



## **PAYOUT LEVELS OF SLOT MACHINES AT OLG GAMING FACILITIES**

### **FACT SHEET**

- The payout for slot machines in OLG gaming facilities is a minimum of 85 per cent or higher. OLG is directed by its regulator, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) to set slot machine paytables to meet the minimum 85 theoretical payback percentage at all OLG Casinos and OLG Slots-at-Racetrack facilities. This is the minimum and many machines are pre-set for a higher payout. The specific level may vary by denomination or type of machine.
- The payout of a minimum of 85 per cent or more of all money that patrons put in slot machines is calculated over the life-cycle of the slot machine, which can involve millions of plays. Every outcome on a spin of a slot machine is random. Payouts in Ontario are comparable to those in other jurisdictions in Canada.
- Slot machines are run by computers with the game program and payable data stored on computer memory devices. Inside the machine, a random number generator, which is part of the game's program, is constantly coming up with numbers at a rate of thousands per second, even when no one is playing. All of these numbers have an equal likelihood of being selected at any one time to determine game outcome. It is impossible to predict which number might be generated at any one time. The payout percentage and actual awards are predetermined for each game. On average, over a period of time, the payout percentage balances out to the pre-set amount.
- The payout level at which each slot machine is set is selected by OLG for all machines at OLG Casinos and OLG Slots-at-Racetracks, and by the private sector operators of Casino Windsor<sup>TM</sup>, Casino Rama<sup>TM</sup>, Casino Niagara<sup>TN</sup> and Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort<sup>TN</sup>.
- The machine's payout is set and slot attendants are not able to make adjustments. For a casino to change the payout, it must submit a request to the AGCO and receive approval. Only at that time would trained slot technicians carry out the request to change the payout. The AGCO would then be on site to inspect and approve the change in the game. There has never been a case of a casino in Ontario being fined for changing the payout.

- The AGCO is responsible for ensuring that casino-style gaming is conducted in the public interest with honesty, integrity and financial responsibility and that games of chance are conducted fairly. AGCO regularly monitors all aspects of OLG gaming operations, including:
  - ensuring all slot machines are located in areas where there is camera coverage
  - inspecting to ensure that the memory device containing game and payable information matches the version approved by the AGCO and taking steps to ensure it cannot be altered without evidence of tampering.
- The AGCO conducts regular and random inspections at Ontario gaming facilities.
- These steps by OLG and AGCO help ensure the fairness of the slot operations.