

**Problem Gambling Task Force
Quarterly Meeting**

July 27, 2022 / 9:00 – 11:00 am / Virtual Meeting via Zoom

SUMMARY

Meeting Goals

- High-level review of Final Report recommendations and opportunity to ask clarifying questions

Facilitator: Commissioner Julia Patterson (WSGC + PGTF Chair)

Time Keep + Note Taker: Meg O’Leary (Uncommon Solutions)

PARTICIPANTS

PGTF Chair: Comm. Julia Patterson (WSGC)	Tony Edwards (HCA)	Mara Machulsky **
PGTF Co-Chair: Brad Galvin (Brief Therapy Works)	Rebecca George (WA Indian Gaming Association)	Meg O’Leary (Uncommon Solutions) **
Amanda Benton (WA State Horseracing Commission)	Maureen Greeley (ECPG)	Tana Russell (ECPG)
Hilarie Cash (reSTART Life)	Ryan Keith (HCA)	Roxane Waldron (HCA)
Vic Colman (Uncommon Solutions) **	Rep. Shelley Kloba	Nanci Watson (Community Member)
Sen. Steve Conway	Amber Lewis (On behalf of Chairman Forsman & Suquamish Tribe)	Ruby Takushi (Recovery Café)
Rosina DePoe (WA Indian Gaming Association)		

** Non-voting member

PGTF members not able to attend: Dallas Burnett (Squaxin Island Tribal Regulatory Authority), Brandi Crowe (Puyallup Tribal Gaming Agency), Alexandria Desautel (Lake Roosevelt Community Health Center), Tina Griffin (WSGC), Harumi Hashimoto (ACRS), Melissa Hurt-Moran (Kalispel Tribe of Indians), Benjamin Joseph (Sauk-Suiattle Tribe), Ty Lostutter (UW), Rep. Drew MacEwen, Glen Nenema (Kalispel Tribe of Indians), James Paribello, Ricki Peone (Spokane Tribe of Indians), Cosette Rae (reSTART Life), Richard Swan, Sr. (Colville Tribes), Carmela Washington Harvey (ECAR), Keri Waterland (HCA), Kristi Weeks (Lottery), Keith Zenishek (Northern Quest Resort, Kalispel Tribe of Indians)

ACTION ITEMS	ASSIGNED TO	DATE DUE
Host webinar for those interested in hearing more about Prevalence Study results	Roxane Waldron	September 2022
Julia Patterson (PGTF Chair) and Maureen Greeley (ECPG) agreed to draft a recommendation related to Therapeutic Courts in WA.	Julia Patterson, Maureen Greeley	August 2022
Maureen Greeley (ECPG) agreed to draft language about “Youth Prevention” that will be added to the consumer protection recommendation.	Maureen Greeley	August 2022
Ryan Keith (HCA) agreed to draft language related to impacts of internet and Gaming Disorders on youth specifically (with support from Hilarie Cash (reSTART Life)	Ryan Keith, Hilarie Cash	August 2022
Members are invited to an additional PGTF meeting to share the remainder of the recommendations prior to the Sep 29 final PGTF meeting.	Meg O’Leary	Wed, Aug 24, 9-10:30am <i>(invite and zoom link has been sent to all members)</i>
Final PGTF Quarterly Meeting	All	Thur, Sep 29, 9am-12pm

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Final Legislative Report Recommendations Q&A

*Meg O’Leary,
Roxane Waldron and
Vic Colman*

The team share recommendations proposed for the Final Report and invited clarifying questions. Highlights include:

- Julia: In our recommendation “*Increasing funding for the State Problem Gambling Program to meet current and future need,*” the PGTF should recommend that the state program funding be doubled (not just increased), based on the need illuminated in the Prevalence Study and other gap analyses.
- Roxane: It’s important to note that there are other data sources that inform this State Problem Gambling Program funding recommendation. The prevalence study only covers the treatment needs, not adding additional prevention, outreach/awareness/education, research, workforce, and

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

FTE needs. This State Problem Gambling Program funding recommendation is based on looking at what other states are doing and what our needs are in this state.

- Sen. Conway: In our recommendation *“Increasing funding for the State Problem Gambling Program to meet current and future need,”* we must explicitly say that the model does not include Tribal funding contributions
- Ruby: Add “Prevention” to any recommendations related to consumer protections. It’s a critical piece.
- Maureen: Agreed to draft language about “Youth Prevention” that will be added to the consumer protection recommendation. For example, giving high school kids information early on.
- Julia and Maureen: Agree to work together to craft a recommendation related to therapeutic court
- Nanci: Recommends adding language about encouraging peer counseling by former problem gamblers as another therapy and treatment resource in addition to formal clinical treatment
- Rep. Kloba: For the third item under the Consumer Protections proposed strategies, asked if the PGTF would want to include a specific recommendation about keeping online gambling *illegal* in WA state given what we know about how much more addictive and riskier this type of gambling is compared to brick and mortar gambling? Rep. Kloba also observed that some advocates suggest legalizing online gambling as a harm reduction action because funding could be collected for treatment and other related services if taxed and regulated.
- Ryan: For the recommendation related to “recognizing impacts of internet and Gaming Disorders,” consider including language about the specific issues that can impact youth. Much of the current attention on problem gambling is placed on adults 18 years+, yet this form of gaming and gambling will affect youth
- Sen. Conway: In our recommendation *“WA State Legislators and stakeholders to advocate for federal funding for problem*

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

	<p><i>gambling,”</i> consider adding language about formation of permanent statewide committee on problem gambling that continues beyond the PGTF, given the expansion and increase in gambling in WA</p>
<p>Next Steps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The team will host an extra full PGTF meeting in August to share the remainder of the recommendations prior to the final PGTF meeting in September. ▪ We'll gather for our last PGTF Quarterly Meeting on Thursday, September 29, 9am-12pm. Members will vote on the final recommendations, so please attend.