

20th March 2009

Gambling Inquiry Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
Canberra City ACT 2601

Dear Commissioners

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Commission and let you know of the commitment and effort that Cronulla RSL Memorial Club give to our local community.

Cronulla RSL is located in the Sutherland Shire of NSW in the Sothern Metropolitan Region. We were established in 1944 as a soldiers club and became Cronulla RSL in 1948. Due to the foresight of our founders we have magnificent sweeping views of Bate Bay taking in Cronulla, North Cronulla, Elouera and Wanda Beaches.

We have over 13,000 members and being an RSL club we cater for all ages and have a very close relationship with our Sub Branch. We have 5 bars, 121 poker machines, keno, TAB, coffee shop, Bistro and dining room, bowling greens, snooker and pool tables and 14 sub clubs which are very active.

Total Revenue for the club in 2008 was \$9,052,062.

Our Mission statement says it all

"Cronulla RSL Memorial Club is a provider of hospitality and community services in the Registered Clubs Industry. We acknowledge our heritage and foundation by the ex-servicemen and women who created this great club from humble beginnings in 1944. Cronulla RSL aims to consistently provide, at the highest standard, a range of recreational and social amenities that are attractive,

enjoyable and relevant to our members in a safe and friendly environment. The guiding principals of the Board are integrity and responsible Governance in all matters”

Cronulla RSL currently employs 80 staff (16 full time, 34 part time and 20 casuals) and we are known as a venue that employs a lot of local workers.

Poker Machines and gambling services represented 54% of our revenue for 2008 with 46% coming from other revenue streams. Our Gaming Tax decreased by \$118,433 due to a major decrease in turnover on Machines due to outside influences on Clubs in NSW.

In 2008 we supported-

Wanda Surf Club

Cronulla Surf Club

Elouera Surf Club

North Cronulla Surf Club

Legacy

Alzheimer's Association

Australian Volunteer Coastguard

Caringbah YMCA

St Andrews Anglican Church

Calvary Health Care

Stella Maris Nursing Home

Woolooware Public School

St Aloysius Public School

War Widows association

Cronulla RSL Youth Club.

Apart from helping these local charities we are one of the founding funders of the Shire Shuttle Bus Service that started in 1997 and has carried over 500,000 people home safely on a Friday, Saturday night within Sutherland Shire.

Our Club is very committed to Responsible Conduct of Gaming and all our staff have been trained and retrained in the delivery of Gaming Services to our patrons.

Poker Machine revenue is an important part of revenue stream that has allowed our continued commitment to community charities and other local groups who help the needy and others within our Shire. It is essential for us, for Gaming to continue to be a major revenue avenue to enable us to contribute to the community with the above work.

Again thank you for the chance to present this submission to the Commission.

Yours Sincerely
Graham Smith
CEO Cronulla RSL Memorial Club.