



SKY RIVER CASINO HONORED WITH SACRAMENTO BUSINESS JOURNAL'S INNOVATIVE COMPANY CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP AWARD

ELK GROVE, Calif. (August 3, 2026) — On July 23, Sky River Casino was recognized by the Sacramento Business Journal as a recipient of their Innovative Company Corporate Citizenship Award, honoring organizations that demonstrate exceptional commitment to supporting local nonprofits through charitable giving, volunteerism, board leadership, and community partnerships.

Guided by four core pillars—public safety and community development, community health and well-being, cultural enrichment, and workforce development with an emphasis on adult education—Sky River Casino focuses its community investments on addressing critical regional needs while creating long-term, sustainable impact.

"Community partnership is at the heart of everything we do. We at Sky River Casino are an extension of Wilton Rancheria and their long-term vision – supporting community, creating opportunity and honoring the Tribe's enduring cultural values," said Sky River Casino's President and General Manager, Michael J. Facenda. "This recognition reflects the dedication of our team members, our leadership team, and our nonprofit partners who work every day to strengthen the communities we all call home. Whether through financial support, volunteerism, operational resources, or simply listening and responding to community needs, we remain committed to helping build a stronger, more vibrant Sacramento region."

In 2025, Sky River Casino contributed more than \$2.4 million in community-focused partnerships and invested more than \$200,000 in charitable donations, supporting organizations and initiatives throughout the Greater Sacramento region. Beneficiaries included Sacramento State Athletics, Visit Sacramento, the Sacramento LGBT Community Center, Elk Grove Food Bank Services, and numerous nonprofit organizations focused on health, adult education, economic opportunity, and community well-being.

Among the examples highlighted in the nomination was a collaborative effort to address food insecurity. During the 2025 holiday season, local food banks faced a heightened demand. To help stabilize access to food during this period, Sky River Casino and Wilton Rancheria provided more than \$65,000 in direct financial assistance to Elk Grove Food Bank Services who serve thousands of people monthly. This assistance came from sponsorships, matched donations, and contributions raised through an annual team member food drive.

During this same period, Elk Grove–based restaurant Todo Un Poco faced a significant challenge after preparing 200 meals overnight to donate to the Rancho Cordova Food Bank: they had no way to transport such a large delivery. Once the need became known, the Sky River Warehouse Team stepped in, deploying a box truck to deliver all 200 meals safely, efficiently, and in a single trip—bringing timely support to neighbors experiencing food insecurity. This was a straightforward, shared effort: one request, a practical solution, and an immediate result. It reflects a workplace culture where suggestions are taken seriously, and teams are empowered to act.

Sky River also invests in long-term community infrastructure. In partnership with Wilton Rancheria, Sky River Casino jointly provided over \$1 million in supplemental funding for roadway improvements in the City of Elk Grove, enhancing safety and accessibility for residents, schools, and businesses.

“With our ongoing Resort expansion, Sky River will transform into a premier destination that appeals to both local guests and travelers seeking a sophisticated, international style escape” said Michael J. Facenda, President and General Manager of Sky River Casino. “The expansion will also create new employment opportunities across a wide range of hospitality and guest service areas, providing new career pathways and contributing to the Sacramento’s growing hospitality industry.”

Across these efforts, a clear guiding focus shapes the casino’s philanthropic actions: listening to community needs, working in partnership, and responding where the support can be most impactful. Sky River Casino continues to prioritize authentic, hands-on contributions that strengthen neighborhoods and community organizations throughout the Sacramento region.

###

Sky River Casino

Since opening in August 2022, the casino has become a premier entertainment destination featuring over 130,000 square feet of gaming, 2,500 slot machines, 81 table games, and 18 restaurants, bars, and lounge destinations, along with a 1,600-space five-story parking structure.

The casino recently broke ground on a significant hotel resort expansion that is expected to generate regional economic impact through job creation, increased tourism, and long-term investment in the local community. Planned additions include a 300-room luxury hotel, a new porte cochère with expanded valet service, a full-service day spa and salon, an outdoor pool, and approximately 30,000 square feet of flexible meeting, event, and entertainment space.

To learn more about Sky River Casino and its continued growth, please visit www.SkyRiver.com.

Wilton Rancheria

Wilton Rancheria is Sacramento County's only federally recognized Tribe, with more than 1,000 citizens, primarily of Miwok and Nisenan descent. Known as California's Capital Tribe, Wilton Rancheria has established itself as a leader in sustainable development, cultural preservation, and community partnership. The Tribe operates Sky River Casino, holds majority ownership of Sacramento Republic FC, and continues expanding its influence in regional economic development.

Media Contacts:

- Cindy Rodriguez – Public Relations Manager for Sky River Casino, 916-809-6285 or cindy.rodriguez@skyriver.com
- Traci Rockefeller Cusack – PR Consultant at 916-213-4373 or pr@brighteyesmarketing.com
- Lisa Casalegno – PR Consultant at 916-502-5550 or lisa@brighteyesmarketing.com
- Gianna Rogers — grogers@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov