

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

Ref #: 165027

**FOR INFORMATION**

**Date:** November 26, 2015

**Title:** Safety in Sport – Options to address concussions

**Issue:** This note provides background on the Province’s activities to address sport concussion and the Ministry of Health’s position on this proposed legislation, in preparation for a meeting with MLA Dr. Moira Stilwell and Parliamentary Secretary Gordon Hogg.

**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. CCC also recommends that both levels of government establish requirements through policies or legislation for concussion management.

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is the lead agency for injury prevention (Appendix 1 outlines roles and responsibilities for this issue across government departments). British Columbia’s current position (articulated by Minister Terry Lake) is that legislation could be an option for future consideration; however, British Columbia’s current focus is on education.

On November 25, 2015, the Ontario Legislative Assembly introduced Bill 149 (attached) which is proposed concussion legislation for young athletes and would lead to established standards for concussion management and education. This bill is expected to go to second reading in early December.

Ontario is the first province to introduce concussion legislation for young athletes and Bill 149 has received significant media attention and calls on other jurisdictions to follow suit. Appendix 2 includes a jurisdictional scan of concussion policy initiatives.

**Mandate Considerations:** Unsafe practices can negatively impact sport participation levels and increase health care costs (considered respectively under MCSCD’s BC Sport Strategy and MoH’s Healthy Families BC Policy Framework).

**Liquefied Natural Gas Considerations:** N/A

**Fiscal Considerations:** N/A

**First Nations Considerations:** N/A

**Communications:** With the introduction of the Ontario bill, amateur and professional sport concussion cases, and the anticipated December 24 release of “Concussion” film, this issue has and will continue to attract media and public attention. BC Health Minister Terry Lake has publicly stated that B.C. won’t follow Ontario’s lead on legislation; but will focus on education and awareness initiatives first. MCSD GCPE and MOH GCPE continue to work together on the communication of government’s approach to concussion education and support services.

**Discussion:**

The two main policy tools related to concussion management are regulatory and non-regulatory.

**Regulatory**

Currently, the only area that B.C. regulates is combat sports – the British Columbia Athletic Commissioner (BCAC) oversees the conduct of professional boxing and mixed martial arts (MMA) events as well as amateur MMA, Muay Thai, kickboxing, and pankration events, as it is required under Section 83 of the *Criminal Code* of Canada.

In November 2011, MLA Moira Stillwell introduced a private members bill, entitled *Concussions in Youth Sport Safety Act*, that proposed to make it mandatory to remove a child (18 years and under) from play if a concussion was 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.

MLA Stilwell met with former MCSCD Minister Coralee Oakes in May 2015 requesting support for renewed legislative initiatives.

At that time, MCSCD reviewed existing concussion management strategies and concluded that:

- return to play protocol and education can be an effective measure to help manage concussion
- it is not yet clear if legislative measures, such as in the U.S., are effective as compliance is difficult to enforce and measure; resources could be better used for interventions that increase education and awareness;
- s.13

MOH currently does not support a legislative approach to this issue.

**Non-Regulatory**

The province has undertaken initiatives to address sport concussion in amateur sport. MoH works 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 (CATOnline), 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/winter 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.

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.

The Federal-Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Sport Committee has established a work group on concussions and head injuries in sport. BC is represented by the BC Ministry of Health (see Appendix II). Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has also directed (through federal mandate letters) to Minister of Sport and Persons with a Disability, Minister of Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada to work together *"to support a national strategy to raise awareness for parents, coaches, and athletes on concussion treatment."*

