



SINGLE-EVENT SPORTS BETTING FACT SHEET

- Single-event sports betting is currently illegal in Canada, resulting in Canadian sports bettors placing their bets on unregulated, grey-market websites or in casinos across the border.
- The only sports bets permitted in Canada are those requiring a 'parlay' – meaning players must wager on the outcome of at least two different events. The player wins if both events are correct.
- Recently, the approach to sports betting in Canada and the United States has shifted:
 - In 2018, the US Supreme Court struck down a federal ban on gambling to open the door to legalized sports betting. Today, more than 20 states – including Washington State – have legalized sports betting and six others have passed a bill.
 - In 2019, five professional sports leagues signed a united letter addressed to the Canadian government, expressing support for single-event betting.
- In late November 2020, the federal government picked up Bill C-218 – a private member's bill to amend the Criminal Code to allow provinces to offer single-event sports betting, as well as bets on racing and fighting. Bill C-218 still requires Senate approval before it can receive Royal Assent and become law.
- As a result of the current requirement to parlay bets, many B.C. players cross the border to place single bets at Washington State casinos and on offshore websites operating illegally in Canada, neither of which provide employment nor financial benefits to British Columbians.
- PlayNow.com is positioned to provide single-event bets to players within days of legalization, as the digital infrastructure is already in place. PlayNow.com is British Columbia's only regulated online and mobile gambling website, offering lottery, eCasino games (slots, table, poker, Live Casino), bingo and sports betting. PlayNow.com is the fastest-growing channel of BCLC's business, with continuous year-over-year growth.
- BCLC operates 16 casinos and 17 community gaming centres across British Columbia. It also offers lottery products through more than 3,500 lottery retailers, including more than 660 hospitality locations across B.C.

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For more information:

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