

Want to find out if this raffle is legal - I suspect is in violation of gaming regulations

s. 22

Tue 7/2/2024 12:32 PM

To:Gaming.Branch@gov.bc.ca <Gaming.Branch@gov.bc.ca>

Hello,

I am concerned that Michael Lares of Flying "L" Ranch has recently conducted a raffle that was in violation of regulations and/or otherwise illegal (flyinglranch.ca).

Some documentation and details are found below.

I ask you please get back to me and let me know if this "raffle" could *possibly* be in violation of regulations/laws , or at least whether there is enough to warrant my filing a formal complaint to investigate possible violations.

I have screenshots and videos in addition to what you see below.

Thank you for taking the time to review this email and reply to me.

PS: a generic question - if a raffle is found to have been held in violation of regulations, what are the penalties, or rang of penalties, the operator could be subject to?

DETAILS OF RAFFLE HELD IN POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF REGULATIONS

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1. The "raffle" was announced via social medial to win a trip for two to the Flying L Ranch. Image #1 below shows the Instagram page on or about June 26, 2024. The text on the right of image #1 reads:

In celebration of Stampede Weekend and in the honor of the Cowboy way, we're putting on a raffle!

This raffle has a guaranteed winner!

Enter for your chance to win an all expenses paid trip for two at the ranch. Full lodging, meals and rides are covered and travel for one

from anywhere in the world.

Entry is simple and tickets are \$25 each with no limits on purchase. Your winning ticket can also be assigned to someone of your choice.

We will announce the winner of the raffle at the Williams Lake Stampede at our display.

Your entry will be registered with your ticket purchase via your information given at check out. Link is in our bio.

