



ECCV AGAINST CROWN'S SPECIAL EXEMPTIONS

Monday July 2nd, 2018

The Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria (ECCV) calls on the Victorian Government to provide consistent regulation for all Electronic Gambling machines within Victoria.

Crown Casino operates under the *Casino Control Act 1991* which is independent to the *Victorian Gambling Regulation Bill 2017*. This Act allows Crown Casino to run poker machines without a minimum spin rate. In comparison, all other poker machines in Victoria are legally restricted, and have a minimum spin rate of 2.14 seconds between each bet.

ECCV is concerned about the lack of accountability required of Crown Casino in managing Electronic Gambling Machines, which operate 7 days a week 24 hours a day.

ECCV Chairperson Cr Kris Pavlidis says, "Gambling harm has become a scourge in our society impacting on individuals, families and the wider community and a serious public health issue".

ECCV presented its position to The Victorian Council of Liquor and Gaming Regulation in its Sixth Casino Review community consultations in 2017. Recommendations included:

- Relevant authorities to effectively address inappropriate credit loans at the casino
- Crown Melbourne to increase supervision of table games by senior staff to assist in identifying and intervening where a person is displaying signs of distress related to gambling
- Crown Melbourne to include measures to address the extended time spent by some gamblers, gambling in the casino.

Cr Kris Pavlidis says "the Sixth Casino Review provides a significant opportunity for regulation to enhance and reinforce, rather than undermine, self-responsibility".

For more information and/or media comment, please contact Leenie Fabri, Communications & Media Officer, lfabri@eccv.org.au / 0422 480 319