

FY-2024 1st (Oct - Dec) Quarter Report

ONEIDA GAMING COMMISSION

Approved by official entity action on: February 6, 2024

Submitted by: OGC Chairman Mark A. Powless, Sr.

OBC Liaison: Vice Chairman Brandon Yellowbird Stevens

PURPOSE

The Oneida Gaming Commission and its departments collectively promote and ensure the integrity, security, honesty and fairness of the regulation and administration of Gaming.

AUTHORITY

Summarily, the OGC's authority is to effectuate the gaming regulatory purposes of the Oneida Nation Gaming Ordinance (ONGO), Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, Oneida Gaming Minimum Internal Controls, and the Compact. [See the ONGO 501. 6-14. (a)-(w) for enumerated authority and responsibilities.]

BCC MEMBERS

Mark A. Powless, Sr.
Chairman
August 2028

Reynold (Tom) Danforth
Vice Chairman
August 2025

Michelle Braaten
Secretary
August 2027

Jeremy King
Appointed Commissioner
August 2024

MEETINGS

1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

9:00 AM

In person at OGC Office: 2669 W. Mason Street or request link for Microsoft Teams participation

Emergency Meetings: None this quarter

CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTACT: Mark A. Powless, Sr.

TITLE: Commission Chairman

PHONE NUMBER: (920) 497-5850
E-MAIL: mpowles5@oneidanation.org
MAIN WEBSITE: Coming soon!

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ACCOMPLISHMENT #1

Summary:

THE LAST ONEIDA GAMING MINIMUM INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS (OGMICS) AMENDMENTS WERE SENT TO THE STATE FOR REVIEW AND THE OGMICS REVISION PROJECT WAS OFFICIALLY CLOSED OUT AND COMPLETED BY THE OGC-COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT (11/20/2023).

Impact:

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGULATIONS CREATES MINIMUM STANDARDS BY WHICH COMPLIANCE CAN BE MEASURED AND ACCOUNTABILITY ENFORCED. THE FORMATTING OVERHAUL AND REVISION OF THE OGMICS BROUGHT THE STANDARDS UP TO DATE, AS WELL AS MADE THEM CLEARER AND MORE USER FRIENDLY TO REFERENCE FOR PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND ENFORCEMENT.

ACCOMPLISHMENT #2

Summary:

SPORTSBOK AMENDMENTS (TO OGMICS) WERE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE (12/01/23), INITIATING THE SPORTSBOK MINIMUM INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS REVISION PROJECT TO BRING SPORTSBOK MICS UP TO INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES.

Impact:

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGULATIONS CREATES MINIMUM STANDARDS BY WHICH COMPLIANCE CAN BE MEASURED AND ACCOUNTABILITY ENFORCED. AFTER A FEW YEARS OF OPERATION AND IMPROVED JURISDICTIONAL CONTEXT, ONEIDA OPERATIONS AND THE STATE ARE PREPARED TO IMPROVE UPON WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN INITIALLY AGREED TO IN ORDER TO BE FIRST TO MARKET. THE SPORTSBOK STANDARDS ARE IN NEED OF CLARIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT.

ACCOMPLISHMENT #3

Summary:

LIVESCAN DIGITAL IMAGING IMPLEMENTATION IS UNDERWAY TO REESTABLISH DIGITAL FINGERPRINTING AND SECURE TRANSMISSIONS FOR A MORE EFFICIENT AND SECURE BACKGROUNDING PROCESS TO REPLACE MANUAL FINGERPRINT CARD SUBMISSIONS.

Impact:

DIGITAL FINGERPRINTING LEVERAGES TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES AND ALLOWS THE INVESTIGATIONS & LICENSING DEPARTMENT TO MEET INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES OF SIMILAR TRIBAL GAMING REGULATORY AGENCIES.

GOALS

LONG-TERM GOAL #1 (ALIGNMENT)

REVIEW AND ENSURE ALIGNMENT OF OGC STRATEGIES, ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE, PROCESSES, REWARDS, AND PEOPLE.

Periodic evaluation of alignment creates opportunities to identify necessary and continuous improvement.

Update on Goal:

All departments are diligently working on internal assessments, particularly relevant to organization structure and position titles to account for the specific regulatory needs of the OGC and improve upon preparedness of technological advancements of the gaming industry, as well as ever-evolving scams of cheats, fraud, and cybersecurity criminals.

LONG-TERM GOAL #2 (REMODEL)

REMODEL PHYSICAL WORK AREAS/OFFICE SPACES AND VIRTUAL PLATFORMS TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE IMPROVED CROSS-FUNCTIONAL WORKFLOWS AND UPDATED TECHNOLOGY INSTALLATIONS/USAGE.

To support the Nation's vision of a strong economy, it is important to evaluate and make necessary adjustments to how and where we work to be most effective with available resources. Leveraging technology and making improvements to our physical and virtual workspaces are integral to the Nation's financial efficacy.

Update on Goal:

Quotes have been received for Surveillance department workstation updates. Quotes have also been received for the OGC building system and camera needs, as well as access control updates. The request has been made to the S4N (Surveillance for the Nation) Project Team to reprioritize projects and schedule these improvements sooner to address insufficient and dilapidated equipment for employee safety and protection.

QUARTERLY GOAL #1 (ALIGNMENT)

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES AND WORKFLOWS TO BE UPDATED AND RELOCATED TO A SHARED PLATFORM FOR ALL OGC DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES TO REFERENCE.

Updating SOPs and workflows ensure there are accurate, consistent, and repeatable processes in place to reference by which compliance and accountability can be measured and enforced.

Update on Goal:

SOPs are being reviewed and updated, particularly for annual regulatory requirements and obligations. Request for (DTS) Services were made for Microsoft Teams/Sharepoint assistance.

QUARTERLY GOAL #2 (REMODEL)

CREATE OGC WEBSITE PAGE TO HOUSE AND SHARE CONTENT THAT INCLUDES ELECTRONIC FORMS/LINKS FOR EMPLOYEE, VENDOR, AND PATRON REFERENCE AND USAGE.

Improving upon how and what we communicate, particularly in the virtual space by leveraging technology, is essential for the OGC and its departments to be proactive in the ever-evolving gaming regulatory industry.

Update on Goal:

Documents are being formatted for ideal content and link reference. Inquiries were made for electronic payment links and Request for (DTS) Services were made for Nation website additions.

STIPENDS

Per the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law, stipends are set via OBC resolution. BC resolution 04-13-22-B sets the stipend amounts.

	Total dollar amount paid	Stipends are only paid to Pro-tems for hearing conflicts of interest that may arise.		
		Regular Mtg	Emergency Mtg	Hearings/Other
October 2023	\$0	2	0	0
November 2023	\$0	2	0	0
December 2023	\$0	2	0	0

BUDGET

FY-2024 BUDGET: \$5,035,499

FY-2024 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING PERIOD: \$1,383,854

Expenses to date are approximately 27% of the total annual budget, which were used to maintain services of the Surveillance, Compliance, Investigations & Licensing, and Administration departments of the OGC. Similar expenses will be incurred next quarter, with an expected increase to training and travel expenses for the start of the 2024 calendar conference year.

REQUESTS

- 1) Provide a status update on the two (2) Illegal Gambling concerns/inquiries made to the BC formalized in memos sent on November 3rd and December 20th of 2023.
- 2) Provide a status update on the request for the BC to resolve the inaction of Gaming Management to issue payment for a patron dispute. Memo sent December 6, 2023.

OTHER

None