



George Souris MP

Minister for Tourism, Major Events,
Hospitality and Racing
Minister for the Arts

Victor Dominello MP

Minister for Citizenship and
Communities
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 23 May 2013

MULTICULTURAL RESOURCES LAUNCHED DURING RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING AWARENESS WEEK

The NSW Government has launched a series of multilingual online resources for problem gamblers as part of Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2013, Minister for Hospitality and Racing, George Souris and Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Victor Dominello announced today.

Mr Souris said resources including, an online gambling calculator and video stories have been developed in Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Italian and Vietnamese as well as a Chinese booklet to help address problem gambling across multicultural communities.

“Responsible Gambling Awareness Week, from May 20 to 26, is an important opportunity for people to reflect on their gambling habits and to remind problem gamblers and their families that free, confidential and culturally sensitive help is available now in a range of languages,” Mr Souris said.

“About one quarter of the NSW population, or almost 1.8 million people, were born overseas representing a third of all overseas-born residents in Australia, providing a vibrant mix of cultures and languages in our State.”

Mr Dominello welcomed the multilingual online assistance for problem gamblers.

Mr Dominello said gambling can be a source of significant problems for both individuals and families in multicultural communities, often resulting in financial hardship and family discord.

“The harm associated with gambling is not only linked to financial distress, but a range of other health and welfare issues including domestic violence, neglect of children and homelessness.

“I am sure that the support the NSW Government is providing to those who want to kick their gambling addiction will be gratefully received among multicultural communities.

“Problem gambling can take hold regardless of cultural background so it is important we have counselling services and resources in place to help meet the specific needs of different multicultural groups.”

Mr Souris said the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing (OLGR) has produced multilingual online resources for problem gamblers and their families and friends in Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Italian and Vietnamese languages.

“Also launched today was an online [Gambling Calculator](#) to help make problem gamblers aware of how much their gambling can cost them over the course of a year and help prompt them to take action.”

Mr Souris said last month the Government announced contracts worth more than \$48 million over four years for high quality counselling and support services across NSW including State wide services for problem gamblers from non-English speaking backgrounds.

“I strongly encourage any problem gamblers or people concerned that they might have a gambling problem to take that important first step on the road to recovery by contacting our problem gambling support services on 1800 858 858 or www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au,” he said.

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