

July 13, 2012

Volume 18, Issue 21

For more information on Michigan's gaming industry, please visit [www.michigangaming.com](http://www.michigangaming.com)

*Editor in Chief*

**David D. Waddell, Esq.**

Phone: 517.507.3859

[waddell@rmclegal.com](mailto:waddell@rmclegal.com)

*Senior Gaming Analyst  
& Editor*

**Robert R. Russell, II**

Phone: 517.507.3858

[russell@rmclegal.com](mailto:russell@rmclegal.com)

*Reporter and Associate Editor*

**Dustin M. Ford**

Phone: 517.999.5414

[dford@rmclegal.com](mailto:dford@rmclegal.com)

*Reporter*

**Douglas L. Minke**

Phone: 313.221.9380

[minke@rmclegal.com](mailto:minke@rmclegal.com)

*Reporter*

**Blaine R. DeGracia**

Phone: 517.507.3857

[degracia@rmclegal.com](mailto:degracia@rmclegal.com)

*Subscription information:*

[info@michigangaming.com](mailto:info@michigangaming.com)

A publication of

**RMC Ventures, LLC**

University Place Center  
333 Albert Ave, Suite 450  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Phone: 517.507.3860  
Fax: 517.908.0235  
[www.rmclegal.com](http://www.rmclegal.com)

# The \_\_\_\_\_ MICHIGAN GAMING \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter



## AARON PAYMENT ELECTED TO SAULT TRIBE BOARD

On June 27, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians ("Tribe") swore in newly elected chairman, Aaron Payment of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The former chairman defeated incumbent Joe Eitrem with 56.3 percent of the vote. Mr. Payment previously served as chairman from 2004-08.

Notably, the Tribe has proposed plans to build a 125,000 square-foot gaming facility in downtown Lansing that would house an estimated 3,000 slot machines and 48 table games. The Tribe, however, must now seek approval from the federal government in order to move forward with the project. The Tribe operates the five Kewadin casinos in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. [www.kewadin.com](http://www.kewadin.com)

## FIREKEEPERS CASINO TO HOST JOB FAIR

On July 16, 2012, Firekeepers Casino will be hosting a job fair seeking to fill 300 positions in anticipation of the completion of its hotel and expanded gaming facilities. The job fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Firekeepers Casino bingo room.

"The positions, there are about 320 all together," Renee Martin, director of human resources at Firekeepers Casino told *MLive.com*. Some of the available positions will be in the hotel, table game area, events center, housekeeping, front desk work, and banquet staff.

The completion of the hotel will include 242 rooms and is planned to open this fall. Notably, on July 4<sup>th</sup>, they expanded the bingo room to accommodate 500 bingo players, which doubled its previous capacity.

Qualified applicants who plan to attend the job fair are encouraged to bring a copy of their resume to have a chance to participate in onsite interviews

and prescreens. For more information on the fair or currently available positions, please visit: [www.FireKeepersCasino.com](http://www.FireKeepersCasino.com).

## ILITCH CHARITIES PLANS EVENTS TO BENEFIT LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

On August 26 and 27, 2012, Ilitch Charities will be hosting their fifth-annual Celebrity Golf Classic and One Team, One Community Gala event to benefit local charitable organizations.

The fifth-annual Celebrity Golf Classic will be held at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Over the past four years, the events have raised more than \$800,000 for local charitable organizations. Ilitch Charities continues its commitment to making improvements in the areas of community and economic development, human services, education, and recreation in the region. Last year's event raised more than \$120,000 for local charitable organizations.

Several national and local sports and entertainment personalities will be in attendance to help raise money and awareness for the organizations. Alternatives for Girls, College for Creative Studies, and Reading Works were selected as the local groups to receive contributions received by the event. The charity gala event will include live and silent auctions followed by dinner, live entertainment and dancing at the MotorCity Casino's popular Amnesia night club.

The current schedule for the two events is as follows:

One Team, One Community Gala – August 26, 2012

- 5:30 p.m. General Admission
- 7:30 p.m. Live Auction
- 8:30 p.m. Desserts and Dancing in Amnesia
- 10:00 p.m. Party Concludes, Auction Checkout

Celebrity Golf Classic – August 27, 2012

- 9:00 a.m. Check-in and Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. Driving Range Open
- 10:00 a.m. South Course Shotgun

- 10:45 a.m. North Course Shotgun
- 4:30 p.m. Reception and Awards Presentation

Ilitch Charities is currently accepting sponsorships for their events. For more information about sponsorships or the events, please visit: [www.ilitchcharities.org](http://www.ilitchcharities.org).

## ONTARIO GOVERNMENT LOOKS TO MODERNIZE PROVINCE'S GAMING INDUSTRY

Earlier this year, the Government of Ontario, Canada announced plans to allow the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) to proceed with plans to modernize gambling in the province. Of the many proposed measures, one of the central components of the modernization effort involves the privatization of gaming management at the province's gambling facilities.

The OLG's report, delivered to the Ontario Minister of Finance on March 12, 2012, outlined a proposal to modernize lottery and gaming in Ontario. The basis of the report emphasized creating a more customer-focused gaming model, expanding the privatization of lottery and gaming in the region, and renewing the OLG's oversight role of these activities. The OLG predicts that, by 2017, modernization efforts will create 2,300 new lottery and gaming industry jobs and an estimated 4,000 service sector jobs. In addition, it projects \$3 billion (CA) will be invested in private capital in the province while increasing net profit by an additional \$1.3 billion (CA) annually. The OLG reports that historically net profit to the province in each of the last seven years has ranged from \$1.7 billion to \$2.0 billion (CA).

According to the report, the OLG's current business model will not be sustainable unless changes are implemented. Advances in technology, aging demographics, and declining visits from the United States were noted as threats to Ontario's gaming industry.

A push for privatization will be limited to managing, not owning, the gaming facility sites.

*(Continued on page 3)*

Because unlike most U.S. jurisdictions, the Criminal Code of Canada does not allow for private sector ownership of gambling facilities. Currently, there are four casino resorts under private sector management in the Province, including Caesars Windsor Hotel and Casino located in Windsor, Ontario. Additional locations include Fallsview Casino, Casino Niagara, and Casino Rama.

One example of previous privatization efforts includes the hiring of Fallsview Management Company (FMC) and Caesars Entertainment to handle the day-to-day management of certain casino resort facilities. FMC is contracted by the OLG and currently operates and manages two of Ontario's four casino resort properties. The 4,500 workers employed by FMC work directly for the company rather than the OLG. This same model is also being utilized at several of the province's other two gaming facilities, including Caesars Windsor Hotel and Casino. Other gaming venues, including the province's other casino properties and casino employees are working for OLG but then they are considered to be public sector workers.

Notably, Requests for Information for modernizing land-based gaming in Ontario recently closed on July 4, 2012. Requests for Information to modernizing lottery in Ontario close on August 2, 2012.

“Issuing the RFI is the next step in modernizing our business,” said Rod Phillips, OLG President and CEO. “This is the start of a process to engage private-sector companies which have the expertise of operating world-class gaming facilities.”

For more information please visit: <http://www.olg.ca/index.jsp>

*The Michigan Gaming Newsletter would like to thank Scott Nuyttens and Peter Stern for their contributions to this issue.*