

## A Message from the President

Is anyone else ready for spring and summer? I know I sure am. I just got back from Florida doing site visits for our 2017 conference. We found some great properties and now need to narrow it down to the final pick. After being in Florida for a few days, I want the warm weather to come to Montana.

For this year's conference, we get to go to the beautiful city of Quebec City, Quebec. A few fun facts about this city. Quebec City is the capital of the Canadian province of Quebec. While Quebec is the city's official name in both French and English, the city is most often referred to as Quebec City (or Ville de Quebec in French) to distinguish the city from the province. Today, 95 percent of Quebec City residents speak French, with a third of the population speaking both English and French. Brush up on your French! Last but not least, Quebec City had a NHL hockey team called the Quebec Nordiques between 1979 to 1995. The team moved to Denver in 1995 and became the Colorado Avalanche.

Not your normal Monday – Friday conference, we will kick off with the customary full day training session on Friday, June 17th, The session topic will be about Risk



Lisa M. Christiansen  
NAGRA President  
2015/2016

Based Regulation, given by Don Bourgeois. This should be an interesting session and I encourage everyone to come in and take advantage of this.

There is a new item we are adding to our agenda this year and I'm excited to present it to you. On Monday, June 20th, there will be a GLI Mini Roundtable Day. They will be covering topics on iGaming, social gaming, electronic raffle systems and a few more. We hope you will enjoy this session!

The conference includes some great plenary and breakout sessions, a little something for everyone. A major benefit of attending NAGRA conferences is the opportunity to network with other regulators from across North America, not to mention the education you take back to your jobs.

A big thank you to Dave Jeseritz and all the conference committee members for your hard work in putting together some interesting topics. It will be a great conference once yet again and I invite you to come join us for good training and networking opportunities.

See you in Quebec!

Lisa Christiansen  
Montana Gambling Control Division

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# NAGRA Leadership Opportunities

It's not enough for us to serve the gaming industry. At NAGRA, we also encourage our members to be engaged and involved, and we create opportunities for this purpose.

Since we're a member-based organization, we need Gaming Regulator and Trade Affiliate member volunteers. In exchange for your time and your support, you will develop leadership skills that will benefit you both professionally and personally. Please consider serving with our Membership, Programming, Conference Committees, or any one of our Gaming Interest Groups. Volunteering is just as easy as it is rewarding.



## Want to Contribute?

Have an idea for an article for the NAGRA News? Would you like to contribute an article? Send in your idea today. Please include your name, agency, phone number and email address. Any member updates or insights into the industry make for great content! We appreciate your contribution.

Articles can be sent via email to Sue at [suep@nagra.org](mailto:suep@nagra.org).

## 2016 Newsletter Schedule

### Spring:

Call for News: April 1

Content Due: May 1

Newsletter Emailed: May 15

### Summer:

Call for News: July 1

Content Due: August 1

Newsletter Emailed: August 15

## 2015/2016 Board of Directors

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## About NAGRA

NAGRA brings together agencies that regulate gaming activities and provides them a forum for the mutual exchange of regulatory information and techniques. Collecting and disseminating regulatory and enforcement information, procedures, and experiences from all jurisdictions provides ongoing gaming education and training for all members.

# 2016 NAGRA Annual Training & Education Conference

Hilton Québec | Québec, Canada

June 17-20, 2016

## Visit Québec City

Québec City sits on the Saint Lawrence River in predominantly French-speaking Québec province. Dating to 1608, it retains its fortified colonial core, Vieux-Québec and Place Royale, with narrow streets, stone buildings and a European feel. This area is site of the famous, towering Château Frontenac Hotel and imposing Citadelle of Québec. The Petit Champlain district's cobblestone streets are lined with bistros and boutiques. Visit <http://www.quebecregion.com/en/>

## The Hilton Québec

Experience the Hilton Hotel in Quebec City and enjoy a refreshing sense of comfort and hospitality. The hotel offers a selection of spacious rooms with a light and airy atmosphere, perfect for couples and families alike. Each of them is stylishly decorated and boasts panoramic views of Old Quebec, the Laurentian Mountains and Parliament Hill.

NAGRA online Room Reservation information coming soon...

### Coming Soon:

- Hotel Reservation Link
- Sponsorship & Exhibitor Opportunities
- Attendee Registration

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## Background Investigations Webinar

This webinar features the components of background investigations. The state of California's Department of Justice, Bureau of Gambling Control will highlight the state's approach to background employees of cardrooms and third party proposition players. AmericanChecked Inc. will explain the private security company's method of background investigations for tribal gaming employees.

Join presenters **Lauren Hammond**, Commissioner, California Gaming Commission; **Yolanda Morrow**, Assistant Bureau Chief, California DOJ, Bureau of

Gambling Control; **Kevin Kolbe**, Special Agent in Charge, California DOJ, Bureau of Gambling Control; **Frances Asuncion**, Analyst III, California DOJ, Bureau of Gambling Control; and **Julie Hakman**, President and CEO of American Checked Inc. on

**Wednesday, March 16, 2016**  
**Noon-1:00 pm CDT**

**Register Today** 



# 2016 Excellence in Gaming Regulation Award

Nominations accepted through April 4, 2016

An award is given each year at the NAGRA Annual Meeting to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in the field. A call for nominations is sent to the members of NAGRA near the end of each calendar year and a committee is established to review the nominations and determine a winner.