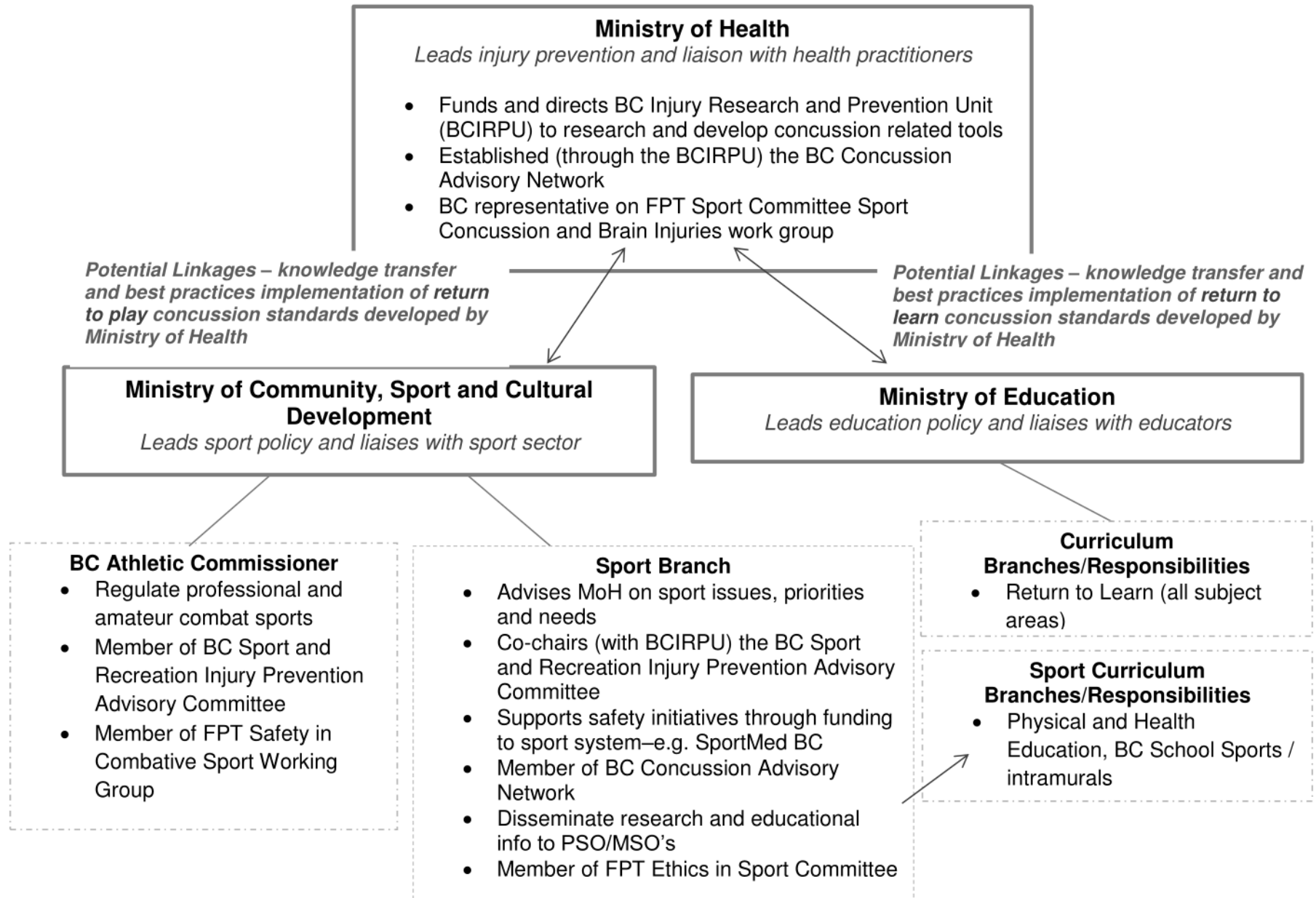
**Recommendation:**

s.13,s.17

Contact: Jodi Dong, Director  
Telephone: 250 216-7407

i:\sport\branch directory\branch briefing notes\165027 sport concussion stilwell meeting.docx \ Cliff  
#165027  
Last update:27/11/2015 - White, Sharon D CSCD:EX

## Appendix I - Concussion Management Provincial Government Involvement



## Appendix II – Jurisdictional Scan of Sport Concussion and Safety Policy Initiatives

Jurisdiction	Policy / Activity	Comments
<b>Canada – Federal-Provincial/Territorial Governments</b>	<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.</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>Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has also directed (through federal mandate letters) to Minister of Sport and Persons with a Disability, Minister of Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada to work together <i>"to support a national strategy to raise awareness for parents, coaches, and athletes on concussion treatment."</i></p>	<p>BC is represented on this group by a Ministry of Health injury prevention staff member as MoH has the lead and expertise on concussion management. Work group is currently developing a high-level action plan which will include an environmental scan of FPT activities.</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>
<b>Canada (National)</b>	<b>Canadian Concussion Collaborative (CCC)</b> – 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.	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.
<b>Canada – Federal-Provincial/Territorial Governments</b>	<b>FPT Network on Ethical Sport</b> – FPT Sport Committee established network to share issues and best practices. Current focus is on head injuries and concussions.	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.
<b>Quebec</b>	<b><i>Act Respecting Safety in Sport</i></b> – provides Quebec government authority to inspect, review and approve sport federation safety regulations.	Concussion is not specifically referenced.

