

POLICY 18

CASINOS

The Board recognizes that schools do not receive all the necessary financial resources to meet the many ancillary activities that are found in schools. This includes band activities, athletic activities, extra-curricular activities, and so on. Historically community groups, schools and churches have used various forms of games of chance as a form of entertainment that could be used as a fund-raiser. However, the continued proliferation of Video Lottery Terminals (VLT) has been identified as problematic for many reasons that have been enumerated by the Alberta Bishops (i.e. Conference 1998 Statement: "*The False Eden of Gambling*", Archbishop Pettipas 2009 letter).

The Board does not endorse fund raising by any group actively participating in a Casino for the specific purpose of raising funds for one of the schools under its jurisdiction.

Specifically

1. By rejecting Casinos and VLT's specifically at this time, the Board is neither endorsing nor rejecting other forms of gambling.
2. Should any group beyond the control of the Board (volunteer or otherwise) choose to ignore this policy, the Board will not allow the use of its name, or the name of any of its schools or School Councils to be used in conjunction with a Casino fund-raiser. In no way can the fund raising group be identified with the District, or any part of it.
3. Schools, in collaboration with their support groups, shall explore using other forms of fund raising rather than Casinos.
4. By the end of the 2018-19 school year elementary & junior high schools will no longer accept funds raised by Societies through Casinos or VLTs, except for playground development and revitalization.
5. By the end of the 2018-19 school year high schools will no longer accept funds raised by Societies through Casinos or VLTs except Societies donating to high school programs & District Band Programs where a financial need can be demonstrated. Funds raised through Casinos or VLTs may only be used for the purposes of long distance extra-curricular travel, accommodation, and/or equipment needs.

Reference: Section 60, School Act

Cross-Reference: Administrative Procedure 512 – Student Fund-Raising Activities