

Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER

Ref #: 159351

FOR MEETING

Date: September 11, 2015

Title: September 15 Introductory and Quarterly Meeting

Issue: Minister's quarterly meeting with the BC Assessment (BCA) Chair and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as mandated by the Province's Taxpayer Accountability Principles (TAP).

Background/Discussion:

The TAP indicate that quarterly meetings should be used to discuss relevant and current corporation business, including reviewing achievement of the goals, objectives, performance measures, financial targets and risk assessments identified in the corporation's service plan (e.g. progress report on meeting the specific strategic priority actions as per BCA's 2015/16 mandate letter and service plan).

This is the second quarterly meeting required by the TAP. For background information on the previous quarterly meeting (June 18, 2015) please see the attached prior agenda items. BCA will be raising the following agenda items at this quarterly meeting (BCA has already provided these agenda items to the Minister's Office). BCA has indicated that they will be using this meeting as primarily a meet-and-greet opportunity with the new minister, plus provide a heads ups on upcoming issues.

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Farm Classification Regulation – Recent BC Supreme Court Decision:

- In 2007, an amendment was made to the Farm Class Regulation repealing BCA's power to remove farm class if a property owner did not follow the plan for classification of land under development as a farm.
- In August 2015, the BC Supreme Court ruled that without this section, BCA had no power to remove farm class despite the owner not following the development plan.

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Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM):

- The 2015 UBCM Convention will be held September 21-25 at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Staff from BCA will be present at UBCM to answer questions.

Revenue Generation:

- BCA has a goal to increase revenue to the corporation by increasing data sales and property information services.

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The previous meeting agenda is attached below for information.

Mandate Considerations: N/A	Liquefied Natural Gas Considerations: N/A
Fiscal Considerations: N/A	First Nations Considerations: N/A

Contact: Rob Fraser, Executive Director, Property Assessment Services
 Telephone: 250 356 7835

Attachment
Agenda Items
Quarterly Meeting June 18, 2015

Strategic Priority Actions:

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Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER

Ref #: 158595

FOR DECISION

Date: June 12, 2015

Title: Sport Concussion Initiatives

Issue: A decision is required regarding MCSCD's level of involvement in any legislative or non-legislative initiatives related to concussion in sport.

Background:

Sport and recreational activities are the second leading cause of concussions among children and youth under 19. At BC Children's Hospital, this group accounts for 22.2% of head injury hospitalizations. A recently formed Canadian Concussion Collaborative (CCC) also recommends that organizations, particularly for high-risk sports, have concussion management policies. The CCC also recommends that federal and provincial governments establish requirements through policies or legislation for concussion management. A July 2014 U.S. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) brain injury lawsuit settlement also called for colleges and universities to have a better return-to-play policy that establishes clear standards for how teams must treat players who suffer head injuries.

The province has undertaken initiatives to address this issue. The Ministry of Health (MoH) is the lead for injury prevention and is working with MCSCD, BC physicians and provincial sport organizations (such as Football BC) to develop resources and programs to prevent, diagnose and properly manage concussions. In addition, MoH partnered with the BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit (BCIRPU) and Child Health BC to develop the Concussion Awareness Training Tool (CATT), a free on-line tool for medical professionals, parents, players and coaches to help assess whether or not a concussion has occurred. MoH is currently working with the Ministry of Education on a third phase that targets resources to the education sector. This phase is expected to be ready for the fall of 2015.

MCSCD's focus at present is on supporting existing safety initiatives and requiring codes of conduct for athletes and coaches as a requirement of funding to provincial and multisport organizations. MCSCD also co-chairs (with the BCIRPU) the BC Sport and Recreation Injury Prevention Advisory Group and is on BCIRPU's BC Concussion Advisory Network. Further, as the regulator of combat sports, the BC Athletic Commissioner regulates participants in combat sports.

MCSCD supports MoH's efforts in an advisory capacity and as a link into sport system networks (such as provincial sport organizations, school sports, coaching and events). See Appendix I for a visual overview of provincial involvement in concussion management and Appendix II for work that is occurring in other jurisdictions.

Legislative Initiatives

In November 2011, MLA Stillwell introduced a private members bill, entitled *Concussions in Youth Sport Safety Act*, which aimed to make it mandatory to remove a child (18 years and under) from play if a concussion is suspected. The child would have been required to receive medical clearance to return to play. The bill remained on the order paper during the session, but did not receive second reading.