Jurisdiction	Policy / Activity	Comments
<b>Ontario</b>	<p>On November 25, 2015, the Ontario Legislative Assembly introduced Bill 149 "An Act to establish an advisory committee to make recommendations on the jury recommendations made in the inquest into the death of Rowan Stringer (a female rugby player)."</p> <p>Introduced <b>Bill 39, Education Amendment Act (Concussions)</b>, 2012, received first reading but died on the order paper in 2013. Ontario School Boards have recently established concussion protocol policy. Ontario is exploring policies where as a condition of 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.</p>	<p>Expected to go to second reading in early December 2015. If passed, committee will review and make recommendations on implementation of 49 recommendations released by Ontario's Coroner's Jury. These are directed to Ministries of sport, education and health, F-PT Ministers of Sport and sport governing bodies.</p> <p>Ministry of Health is working with Ministry of Education to explore similar return to play / return to education policy in schools.</p>
<b>Others</b>	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."
<b>U.S. States</b>	All 50 states have "return to play protocol" legislation where concussed athletes must be medically cleared before returning.	Legislation is primarily education tool. Unclear if legislation has reduced concussions and/or how legislation is implemented (though sport policy is typically implemented through the education sector as the majority of sport is delivered by schools and post-secondary institutions).



1ST SESSION, 41ST LEGISLATURE, ONTARIO  
64 ELIZABETH II, 2015

1<sup>re</sup> SESSION, 41<sup>e</sup> LÉGISLATURE, ONTARIO  
64 ELIZABETH II, 2015

## Bill 149

## Projet de loi 149

### **An Act to establish an advisory committee to make recommendations on the jury recommendations made in the inquest into the death of Rowan Stringer**

#### **Co-sponsors:**

Ms L. MacLeod

Ms C. Fife

Mr. J. Fraser

#### **Private Member's Bill**

1st Reading      November 25, 2015

2nd Reading

3rd Reading

Royal Assent

Printed by the Legislative Assembly  
of Ontario



## EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Bill enacts the *Rowan's Law Advisory Committee Act, 2015*.

The Bill establishes the Rowan's Law Advisory Committee to review the jury recommendations made in the inquest into the death of Rowan Stringer, make recommendations on how to implement them and make other recommendations with respect to head injury prevention or treatment. The Committee is required to provide its recommendations in a report to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport, which must be tabled in the Legislature and published on a government website.

The Bill provides that the Act is repealed one year and three months after the day it comes into force.

**An Act to establish an advisory committee  
to make recommendations on the jury recommendations  
made in the inquest into the death of Rowan Stringer**

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario, enacts as follows:

**Definitions**

1. In this Act,

“Committee” means the advisory committee established under subsection 2 (1); (“comité”)

“jury recommendations” means the jury recommendations made in the inquest into the death of Rowan Stringer. (“recommandations du jury”)

**Advisory committee**

2. (1) An advisory committee is established under the name Rowan's Law Advisory Committee in English and comité consultatif de la Loi Rowan in French.

**Membership**

- (2) The Committee shall be composed of,
- (a) at least three members appointed by the Minister of Children and Youth Services;
  - (b) at least three members appointed by the Minister of Education;
  - (c) at least three members appointed by the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; and
  - (d) at least three members appointed by the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

**Chair**

(3) The Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport shall designate one of the members of the Committee as the chair of the Committee.

**Rules**

- (4) The Committee may make rules governing the conduct and administration of its affairs.

**Mandate**

- (5) The Committee shall,
- (a) review the jury recommendations;
  - b) make recommendations on how to implement the jury recommendations; and
  - (c) make any other recommendations that the Committee deems advisable with respect to head injury prevention or treatment.

**Reports**

(6) The Committee shall provide its recommendations in a report to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport within one year after the day this Act comes into force.

**Publication**

(7) The Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport shall table the report in the Legislature and shall publish the report on a Government of Ontario website.

