

130 YEARS OF BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES

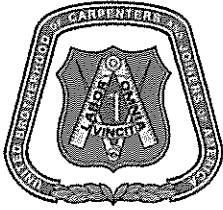
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DEPUTATION TO THE CASINO CONSULTATION
VAUGHAN CASINO PROPOSAL

TUESDAY MAY 28, 2013



Deputation to the Casino Community Consultation

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Good morning, I would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Carpenters Union on the issue of a Casino in Vaughan.

My name is Mike Yorke and I am the President of Carpenters Local 27, which is the local responsible for representing union Carpenters and Apprentices across the GTA. Our local members build everything from single family homes to commercial office towers to crucial infrastructure such as transit, hospitals and schools.

The Carpenters' Union has been active in the GTA for 130 years and are a strong voice in the community, which has increased the scope of our Union in participating and contributing to the growth of this region and Ontario.

My local is comprised of over 7000 working men and women who are part of the Carpenters' District Council of Ontario, which has over 22,000 members and growing, engaged in all sectors of the trade and industry.

At recent meetings of the union membership, both Carpenters Local 27 and Drywall Local 675, together representing over 12,000 members have approved motions unanimously supporting the development of a casino.

Economic Impact

The Carpenters' Union believes that the OLG proposal for an "Integrated Resort" style casino complex offers an extraordinary opportunity for the city to create thousands of jobs for the residents of Vaughan and the GTA. The main area of focus for the Carpenters Union in the past, today and into the future is supporting the creation of secure, good paying, quality jobs for the men and women of Ontario.

The report before the committee, from the Executive Director notes that the Economic Impact of this proposal could be substantial. A permanent facility in Vaughan would bring benefits to the city ; including: “ additional revenue, new jobs, capital investment and property taxes.” The proposal for an Integrated Gaming Complex with a potential capital investment of \$1.2 Billion would create;

- Generate an annual OLG hosting fee to the City of an expected \$32 Million
- Produce an expected \$16.3 to \$24.5 Million in property Taxes
- Create 8,000 -10,000 permanent jobs
- Create 3,00 construction jobs.
- Private sector could fund and build an entertainment district anchored by the complex
- Be a catalyst for arts, culture and tourism
- Be a major revenue source helping fund a number of other growth related opportunities

This is good news for not only Vaughan's and the GTA's construction industry, but the tourism, hospitality, retail, convention and trade show sectors as well. In terms of the convention and trades show sectors, our Union has world level Exhibit and Display contractors that manufacture displays that travel the Globe.

These are high quality jobs that will grow in demand. In fact, the OLG estimates that our local convention and tourist visitors' numbers will grow with the establishment of a casino. The whole city will benefit from this –from hotels, restaurants and cultural sectors all the way to taxi cab drivers.

And for an industry like mine , that has seen the Lion's share of work over the last number of years coming from primarily Public sector spending, to have the private sector bringing this expenditure to the table is welcome news.

We know that when members of the Carpenters' Union are working, the whole region benefits. This proposed investment offers a unique opportunity to address other infrastructure issues as well such as improving transit and roadways to combat congestion, developing pedestrian access and revitalizing underused spaces.

An integrated resort is open to all

This is really a once in a generation opportunity for the city. It meshes nicely with other exciting City Building developments and proposals such as:

The York Spadina subway extension project and the development of the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre.

It allows us to expand our vision and “Think Big” about what the city can become. Many other international destinations have embraced and taken on the challenge, showcasing a robust downtown location for a resort, such as Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, Barcelona, Spain or Marina Bay Singapore. This opportunity challenges us to think big, dream big and develop a site that is for everyone.

In this scenario, gaming is only a small part of the bigger picture. On the same site we can envision a facility that brings together world class entertainment venues, restaurants, shopping, family focused attractions, convention spaces and much more.

This type of facility can be an investment catalyst. For example, in Sydney where the Star Casino has just had a \$1 billion dollar retrofit, a well-known firm-Brookfield Multiplex is now developing a convention Centre adjacent to the Casino infusing \$1 billion dollar expenditure into the Australian economy. The Southbank/Crown Casino in Melbourne is an incredibly vibrant hub of urban living, featuring city Promenades with numerous restaurants, condos, all full of people.

In closing, I just wish to clearly state the Carpenters’ Union support for this initiative due to its many positive impacts both immediate and long term for the residents of Vaughan and Ontario.

We endorse the resolution as recommended by the Executive Director and the Interim City Manager that “Council declares the City of Vaughan to be a willing host, and that the clerk forward this resolution to the OLG”

Thank you again for the opportunity to make this deputation and I am more than happy to field any questions that you may have.

Mike Yorke, President
Carpenters and Allied Workers Local 27



Crown Casino and Hotel Complex on Yarra River, Melbourne



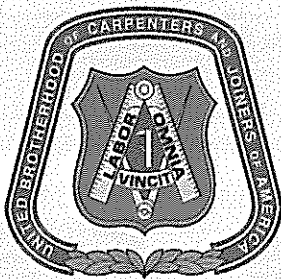
Crown Casino on Yarra River Waterfront Promenade, Melbourne



Darling Harbour, Sydney



Star Casino Complex Darling Harbour, Sydney



CARPENTERS' LOCAL UNION 27
United Brotherhood of Carpenters
and Joiners of America
222 Rowntree Dairy Rd, Woodbridge, ON L4L 9T2
Phone: 905-652-4140 * Fax: 905-652-4139
email: organizing@thecarpentersunion.ca