- Gambling

Experts to gather for responsible gaming confab

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THE 2nd International Conference on Responsible Gambling and Gaming Addiction is set to take place from May 19 to 21 at the Quezon City M.I.C.E. Center and the QCX Museum.

The event is spearheaded by the Seagulls Flock Organization Inc. (SFPO), in collaboration with the Quezon City Government and the International Gambling Counselor Certification Board (IGCCB), and in partnership with the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor).

With this year's theme, "Empowering Pathways: Problem Gambling and Gaming Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery," the conference aims to convene behavioral health professionals, advocates, academics, industry operators, and policymakers to raise awareness and spark meaningful dialogue on the growing challenges surrounding problem gambling and gaming. The program is designed to inspire greater action in advancing effective prevention, treatment, and recovery strategies that benefit individuals, families, and communities.

The conference serves as a vital platform for dialogue, knowledge exchange, policymaking, and crosssector collaboration. Attendees can expect a dynamic blend of plenary talks, panel discussions, and networking sessions with experts and peers from around the globe.

A special focus of this year's program includes dedicated sessions for local industry operators, addressing best practices and innovations in harm reduction, responsible gambling protocols, consumer protection, and ethical business operations. These sessions are aimed at equipping operators with practical tools and evidence-based approaches to minimize gambling-related harm while supporting sustainable industry practices.

A highlight of the event will be the keynote address by Dr. Marc Potenza, an internationally acclaimed expert and Professor of Psychiatry at Yale

School of Medicine, where he also serves as Director of the Division on Addictions Research.

Pagcor Chairman and CEO Alejandro H. Tengco will deliver a message of support, emphasizing the importance of united efforts in addressing the multifaceted issues related to gambling and gaming addiction.

The conference will also feature a distinguished lineup of local and international experts who will serve as resource persons. These thought leaders will offer critical insights across a range of disciplines, including psychology, behavioral science, public health, responsible gambling, and community-based care.