**Repeal**

3. This Act is repealed one year and three months after the day it comes into force.

**Commencement**

4. This Act comes into force three months after the day it receives Royal Assent.

**Short title**

5. The short title of this Act is the *Rowan's Law Advisory Committee Act, 2015*.

## **Concussion legislation not in B.C.'s immediate future**

Vancouver Sun

Thursday, November 26, 2015

Page A03

By Rob Shaw

Copyright

Copyright

rshaw@vancouversun.com !@COPYRIGHT=© 2015 Postmedia Network Inc. All rights reserved.

**MacLeod - Rowan's Law**

CKNW

Wednesday, November 25, 2015, 13:51

By CKNW Simi Sara

Copyright

By Allison Jones, The Canadian Press November 26, 2015  
Rowan Stringer died at the age of 17.

Copyright

Page 011

Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Copyright

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.

<b>Mandate Considerations:</b> Yes	<b>Liquefied Natural Gas Considerations:</b> N/A
<b>Fiscal Considerations:</b> N/A	<b>First Nations Considerations:</b> 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.

MCSCD has reviewed existing concussion management strategies and concluded that:

- return to play protocol and education can be an effective measure to help manage concussion, particularly in respect to preventing "second-impact syndrome;"
- it is not yet clear if U.S. legislative measures are effective as compliance is very difficult to enforce and measure;
- s.13,s.17

s.13,s.17

~ .