## Eligibility:

This award is open to regulators who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in the gaming regulatory or enforcement environment. All nominees must be current NAGRA members.

## Nomination Process:

Nominations must be in writing. Nominations must include examples of actions/achievements by the nominee. Nominations should include the name of the nominee, title, jurisdiction and contact information.

## Selection Criteria:

The committee will consider nominees who have demonstrated sustained achievement, exceptional performance and deserve recognition for their extraordinary contributions in the field of gaming regulation. Areas of consideration may include:

- The supervision or organization of employees leading to outstanding accomplishments.
- The enhancement of the public perception of gaming regulation by external organizations.
- The identification and implementation of significant cost savings for a specific jurisdiction.
- The identification and implementation of significant efficiencies in regulatory processes or procedures.

## Notification:

Winners and all other nominees will be notified in early May and the winner will be presented the award at the NAGRA Annual Conference.

## Previous Award Winners Include:

- 2006 – Jim M. Haynes
- 2007 – Norman H. DesRosiers
- 2008 – Bruce T. Samboy
- 2009 – Gerald E. Otoupal
- 2010 – Dale J. Fuga
- 2011 – Michael Petersen
- 2012 – No Recipient
- 2013 – Matthew L. Morgan, ESQ, Chickasaw Nation Gaming Commission
- 2014 – Rodney Rickenbach, New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement
- 2015 – Richard Herrington, Washington State Gambling Commission

**Submit a  
Nomination  
Online Now**



## Developing a Career in Audit Into a Finance Leadership Role

### 2016 Gaming & Hospitality Conference

April 6-7, 2016  
The Mirage  
Las Vegas, NV



Chelle Adams, chief financial officer, The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, and Craig Robinson, CIA, senior director of finance, Miami Valley Gaming and Racing, discuss how they made the transition from CAE to CFO in their revealing session at The Institute of Internal Auditors **2016 Gaming & Hospitality Conference**, April 6-7 in Las Vegas. Join hundreds of internal audit and risk management professionals to network and share best practices. Register before Feb. 29 to save US\$100.

## Midwest Gaming Investigators & Regulators Update



Midwest Gaming Investigators and Regulators is a non-profit organization comprised of gaming regulators and investigators throughout the United States and Canada.

MGIR holds conferences biannually with the mission of sharing gaming intelligence. Roundtable information has included:

- Thefts, illegal activities, and devices
- Licensing and background investigations
- New gaming activities and legislation
- Internet gaming
- Lottery investigations

**For Agenda and more information, email:**

Tracy Bigelow  
North Dakota Office of Attorney General  
tbigelow@nd.gov



### Spring Training Conference and Roundtable

**April 12-14, 2016**

### Ameristar Casino and Resort Black Hawk, CO

111 Richman Street  
Black Hawk, CO 80422  
720-946-4000

**Join us in Black Hawk!**



## Michigan Gaming Updates

### Former Kearsley teacher accused of pocketing cash meant to help students

*The Flint Journal/MLive, November 18, 2015*

by Roberto Acosta

FLINT, MI – A former Kearsley High School teacher and coach faces charges that he took thousands of dollars in charitable contributions meant to help students for his own use.

Timothy Phipps, 49, of Flint, was arraigned Nov. 13 in District Judge Jennifer Manley's courtroom on the following counts:

- One count of Embezzlement of \$1,000 or more but less than \$20,000.
- Two counts of gambling-charitable gaming-disposition of proceeds for devoting a portion of the net proceeds of a millionaire party for an unlawful purpose by using, taking or converting a portion of the proceeds for personal use

"Phipps chaired 49 millionaire party events or paid a family member or family friend to act as chairman between 2009 and 2014," reads a statement from the Michigan Gaming Control Board. >>[Read more.](#)

### Daily fantasy sports sites under review in Michigan

*The Detroit News, December 8, 2015*

by Chad Livengood

"I don't know how it's not considered gambling. It's easy to get addicted to," said Cobus, 27, of Sterling Heights. "Money can go as fast as if you're sitting down at a casino."

The rapid rise of daily fantasy sports websites such as DraftKings.com and FanDuel.com, offering large cash prizes to players who pick professional athletes who perform the best in games, has caught the eye of gambling regulators in Michigan and across the country.

Officials at the Michigan Gaming Control Board are studying whether the websites violate state laws that prohibit gambling outside of licensed casinos, horse tracks and charity gaming events

"Any gambling not specifically authorized is an issue," said Richard Kalm, executive director of the gaming control board. >>[Read more.](#)

### Who is protecting the money parents donate to school sports programs?

*WXYZ, October 8, 2015*

by Simon Shaykhet

Adults busted for stealing tens of thousands of dollars from our children.

Now, more and more of these crooked coaches are facing felony charges.

They are alleged crooks, accused of stealing thousands of dollars from trusting students and their families.

Coaches and youth athletic program directors - trusted to oversee money meant for the kids. Instead, investigators say they only cared to line their own pockets.

And they have parents speaking out.

"It's really an unfair situation that the coaches would take advantage," says Kathy Prentice. "They should be trustworthy enough, oversight might be a recommendation." >>[Read more.](#)