



APR 09 2019

MS. JULIE GREEN  
MLA, YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE

**Oral Question 547-18(3)**  
**Sexual Abuse in Amateur Sport**

This letter is in follow up to the Oral Question you raised on February 12, 2019 regarding Sexual Abuse in Amateur Sport.

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs and the Northwest Territories (NWT) sports organizations work in partnership to support our athletes, and promote a safe, inclusive environment free from harassment and protected from undue harm. The Department and partner organizations take their responsibilities related to the protection and well-being of young athletes very seriously.

The Federal, Provincial and Territorial (FPT) Ministers Responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation (SPAR) met from February 14-15, 2019 in Red Deer, AB to discuss the issues of harassment, abuse and discrimination in sport. At that meeting, Ministers approved the Red Deer Declaration which commits all FPT governments to take a leadership role in reducing harassment, abuse, unethical behaviour and discrimination in sport.

As a result of the Red Deer Declaration, the Government of the Northwest Territories and other territorial and provincial governments have committed to the following actions:

- To implement a collaborative inter-governmental approach, with better harmonized commitments, mechanisms, principles, and actions to address harassment, abuse, and discrimination in sport.
- To investigate the development of a system for recording statistics on the number of incidents of harassment, abuse, and discrimination reported in sport environments in order to inform future decisions and initiatives.
- To explore the establishment of an independent third-party mechanism to address issues such as harmonizing policies, disclosure process, investigations, sanctions, and authority of action.
- To explore the development of a national awareness campaign aimed at reducing stigma and empowering Canadians to disclose and appropriately address harassment, abuse and discrimination.

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- To explore the possibility of a formal agreement between FPT governments and the sport sector in order to develop a coordinated response to address harassment, abuse and discrimination, for which the National Coaching Certification Program provides a possible model.
- To explore the feasibility of hosting a national conference on the prevention of harassment, abuse and discrimination with sport and other relevant sectors in the coming months and consult on the above areas to agree on a pathway for action.

Attached is a copy of the Red Deer Declaration, which can also be found at the following link: <http://www.scics.ca/en/product-produit/red-deer-declaration-for-the-prevention-of-harassment-abuse-and-discrimination-in-sport/>

Officials within the Department will work closely with FPT colleagues to support these initiatives and to determine if any federal support may be available to assist with the establishment of a related program in the territory.

The Department will take steps to work with NWT sport organizations to update or develop their policies and programs in these areas to make sure all athletes have a safe and enjoyable experience during their sport activities.

The Department will also work with the sport organizations to develop and implement an NWT based education campaign and other related initiatives designed to reduce harassment, abuse and discrimination in sport, physical activity and recreation programs. Finally, as part of its FPT commitment, the Department will also provide periodic reports on this status of its initiatives in this area.



Alfred Moses  
Minister of Municipal  
and Community Affairs

Attachment

c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Deputy Minister  
Municipal and Community Affairs

Legislative Coordinator  
Executive and Indigenous Affairs



# Conference of Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers Responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation

## RED DEER DECLARATION – For the Prevention of Harassment, Abuse and Discrimination in Sport

### RED DEER DECLARATION For the Prevention of Harassment, Abuse and Discrimination in Sport

We, the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Ministers responsible for Sport, Physical Activity, and Recreation recognize that:

- Sport participation can have a positive impact on lives and communities, encouraging every person to achieve their potential and benefit from positive health and social outcomes.
- All Canadians have the right to participate in sport in an environment that is safe, welcoming, inclusive, ethical and respectful, and one that protects the dignity, rights and health of all participants.
- Sport must be free from harassment, abuse, unethical behaviour, and discrimination, regardless of sex, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion, language, age, sexual orientation, ability, or any other basis.
- Federal, provincial, and territorial governments have a critical role to play in ensuring and sustaining a safe, welcoming, inclusive, and respectful environment that is free from harassment, abuse, and discrimination.
- The sport sector has taken the initiative in recent years to promote a Safe Sport environment for all participants throughout Canada and is seeking leadership and collaboration from governments in its efforts.
- Canadian athletes, who have called on all governments to take action to address significant concerns regarding the safety of participants at all levels, must play a central role in the prevention of harassment, abuse and discrimination in sport.

We, the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Ministers responsible for Sport, Physical Activity, and Recreation will work together to:

- Reinforce and build on the existing work and commitments to activate the values of the *Canadian Sport Policy*, the *Framework for Recreation in Canada* and the *Common Vision for increasing physical activity and reducing sedentary living in Canada*.\*
- Foster a collaborative and coordinated relationship with sport organizations, participants, and stakeholders, and engage relevant experts to identify effective approaches to prevent and respond to incidents of harassment, abuse, and discrimination.
- Prioritize collective actions to address harassment, abuse and discrimination and unethical behaviour in sport, while respecting jurisdictional responsibilities.

We, the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Ministers responsible for Sport, Physical Activity, and Recreation will work together on the following immediate actions:

- Establishing a standing item on safety and integrity in sport, including harassment, abuse and discrimination, on the agenda for ministerial conference calls and meetings for the purpose of reviewing progress of actions, updating priorities, and exploring innovative approaches.
- Implementing a collaborative intergovernmental approach, with better harmonized commitments, mechanisms, principles, and actions to address harassment, abuse, and discrimination in sport in the areas of awareness, policy, prevention, reporting, management, and monitoring.
- Investigating a mechanism to report and monitor incidents of harassment, abuse, and discrimination reported in sport environments in order to inform future decisions and initiatives.

*\* Although Quebec is not opposed to the principles underlying the Common Vision and the Framework for Recreation, it has its own programs, action plans, objectives and targets for the promotion of physical activity and healthy lifestyles, all areas which are under Quebec's responsibility. The Government of Quebec does not participate in federal, provincial and territorial initiatives in those areas, but agrees to exchange information and best practices with other governments.*

## **Conference**

Conference of Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers Responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation

February 14, 2019 – February 15,  
2019 Red Deer, Alberta