**Option 1 –** s.13,s.17

s.13,s.17

**Option 2 – s.13,s.17**  
s.13,s.17

**Recommendation:** s.13,s.17  
s.13,s.17

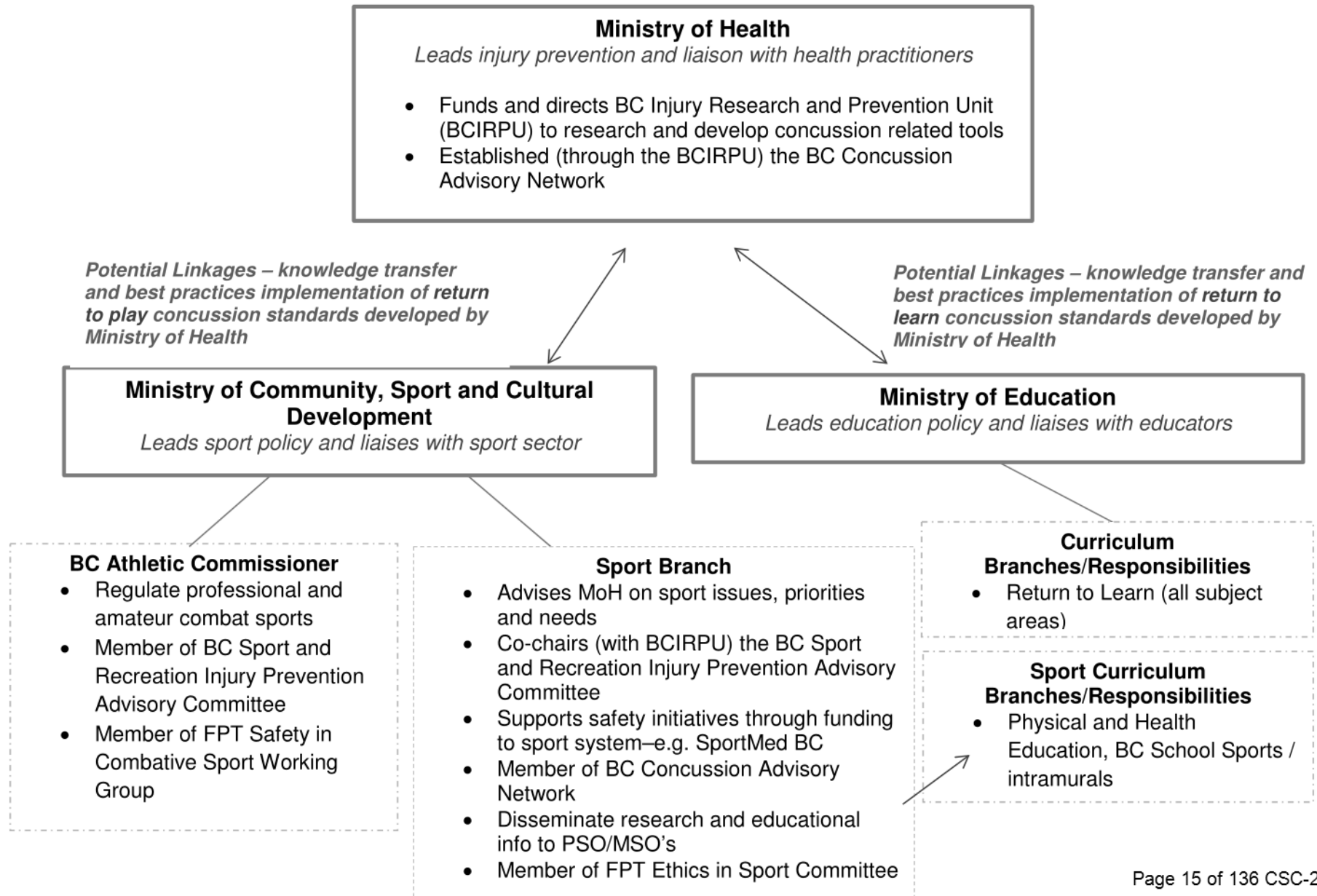
Honourable Coralee Oakes, Minister

Date:

Approved / Not Approved

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
<b>Canada – Federal-Provincial/Territorial Governments</b>	<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>
<b>Canada (National)</b>	<b>Canadian Concussion Collaborative (CCC)</b> – 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.	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.
<b>Canada – Federal-Provincial/Territorial Governments</b>	<b>FPT Network on Ethical Sport</b> – FPT Sport Committee established network to share issues and best practices. Current focus is on head injuries and concussions.	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.
<b>Quebec</b>	<b><i>Act Respecting Safety in Sport</i></b> – 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).	

<b>Ontario</b>	Introduced <b>Bill 39, Education Amendment Act (Concussions)</b> , 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.
<b>Others</b>	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."
<b>U.S. States</b>	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.

# **Federal, Provincial and Territorial Deputy Ministers Responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation**

## **Briefing Note**

### **UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS IN SPORT**

May 6, 2014

#### **Issue**

The note recommends a course of action to the F-P/T Deputy Ministers Committee in response to the letter sent by Luc Fournier, Quebec Assistant Deputy Minister (Department of Education, Recreation and Sport), to Committee Co-chairs on March 17, 2014.

#### **Background**

- Mr. Luc Fournier sent a letter to the Co-chairs of the F-P/T Deputy Ministers Committee requesting that the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) be mandated to lead a Canada-wide reflection on the types of behaviour that cannot be tolerated in sport in a process managed by the F-P/T Sport Committee (FTPSC). The letter and accompanying discussion paper are attached as Annexes 1 and 2 respectively.
- Mr. Fournier's letter cites two reasons for concerns about inappropriate behaviours in sport:
  - Recent changes to the Canadian Criminal Code section 83 regarding prize fights and the potential negative impact that provincial governments' sanctioning of non-Olympic combat sports might have on behaviours in sport, particularly among minors; and
  - Growing knowledge about the incidence of head injuries and concussions in sport which is prompting interest in measures to prevent, detect and treat these injuries.
- The letter identifies two questions as the basis for discussion:

*Considering the ethical, moral and medical criteria:*

- *What types of behaviour should not be tolerated in Canadian amateur sport;*
- *In sports that can result in head impacts or extensive body contact, what specific measures should be taken to ensure the safety of participants, particularly minors?*

## **Considerations**

s.13,s.17

## **Recommendations**

s.13,s.17

## **F-P/T Deputy Ministers Responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation**

### **Briefing Note**

## **CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES IN SPORT – PROGRESS REPORT**

November 3, 2015

### **Issue**

Report on progress of the F-P/T Sport Committee (FPTSC) work group on concussions and head injuries in sport.

