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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RIBBON CUTTING FOR LIVING SKY CASINO**

*Open Monday*

Swift Current, SK – To commemorate the completion of the Living Sky Casino, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held in Swift Current today. The casino will open its doors to the public Monday morning at 9 am.

“We look forward to providing the people of southwest Saskatchewan with traditional First Nations hospitality and service at Swift Current’s newest and most dynamic entertainment attraction,” said General Manager Lionel Tootoosis, Living Sky Casino. “We look forward to entertaining our guests.”

The Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA) and its business partner, the File Hills Qu’Appelle Tribal council, held a ribbon cutting which included First Nations Elders, Chiefs and Councillors as well as provincial and municipal leaders.

“The casino is another example of a First Nations economic development project,” said Tribal Chair Edmund Bellegarde, File Hills Qu’Appelle Tribal Council. “The success of this world class entertainment venue will be measured by the new employment it creates and the positive revenue it generates for First Nations communities across Saskatchewan.”

The \$35M Living Sky Casino is a joint development between the File Hills Qu’Appelle Tribal Council and Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority. The 50,000 sq. ft. facility offers 225 slot machines, 6 live table games, a deli and restaurant. The new performing arts centre (Sky Centre), a key component of the entertainment complex, is scheduled to open in February.

“The Living Sky Casino is part of a three year \$125M major capital investment program at SIGA. The new Living Sky Casino, Dakota Dunes Casino (Saskatoon) and the new Painted Hand Casino in Yorkton represent an unprecedented level for First Nations economic development in Saskatchewan,” said Zane Hansen, SIGA President and CEO.

The new Living Sky Casino employs 340 people, making it one of the city's largest employers. Through expansion projects with its business partners, SIGA has created 800 new jobs across the province over the past 18 months.

The Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority operates six First Nations casinos in Saskatchewan located near Carlyle (Bear Claw Casino), Saskatoon (Dakota Dunes Casino), North Battleford (Gold Eagle Casino), Prince Albert (Northern Lights Casino), Swift Current (Living Sky Casino), and Yorkton (Painted Hand Casino). SIGA employs over 2,000 people and has annual net revenues exceeding \$190M. 100% of profits generated from SIGA casinos are returned to its beneficiaries.

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