



May 24, 2014

Ontario NDP Headquarters  
Attention: Andrea Horwath  
101 Richmond St. East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1N9

Delivered electronically to [info@on.ndp.ca](mailto:info@on.ndp.ca) and by fax to  
416 599-4820

Dear Andrea Horwath,

SPORT4ONTARIO is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of sport and physical activity in Ontario. As you are probably already aware, sport has great reach in our province as it touches nearly every Ontarian as an athlete, coach, official, volunteer, or spectator.

For this reason, we feel that sport is a critical topic for the upcoming provincial election, and we would like to seek responses to a few questions we have developed regarding how your party, if elected, intends to support the amateur sport sector.

These questions have been developed in consultation with Ontario Provincial Sport and Multi-sport Organizations.

1. With the release of the [2014 Healthy Active Kids Canada Report](#), it is evident that greater support is needed to keep our population active, most especially our children, youth and seniors. Do you agree with 85% of Canadians<sup>1</sup> that the provincial government should devote a greater percentage of the healthcare budget to preventive measures, including the development and support of grassroots sport opportunities? **How would your party propose to enhance financial support for grassroots sport opportunities for all Ontarians?**
2. In the past, Ontario has benefited from an official provincial sport strategy, which guided the development of sport in the province and allowed sport practitioners to work with the provincial government toward a shared vision. The last provincial sport strategy ([Active 2010](#)) expired 4 years ago, and it has been 2 years since the [Canadian Sport Policy](#) was endorsed by all Ministers of sport, physical activity and recreation. Despite multiple promises, no new strategies have been created to ensure Ontario is the best place to become an athlete, coach, official or sport volunteer. **If elected, will your party commit to developing a new Ontario sport strategy in collaboration with the provincial and community sport sector?**

3. The Ontario Nonprofit Network has conducted research on the state of the nonprofit sector in terms of [human capital and leadership](#). What they found is an overwhelming need to support and strengthen its labour force. In this, sport is no exception. **If elected, how will your party support enhancing the leadership skills and competencies of paid staff and volunteers (including boards of directors) in sport organizations to support a robust and innovative sector and quality community sport programming?**
  
4. The Toronto 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games have created numerous positive outcomes for the residents of the Greater Golden Horseshoe area, and will generate significant tourism dollars and interest in sport in the province. **If elected, how does your party intend to support the hosting of additional international along with national and provincial sport events leading up to and following the Toronto 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games?**

We ask that you kindly respond to these questions in a timely manner. Please be advised that we are also developing a social media campaign to begin next week, during which we will be tweeting directly at your party and its candidates on these topics and sharing with our 3,800 followers the positive impact that community sport has on Ontarians. Share your views by tweeting at @SPORT4ONTARIO using the hashtag #vote4sportON.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [memin@sport4ontario.ca](mailto:memin@sport4ontario.ca) or 416 426-7310 (office) or 905 887-1838 (home). The sport sector wishes you luck with your campaign.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Margaret Emin  
Chair, SPORT4ONTARIO

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<sup>i</sup> PHE Canada. Get active: perspectives of Canadians on the importance of physical education, health education and physical activity. Ottawa: PHE Canada; 2013. URL: [bit.ly/1gDBXB6](http://bit.ly/1gDBXB6).