



Chippewas of RAMA
First Nation

For Immediate Release

January 26, 2010

Rama - Chief and Council for Rama First Nation joined with Minister Chris Bentley, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, in announcing a new partnership with the province which will ensure Casino Rama's future for up to 35-years. The announcement took place in the lobby of the Casino Rama hotel with representatives from Ontario, Ontario Lottery and Gaming, Casino Rama management, local leadership and businesses. Members of Rama First Nation and the administration joined in the celebration.

This agreement officially starts on August 1, 2011 with a 20-year term and two renewable options which extend the agreement to 35 years. It is estimated to be worth \$1-billion dollars to Rama First Nation.

In her remarks, Chief Sharon Stinson Henry said, "Today marks a revitalized and positive relationship with Ontario, one founded in a reviewed sense of mutual respect and partnership. This relationship will take Casino Rama to new heights, so I say to all of you waiting for new opportunities, your time has come."

Chief Stinson Henry thanked everyone who worked so hard on the Agreement, citing her Council for their diligence in supporting the negotiations. She also spoke about members of Rama First Nation "...for their vision and support in this venture which has benefitted so many."

A gift presentation of the Apple Ash Basket with traditional medicines was made to Minister Bentley to commemorate the occasion. It was created by Rama community members Larry and Langford Shilling in the 1980's. Chief Stinson Henry said the precious gift was made to demonstrate Rama First Nation's intent to work in a government to government relationship with Ontario.

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