



## NEWS RELEASE

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# JUNE 8th OPENING SCHEDULED FOR NEW NIAGARA FALLSVIEW CASINO RESORT

### *\$1 Billion Casino/Hotel/Entertainment/Shopping Complex Will Be the Cornerstone in the Revitalization of Niagara Falls, Ontario*

**Niagara Falls, ON** – One of the world's most popular and enduring tourist attraction centres is about to experience a major revival, with the opening on June 8<sup>th</sup> of the new Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort. The culmination of six years of planning and development, the \$1 billion entertainment complex is situated on a prime site overlooking the world-renowned Horseshoe and American Falls at Niagara.

The opening date was announced at news conferences in Toronto and Niagara Falls today by officials from the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLGC) and Falls Management Company (FMC).

“The opening of Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort reaffirms Niagara's position as a top level North American tourist destination,” said Duncan Brown, Chief Executive Officer of OLGC. “Along with several new hotels and attractions that are currently planned or under construction, the new resort will help create thousands of new jobs in the Niagara region, and provide a major increase in tourism revenues for the province.”

The new resort will be one of the grandest and most extensive facilities ever to appear on the Niagara skyline.

The 2.5 million square foot complex includes a 200,000 square foot casino offering 150 gaming tables and 3,000 slot machines; a 30-storey luxury hotel with 368 rooms and suites; a 15,000 square foot health and fitness spa; and an expansive shopping Galleria. The 1,500 seat Avalon Ballroom will feature the world's top entertainers. Patrons will have ten excellent dining venues to choose from, to suit every palate.

“This is the largest privately-financed construction project in Canada, and we're very proud that it's being completed on time and on budget,” said Jim Dougan, President and Chief Operating Officer of FMC. “Niagara Falls has seen a significant resurgence in tourist activity since the opening of Casino Niagara, in 1996.

“We fully expect that Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort will truly revitalize the community and enhance Niagara's reputation as one of the world's most appealing tourism destinations.”

The project is being developed and managed by FMC, a North American consortium of five partners, under agreement with OLGC.

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Evoking a “belle époque” theme that celebrates much of the grand history of the Niagara Falls area, the new entertainment complex was architecturally designed by a joint venture of Zeidler Partnership, and Bregman and Hamann Architects. The interior design and theming of the gaming floor and hotel lobby were created by Dougall Design Associates, which has also done the interiors of several prominent Las Vegas casino resorts. Wood, stone and other resources that are native to Canada are being used wherever possible, and natural light is predominant through the extensive use of glass domes and floor-to-ceiling windows.

“Our projections indicate that Niagara Falls will attract as many as twenty million tourist visits a year, now that the new Casino Resort is opening,” said Ted Salci, Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario. “In turn, other new accommodations and attractions will give visitors more reasons to come, and more reasons to stay longer.”

“This is, truly, an exciting time for our City and our people,” said the Mayor.

The Grand Opening of Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort will take place in the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony and other activities. The facility will open to the public on June 10<sup>th</sup>, subject to regulatory approval.

The opening of Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort will provide Niagara Falls with two casino properties, as the existing Casino Niagara will continue to operate.

*The Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation is an operational enterprise of the Government of Ontario, responsible for province-wide lottery games, commercial and charitable casinos, and the operation and management of slot machine facilities at horse racing tracks.*

*Falls Management Company is a consortium of five firms which was selected by the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation to operate Casino Niagara; and to finance, design, build and operate Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort.*

**Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort Reservations: 1-888-FALLSVUE (1-888-325-5788)**

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**Contacts:**

Joe Vecsi  
Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation  
(416) 224-7127  
Email: [jvecsi@olgc.ca](mailto:jvecsi@olgc.ca)

Jim Deeks  
Falls Management Company  
(416) 540-7434  
Email: [jdeeks@primarycounsel.com](mailto:jdeeks@primarycounsel.com)