impact a Tribe, and agency request legislation that may affect a Tribe.

The agency participates in all Centennial Accord meetings.

5. Dispute Resolution Process

The dispute resolution process for Class III gaming issues is set forth in the Class III Gaming Compacts between the individual tribes and the state. This process involves several levels of dispute resolution from consultation, to mediation and arbitration.

Agency employees are strongly encouraged to resolve disputes on an informal basis whenever possible.