

CASINO! RALLY!

and City Of Hamilton Public Information Forums

January 16th - Waterdown High
Rally: 5:30pm / Info Session 6:30pm

January 17th - Hamilton City Hall
Rally: 5:30pm / Info Session 6:30pm

Website: www.NoDowntownCasino.ca
Facebook: www.facebook.com/NoDowntownHamiltonCasino
Twitter: [@CasiNOhamont](https://twitter.com/CasiNOhamont)

SEE REVERSE FOR MORE INFO



The Research is Clear and It's No Secret:

1. A Downtown Casino Will Increase The Social Costs Of Gambling

- Problem gamblers account for 36% of OLG revenues and 60% of slot machine revenue in Ontario;
- The easier casinos are to get to, the greater the instances of gambling addiction, family breakups, crime, depression, and personal bankruptcies, and the higher the corresponding cost to tax payers;
- Every year, of the 5000 problem gamblers in Hamilton, 1000 of them attempt suicide;

2. A Downtown Casino Will Cause Financial Strain To Those Who Can Least Afford It

- Low-income gamblers spend proportionally the most on gambling;
- The casino is being planned for Hamilton's poorest economic zone;
- Indebtedness due to gambling is one of the top reasons Canadians file for bankruptcy;

3. A Downtown Casino Will Channel Money Away From Local Businesses

- Casinos are specifically designed to be self-contained, to keep gamblers in, and to shut out the street;
- 60% of existing small businesses near a new casino go out of business within 2 years;
- Downtown business owners, particularly those spearheading current cultural revitalization in the core, are strongly against a downtown casino;

4. A Downtown Casino Will De-Rail Revitalization In The Core

- The growth of our arts sector has led to revitalization which our downtown has not seen for decades. According to the Hamilton Arts Council: *"A casino is incompatible with the culture of free enterprise, creative engagement and hope that has allowed the arts to thrive and breathe new life into downtown... This creative transformation of Hamilton's national image cannot be preserved in a casino's physical proximity and social shadow;"*
- *The idea that a casino can be a "quick fix" to urban decay has been authoritatively discredited by countless case studies;*

5. A Downtown Casino Will Contribute Minimally To The City Coffers

- Casino revenues contribute less than one third of 1% to Hamilton's annual operating budget;

6. A Downtown Casino Means Flamboro Downs Will Close And Jobs Will Be Lost

- Whether we like it or not, Hamilton already has a casino deeply entrenched in the Flamborough economy. A casino downtown means over 3,000 horse-racing related jobs will be lost and rural Flamborough will suffer;
- Fewer jobs will be created than those lost, and gambling is known to support a lower ratio of jobs per \$1 million revenue than any other economic sector. The majority of new jobs will be low-paying and insecure;

7. Hamiltonians Have Said No!

- In all major recent polls as well as the official 1997 referendum, a majority of Hamiltonians voted against a downtown Casino.

Will our leaders listen to the vast majority of residents and Neighbourhood Associations or to the casino lobbyists?

Join us at City Hall on JANUARY 17th at 5:30pm for a peaceful rally followed by a Public Information Forum in Council Chambers.

Learn more about the research at: www.nodowntowncasino.ca