



## An Update from Chief and Council regarding the Chiefs of Ontario settlement with the province

February 8, 2008

Chief and Council wish to clarify the announcement made on Thursday, February 7th, 2008, in relation to the 133 other First Nations' 20% Win Tax litigation against Ontario.

We understand that the Chiefs of Ontario announced a settlement on their 20% Win Tax litigation against the province. Highlights include:

- The other 133 First Nations 20% Win Tax litigation is dismissed
- The other 133 First Nations will share an immediate payment of \$201-million
- The other 133 First Nations will receive 1.7% of provincial gaming revenues starting in 2011
- **COO is removed directly from Casino Rama revenues post-2011**

This agreement has no impact on our 20% Win Tax and the 35% litigation, which is scheduled to be heard in court beginning February 13th, 2008.

It does not affect the operation

of Casino Rama in any way.

It does not dismiss Rama Mnjikaning First Nation's 20% Win Tax or 35% litigation, which Chief and Council continue to seek to resolve.

We congratulate the new Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, Honourable Michael Bryant, for this success in securing a settlement to this longstanding issue.

We also extend our congratulations to Ontario First Nations for arriving at this landmark settlement.

We are encouraged that this agreement signals a commitment by Ontario to resolve outstanding issues with First Nation communities. We anticipate that Ontario will now take steps to begin negotiations regarding our 20% Win Tax litigation.

We are encouraged by the spirit of negotiation that currently prevails and will continue to keep you informed as events move forward.