Ontario introduced a similar bill in 2012 but it also did not receive second reading. Ontario did, however, develop return to play policies for its school districts and funding policies requiring concussion guidelines for provincial and multisport organizations. All 50 U.S. states have passed return to play legislation.

Recently, MLS Stillwell has again raised this issue and requested support from MCSCD staff with respect to stakeholder consultation and potentially a renewed legislative initiative in 2015/16. A preliminary meeting has been held.

Mandate Considerations: Yes	Liquefied Natural Gas Considerations: N/A
Fiscal Considerations: N/A	First Nations Considerations: N/A
Unsafe practices can negatively impact sport participation levels and increase health care costs (considered respectively under MCSCD's BC Sport Strategy.) Injury Prevention is one of the seven focused intervention streams identified within the MoH's Healthy Families BC Policy Framework.	

Discussion:

MoH is leading the development of resources to implement best practices related to concussion in sport. MCSCD is supporting this work through taking advantage of existing sport networks and initiatives.

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Recommendation:

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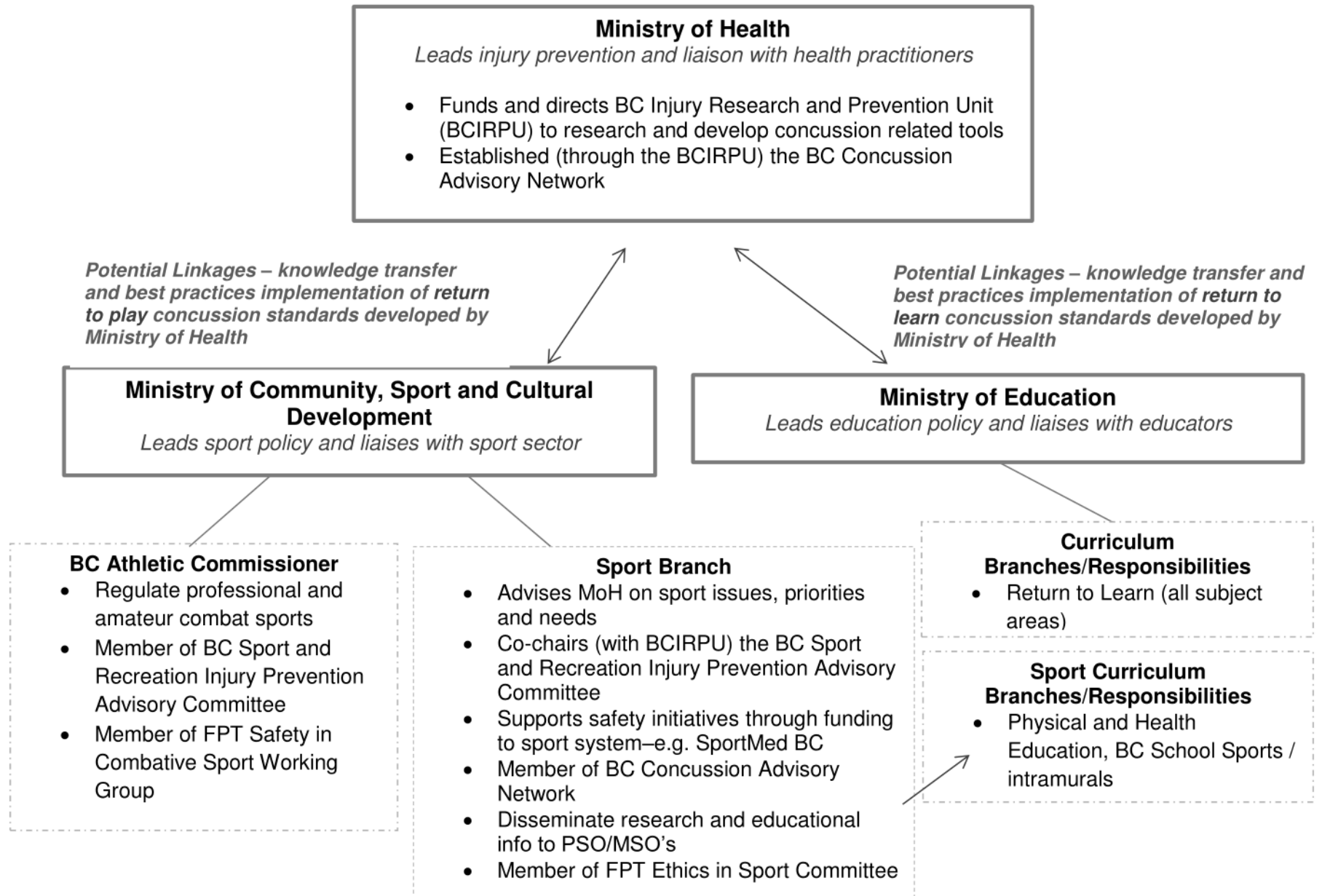
Honourable Coralee Oakes, Minister

