

## Media Backgrounder

### Canadian Sport Policy and F-P/T Priorities for Collaborative Action 2002-05

The development of the *Canadian Sport Policy* is an outcome of the extensive consultation process launched in January 2000 by the federal Secretary of State (Amateur Sport) in conjunction with P/T governments. In April 2001, a federal discussion paper, *Towards a Canadian Sport Policy*, based on the consultations, was released and was the basis for discussion at the *National Summit on Sport* later that month.

The discussion paper was reviewed at the Meeting of F-P/T Ministers Responsible for Sport, also held in Ottawa in April 2001 immediately prior to the National Summit. At this meeting, the Ministers set themselves the deadline of a year to finalize the *Canadian Sport Policy* and implementation framework for collaborative action in sport. A work group of Deputy Ministers was charged with overseeing the completion of these initiatives.

Ministers agreed to consult with their respective sport communities in order to get their input in the development of the final document. The *Canadian Sport Policy and F-P/T Priorities for Collaborative Action 2002-05* is the culmination of these efforts and were endorsed by Ministers at their conference in Iqaluit in April 2002.

#### ***The Vision of the Canadian Sport Policy is to have by 2012:***

A dynamic and leading-edge sport environment that enables all Canadians to experience and enjoy involvement in sport to the extent of their abilities and interests and, for increasing numbers, to perform consistently and successfully at the highest competitive levels.

#### ***The Goals of the Canadian Sport Policy are***

##### **Enhanced Participation**

A significantly higher proportion of Canadians from all segments of society is involved in quality sport activities at all levels and in all forms of participation.

### **Enhanced Excellence**

The pool of talented athletes has expanded and Canadian athletes and teams are systematically achieving world-class results at the highest levels of international competition through fair and ethical means.

### **Enhanced Capacity**

The essential components of an ethically based participation/athlete-centred development system are in place and are continually modernized and strengthened as required.

### **Enhanced Interaction**

The components of the sport system are more connected and coordinated as a result of committed collaboration and communication amongst the stakeholders.

## **Canadian Sport Policy**

- Provides vision and direction for sport for the period 2002 to 2012 and challenges the sport community to share in their achievement.
- Commits to four goals for Canadian sport - enhanced participation, enhanced excellence, enhanced capacity and enhanced interaction.
- Commits all governments to setting targets for increased participation and enhanced high performance sport in collaboration with their respective sport communities.
- Reflects the involvement of stakeholders not previously included in the policy development process.
- Emphasizes increased communication and collaboration among governments.
- Commits governments to strengthening their regular and formal communication with their respective sport communities.
- Will be implemented by complementary Action Plans developed by governments collectively and individually, bi-laterally and multi-laterally, and by the sport community.

### **F-P/T Priorities for Collaborative Action 2002-05**

- For the goals of enhanced Participation, Excellence, Capacity and Interaction, 13 priorities and 22 actions have been developed for F-P/T collaboration. These are aimed at:
  - S increasing the public's understanding of and participation in sport
  - S increasing the participation of women, persons with a disability, Aboriginal peoples, and visible minorities
  - S increasing sport and physical activity in schools
  - S establishing targets for athlete and sport system performance
  - S implementing the Competency Based Education Training program for coaching
  - S developing a sport event hosting strategy
  - S improving sport and recreation facilities
  - S implementing the "Canadian Strategy on Ethical Conduct in Sport"
  - S fostering the diversification of the resource base of sport organizations
  - S enhancing Aboriginal sport development
  - S increasing the awareness of sport within government
  - S strengthening communication with the sport community and engaging in joint planning
  - S enhancing collaboration between sport organizations
  
- The work plan for the implementation of the actions will be developed by officials in consultation with stakeholders.
  
- The F-P/T Priorities document will be up-dated and implemented on a three-year "rolling plan" basis.
  
- The F-P/T Priorities document is expected to be complemented by action plans developed by the federal government, provincial/territorial governments, and sport communities.

\*FINAL DOCUMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE BY May 1, 2002