



Fred Harrison, who runs the lottery booth in the Georgetown Market Place, says the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario goes too far in asking lottery retailers to inform the AGCO of any charges or convictions within 10 days in order to keep their lottery retailer's licence. Photo by Ted Brown

# Local lottery retailer irate over question posed on renewal form

By **LISA TALLYN**  
Staff Writer

Local lottery retailer Fred Harrison thinks the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario has gone too far. Harrison, who runs the lottery booth in Georgetown Market Place, is upset about a clause in the renewal for his lottery retailer licence that requires him to let the AGCO know in writing within 10 days of any charges and convictions against him. It says that the applicant "will advise the deputy registrar in writing within ten days of any and all charges, convictions and findings of guilt including where an absolute or conditional discharge is granted or other disposition is made." "They're treating us like we're on parole," said Harrison. "Self-incrimination is protected by the Charter of Rights." "My major problem is they're going facist. They're out of control. We should be treated like everyone else in society. If I have a criminal record, go after me," said Harrison.

Harrison believed the clause in the renewal was new this year and waited until the last minute to file the form because he was so upset with that question. However, Lisa Murray, spokesperson with ACGO, said it was not a new clause and has been there since 2008 when the AGCO began regulating the sale of lottery tickets and lottery retailers. She said it's common among regulations regarding the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation and is appropriate because it applies to people who are "required to handle large quantities of the public's money." "As such they are expected to carry out their duties with honesty and integrity in the public interest," said Murray. She said it's the same regulation that applies for people who work in casinos and bingo halls. She said by requiring the applicant to inform the AGCO of charges and convictions it reveals if "a person is being truthful—are they disclosing everything?"

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