Date:

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Contact: Jodi Dong
Telephone: 250-216-7407

Appendix I - Concussion Management Provincial Government Involvement



Appendix II – Federal and Provincial Sport Concussion Policy Initiatives

Jurisdiction	Policy / Activity	Comments
Canada – Federal-Provincial/Territorial Governments	<p>At the 2015 Sport Ministers Conference, officials were directed to establish a Federal-Provincial/Territorial working group called Federal Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Concussions and Head Injuries. BC is expected to be represented on this group by a Ministry of Health injury prevention staff member.</p> <p>The FPT Sport Committee has also established a FPT Network on Ethical Sport to share issues and best practices, with a current focus on concussion) and a Safety in Combative Sports Working Group which identifies issues related to P/T jurisdictions' response to the amendments to Section 83 of the Canadian Criminal Code (re: professional and amateur combative sport).</p>	<p>MCSCD nominated Ministry of Health as BC representative as it has the lead and expertise on concussion management. Nominations have not yet been confirmed, but it is expected that the BC nomination will be accepted. MCSCD will continue to consult with the MoH on the activities of this group, which is expected to start work in fall 2015.</p> <p>BC has representative on both these groups (Sport Branch on FPT Network on Ethical Sport; BC Athletic Commissioner on Safety in Combative Sports Working Group). Co-chairs of these groups will identify collaborative activities to address potential overlap.</p>
Canada (National)	<p>Canadian Concussion Collaborative (CCC) – recently formed to improve education and share best practice; includes Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, Canadian Medical Association, Canadian Paediatric Society, Parachute Canada and other national health agencies.</p>	<p>CCC is recommending sport organizations, particularly high-risk sports, have concussion management policies in place and federal and provincial governments establish requirements through policies or legislation for concussion management. A recent CCC poll of high-concussion-risk sports indicated 41% of 44 organizations have concussion management protocol in place with 14 organizations having mandatory protocol requirements.</p>
Canada – Federal-Provincial/Territorial Governments	<p>FPT Network on Ethical Sport – FPT Sport Committee established network to share issues and best practices. Current focus is on head injuries and concussions.</p>	<p>Network is currently compiling inventory on existing initiatives around sport concussion in each jurisdiction. On January 27, 2015, FPT Sport Committee held a meeting of network, national sport organizations and experts to identify gaps and collaborative opportunities. BC was represented by MCSCD and MoH.</p>
Quebec	<p><i>Act Respecting Safety in Sport</i> – provides Quebec government authority to inspect, review and approve sport federation safety regulations. Concussion is not specifically referenced. Established a working group to address the issue of head injuries and concussions (report available in Oct/Nov 2014).</p>	

Ontario	Introduced Bill 39, Education Amendment Act (Concussions) , 2012, received first reading but died on the order paper in 2013. Ontario School Boards have recently established concussion protocol policy. As a condition of 2015/16 funding, community-based organizations receiving project funding and Provincial/Multi Sport Organizations receiving Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport base funding must have concussion guidelines.	BC Ministry of Health is working with Ministry of Education to explore similar return to play / return to education policy in schools.
Others	Most provinces/territories have/fund safety initiatives or policy. (environmental scan in development)	Manitoba has funding policies tied to mandatory Respect in Sport training for coaches. Regulated through "spot checks."
U.S. States	All 50 states have "return to play protocol" legislation where concussed athletes must be medically cleared before returning.	Legislation is primarily education tool. Unclear how legislation is implemented and enforced and/or if legislation has reduced concussions.