

## **SPORT MATTERS – QUESTIONS**

### **NDP- NOTE: THE NDP HAS YET TO RELEASE ITS FULL PLATFORM**

#### **Amateur/high performance sport**

1. What level of funding will a NDP government provide to high performance sport organizations (including athletes)? Are there any conditions and/or new plans being developed that would impact on high performance sport organizations in Canada?

*The NDP will maintain the current level of funding to high performance sport organizations including athletes.*

#### **Hosting Major Games**

In principle would a NDP government be in favour of providing financial support for bids to host major sporting events in Canada?

*The NDP believes that strong local support from the community, the municipality, the provincial government and the private sector are necessary for the federal government to support a bid for a major sporting event of amateur sport in Canada. In principle yes the NDP is supportive of the federal government providing financial support for bids to host major sporting events in Canada. Recent major sporting events, like the Vancouver Olympic Games, haven proven to be successful for the economy and the development of sport in Canada. In times of limited fiscal capacity, the NDP believes bidding for such events need to be carefully studied.*

#### **Infrastructure and Facilities**

Would a NDP government put in place a dedicated infrastructure fund for sports and recreation facilities? If so, how much would you be prepared to dedicate to such a fund? If not, why not? The Party's policy document which was previously available online speaks to enhancement of the Gas Tax Fund transfers as one way to facilitate increased funding for infrastructure however it is not dedicated to sport and recreation facilities.

*The NDP is committed to improving our infrastructure deficit. We will start with investing the equivalent of one additional cent of the existing gas tax. This will provide additional funding in the first year that will ramp up to an additional \$1.5 billion invested at the end of a first mandate. This NDP initiative will provide annual, stable, long-term investment for infrastructure projects. These additional funds will give municipalities more capacity to invest in new or to repair or rehabilitate sport and recreation facilities. The NDP does not intend to create a dedicated infrastructure fund for sports and recreation facilities in the short term.*

*As for the New Building Canada Fund, the NDP will release details during the campaign. Our approach includes more flexibility, including to allow municipalities to apply for projects related to cultural, sports and recreational facilities.*

#### **Sport for Development (use of sport to achieve social objectives)**

Would a NDP government follow through with implementation of the Canadian Sport Policy (2012) as it relates to “sport for development” in Canada? This policy recognizes the relationship between sport and social objectives; however, the policy needs to be implemented fully in order to have any real impact.

Would a NDP Government invest in the intentional use of sport and physical activity for social objectives such as:

- keeping youth out of the justice system – ie to lower the rates of offending and re-offending  yes  no
- helping new Canadians feel part of the community  yes  no
- supporting the growth and development of First Nations communities through greater access to sport-based educational and social programs  yes  no
- tackling urgent health issues such as childhood obesity  yes  no
- any other areas that the NDP believes accomplish similar goals through the use of sport and physical activity  yes  no

In which of the above area(s) would a NDP Government allocate federal funding? Why? Your previously mentioned policy document promises increased investment in crime prevention with a focus on community groups that are active in this area. This can be accomplished through the use of sport programs.

*An NDP government will invest \$28 million over 4 years in additional funding to support youth participation in organized sports and physical activity, with a focus on disadvantaged youth. The NDP believes more needs to be done to give every kid a chance to be more active. With Canada seeing rates of childhood obesity increasing, and health care expenses skyrocketing, the NDP believes investing in prevention is key.*

*The investment includes a boost in the funding available for provinces and territories through 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 would also provide direct financial support through Sport Canada for organizations that run physical activity programs and those that help families with expenses like registration fees, equipment and transportation.*
- *This additional funding will help underrepresented groups to participate in sports, like girls and young women and low-income, new Canadians, as well as Indigenous, disabled and LGBT youth.*