

## **SPORTS MATTERS NDP RESPONSE**

NOTE: THE NDP HAS YET TO RELEASE ITS FULL PLATFORM

1. What is the NDP policy on increasing spending on preventative health care? If prepared to invest in this way to what extent will that be done?

*The NDP recognizes the importance of prevention in health care. With the ongoing growth of health care expenses, preventing diseases, disabilities and injuries is a necessity if we want to ensure the long term sustainability of the system. With the growth of obesity, especially among youth the federal government can contribute to the development of healthy habits at a young age. An NDP government will continue to support different initiatives in this regard.*

*An NDP government will stop Harper's unilateral cuts and get back to working collaboratively with provinces and territories. Respecting provincial roles, we'll lead strategies to improve health care and make it more sustainable over the long term.*

2. Would the NDP keep the Children's Fitness Tax Credit using the same criteria as exists now? Would the NDP extend the fitness tax credit to adults and if so in what amounts? If a fitness tax credit is not in the plans how would the NDP propose to encourage more Canadians to be more active thereby investing in the long term health of our economy and health care system? How much is the NDP prepared to budget for this?

*The NDP will maintain the Children's Fitness Tax Credit and will measure its impact to ensure it helps get more kids active. Now that it is refundable, we believe more Canadians will be able to access it.*

*On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tom Mulcair announced the NDP commitment to invest an additional \$28 million over four years to help more young people participate in sports and to promote physical activity amongst our youth. We will boost the funding available for provinces and territories through the Sport Canada Bilateral Agreements. This funding will assist provincial and territorial governments in delivering projects that include community sport programs for young people. The NDP investment will also provide direct financial support through Sport Canada for organizations that run physical activity programs and that help families with expenses such as registration fees, equipment and transportation. This additional funding will help underrepresented groups participate in sports, including girls and young women and low-income, new Canadians, as well as Indigenous, disabled and LGBT youth.*

3. Would the NDP consider establishing a joint ministry for physical activity and amateur sport and ensure that it is a full ministry rather than a Minister of State?

*The NDP believes coordination should be reinforced between the Ministry of Health and the Department of Heritage under which Sports is administrated. An NDP government will make sure such coordination exists so programs contribute in achieving a common goal. In a time when the fiscal capacity of the federal government is limited, the NDP first priority will be to focus on program delivery.*