Good luck to everyone entering and we look forward to having you out! 🤞❤️

#flyinglranch #flying_l_ranch

#portalthemajesticandwild

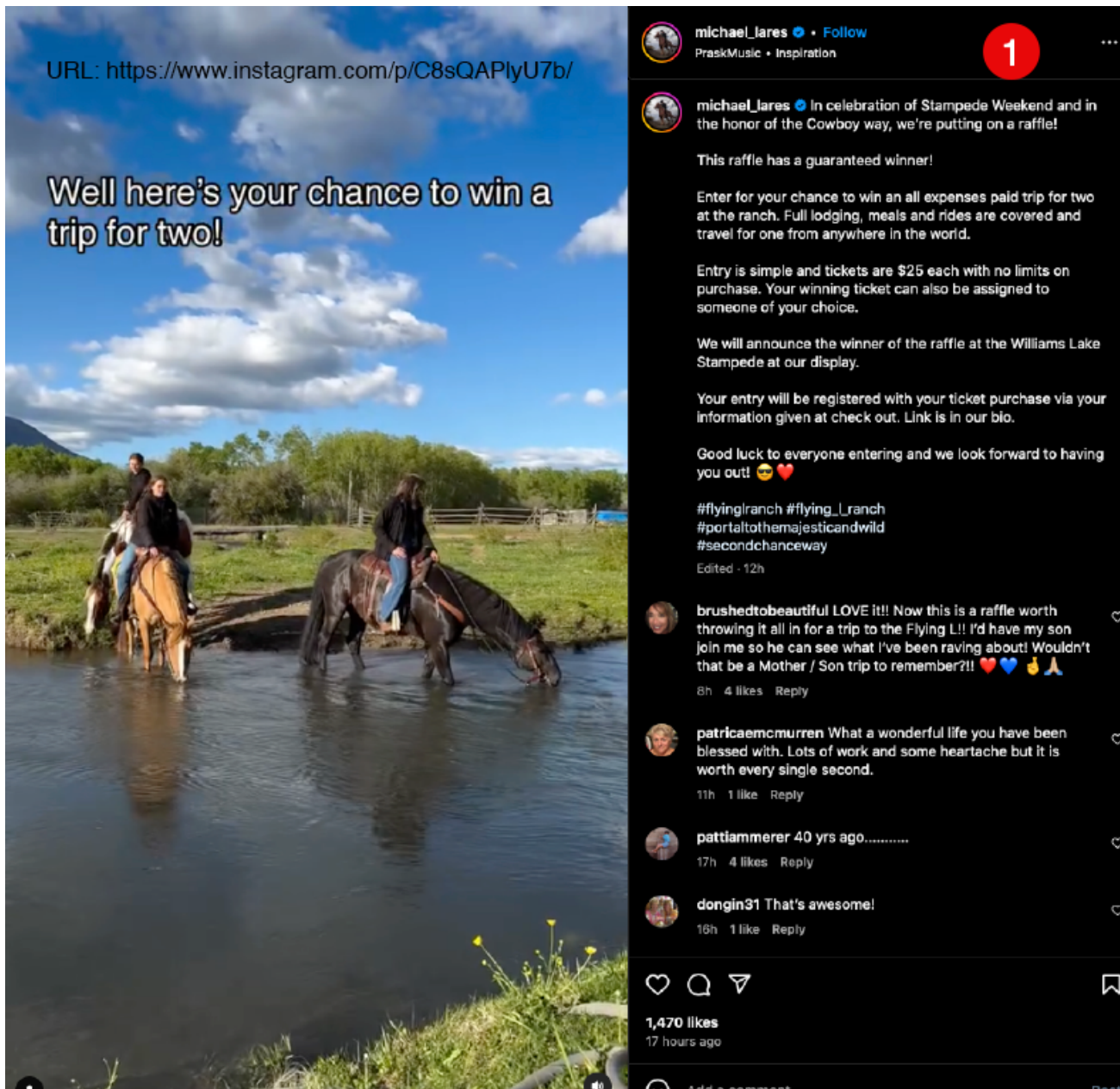
#secondchanceway

2. The text "link is in our bio" eventually gets the reader to "https://linktr.ee/michael_lares" where, up until the actual "draw" on July 1, 2024 @ 1pm PT it showed a link to "Win a trip to the ranch" as in image #2 below.
3. The "Win a trip to the ranch" link takes one to a PayPal page as in image #3 below. There one can "Donate to Flying L Ranch LTD" with an option for a monthly donation, and stating "Stampede celebration ranch trip raffle! Expenses paid for 2 at the ranch. We cover travel for 1. \$25 per ticket - no limit".
4. That PayPal donation/raffle ticket page remains active even though the "raffle" has ended (https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=LGEW63FZUHQQ6&utm_medium=social&utm_source=linktree&utm_campaign=win+a+trip+to+the+ranch)
5. Raffle entry tickets are NOT issued to payees on purchase and there is no way for a payee to know if entry purchases in increments of \$25 will result in multiple entries (\$25/each) or just one entry with anything over \$25 considered a "donation", or whether it will result in any entry at all.
6. Raffle entry tickets are created by the raffle operator reading out the names from a computer screen and having an "independent wrangler" writing a name on variously coloured Post-it notes as seen in images #4, #5, and #6 below captured from the operator's Instagram videos at <https://www.instagram.com/reel/C85OsA7yqa3/>.
7. The winning raffle entry ticket was picked out of a clear plastic box by a person who the operator referred to as an

"independent wrangler" .

8. In fact the "independent wrangler" (or wranglers) involved cannot be considered independent because they either work or volunteer at the operator's ranch, as stated by the operator himself in the videos.

9. The winning raffle entry ticket is seen in image #6 below



The image shows an Instagram post from the user michael_jares. The post features a photograph of three people riding horses through a shallow river. The text on the image reads: "Well here's your chance to win a trip for two!". The post's caption, written in white text on a black background, announces a raffle for a trip for two in celebration of Stampede Weekend. It details the prize (all expenses paid trip for two), entry cost (\$25), and the location of the drawing (Williams Lake Stampede). The post has 1,470 likes and several comments from users like brushedtobeautiful, patricaemcmurren, pattlammerer, and dongin31.

URL: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C8sQAPlyU7b/>

Well here's your chance to win a trip for two!

michael_jares • Follow
PraskMusic • Inspiration

michael_jares In celebration of Stampede Weekend and in the honor of the Cowboy way, we're putting on a raffle!

This raffle has a guaranteed winner!

Enter for your chance to win an all expenses paid trip for two at the ranch. Full lodging, meals and rides are covered and travel for one from anywhere in the world.

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Good luck to everyone entering and we look forward to having you out! 🥰❤️

#flyingranch #flying_l_ranch
#portaltothemajesticandwild
#secondchanceway
Edited · 12h

brushedtobeautiful LOVE it!! Now this is a raffle worth throwing it all in for a trip to the Flying L!! I'd have my son join me so he can see what I've been raving about! Wouldn't that be a Mother / Son trip to remember?!! ❤️💙👉🙏

8h · 4 likes · Reply

patricaemcmurren What a wonderful life you have been blessed with. Lots of work and some heartache but it is worth every single second.

11h · 1 like · Reply

pattlammerer 40 yrs ago.....

17h · 4 likes · Reply


dongin31 That's awesome!

16h · 1 like · Reply

1,470 likes
17 hours ago


...

Subscribe




2

The love of horses & nature
We would love for you to follow our journey
and be part of our supporting team!



Win a trip to the ranch




3

Donate to
Flying L Ranch LTD

Stampede celebration ranch trip raffle! Expenses paid for 2 at the ranch. We cover travel for 1. \$25 per ticket - no limit

\$0
CAD



Make this a monthly donation

 **Donate with PayPal**

Donate with Debit or Credit Card

4

TALLYING ALL THE
RAFFLE
TICKETS.

 Win the trip 



michael_lares • Follow

5 ...

Original audio



michael_lares • Announcing the winner of the "Stampede win a one week all expenses paid trip to the ranch" raffle!!

s. 22

you are the lucky winner so we will contact you via email, IG and get everything arranged!!

Congratulations to s. 22 and thank you everyone who participated and supported! 🥳❤️

#flyingl ranch #flying_l_ranch
#portaltothemajesticandwild
#secondchanceway

2h



426 likes
2 hours ago

Log in to like or comment.

The image shows an Instagram post from the account 'michael_lares'. The main visual is a video frame where a person is holding an orange envelope with a white label that has 's. 22' written on it. The person is wearing a denim jacket and jeans. The background shows an outdoor setting with a tent and mountains.

michael_lares • Follow **6**
Original audio

michael_lares Announcing the winner of the "Stampede win a one week all expenses paid trip to the ranch" raffle!!

s. 22 you are the lucky winner so we will contact you via email, IG and get everything arranged!!

Congratulations to **s. 22** and thank you everyone who participated and supported! 🎉❤️

#flyinglranch #flying_l_ranch #portaltothemajesticandwild #secondchanceway

2h

426 likes
2 hours ago

Log in to like or comment.

---- end ----

— Captured Aug 1, 2024 @12:48 ET —



michael_lares 15h
Olexy, Lesfm · Me and You



But even among an ominous disaster like the slide and its future impact, there is still much beauty to behold.



Visit link >

[Win a trip for two at the ranch](#)

So join in our raffle to win a trip for two to come see us and partake in all the wonderment!

Reply to michael_lares...





— Captured Aug 1, 2024 @12:48 ET —



michael_lares 13h



Win a trip for two to come help me! I could use a hand! 🥲



Visit link >

[Win a trip for two!](#)



Reply to michael_lares...




— Captured Aug 1, 2024 @12:48 ET —




Donate to
Flying L Ranch LTD

Win a trip to the Ranch! Travel paid for 1 with one week all expenses paid for two at the ranch. \$25 per ticket no limits.

\$0
CAD

 **Make this a monthly donation**

You authorize PayPal to pay Flying L Ranch LTD \$0.00 around this day each month. You can change or cancel at anytime in your PayPal account settings.

 **Donate with PayPal**

Donate with Debit or Credit Card