### **Background**

- In March 2014, M. Luc Fournier (QC) sent a letter to the Co-chairs of the F-P/T Deputy Ministers Committee requesting that governments give attention to inappropriate behaviours in sport relating specifically to “growing knowledge about the incidence of head injuries and concussions in sport which is prompting interest in measures to prevent, detect and treat these injuries.”
- The FPTSC subsequently conducted a survey of F-P/T governments on current initiatives underway in their jurisdiction related to concussions and head injuries. This represented an update of the 2012 inventory of safety and anti-harassment initiatives undertaken by all F-P/T governments. The network of F-P/T government representatives responsible for ethics in sport issues in their jurisdiction was contacted to answer the survey.
- Based on the results of this survey, and on discussions with various group involved in this issue, the FPTSC decided in October 2014 to host a one day workshop with the objective to obtain guidance for government action in this area. Governmental representatives, several national sport organisations, and members of the medical community attended this workshop on January 27, 2015.

### Workshop on concussions and head injuries

- During the workshop, delegates did a gap and overlap analysis and outlined areas where the federal or provincial-territorial governments could play a stronger role on the issue of concussions and head injuries. Recommendations for action were formulated under each specific area. The complete list of recommendations is included in Appendix 1.
- These recommendations were presented to the FPTSC during the March 25, 2015 meeting. The FPTSC accepted the first recommendation to establish a FPTSC

Work Group on the issue of concussions and head injuries in order to obtain better guidance on the other recommendations that came out of the workshop.

#### Work group on concussions and head injuries

- The work group, co-chaired by Sport Canada and the Government of Quebec, was created in June 2015, and includes members-experts from various fields, as expressed by the participants at the January workshop. The list of members is available in Appendix 2.
- The objectives of the work group were to:
  - Prioritize the recommendations proposed by delegates of the January 27 Workshop, under the main areas for action;
  - Provide clarity on the content of the recommendations by providing a high level action plan, and
  - Prepare key recommendations for the FPTSC on next steps to implement the action plan.
- The work group first developed a common understanding of the recommendations that came out of the January workshop, and outlined concerns and comments for each of the recommendations to reach that common understanding.
- The second task was to accept or reject each of those recommendations. During this process, it was obvious that some recommendations were either redundant in principle, or not realistic and could therefore be grouped together to enhance clarity. Recommendations were then ranked and a rationale developed for the ranking.
- The final task was to identify a first set of high level activities for each recommendation. These activities are considered the most important in order to see early results in addressing the issue of concussion and head injuries in sport.
- Since the FPTSC requested a high-level action plan in time for the Deputy Ministers' meeting in November 2015, the work group did not identify specifics for each activity, such as leaders, timelines and budgets. It would have been difficult for a small group to identify such parameters this early in the process, and to establish tasks for others groups, without wider consultation with key stakeholders, such as from the sport, health, and education sectors.
- The work group established a set of core principles to guide its discussions and decisions: efficiency, engagement, relevancy, sustainability, respect of organizations and PTs autonomy and jurisdiction, and positive messaging.

#### Work Group recommendations on next steps

- The F-P/T SPARC reviewed and approved the following recommendations for next steps on this file at its in-person meeting on October 20-21, 2015:

Page 022

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13;s.17

## Considerations

- The work group is currently comprised of 10 individuals representing national sport organizations, multi-sport organizations, governments and the medical community (see Annex 2 for the complete list).
- The work group includes the national organizations from the two most popular sports in Canada, in terms of memberships, namely, Hockey Canada and the Canadian Soccer Association. This reach will help with the dissemination of tools and to obtain buy-in from other key stakeholders.
- The work group also includes Pierre Frémont PhD (Family, sport and exercise physician from Laval University) who is current Chair of the Canadian Concussion Collaborative, which ensures consistency with the recommendations made by that group in August 2014. The Canadian Concussion Collaborative is comprised of 13 organizations from the medical, sport science and medicine and sport sectors with the mission to “create synergy between health organizations concerned with concussions to improve education about concussions, and the implementation of best practices for the prevention and management of concussions.”
- The Canadian Concussion Collaborative released a paper on August 21, 2014, that identified two key recommendations for management of concussion and head injuries:
  - The first recommendation proposes that organisations responsible for operating, regulating or planning sport and sporting events with a risk of concussion should be required to develop/adapt and implement a concussion management protocol, based on current best practices. This implies the development of regulations or legislation by national, provincial and territorial regulating bodies for amateur and professional sport, public health organisations and governments to define these responsibilities.
  - The second recommendation proposes that, in situations where timely and sufficient availability of medical resources qualified for concussion management is not available, multidisciplinary collaborative approaches should be used to improve concussion management outcomes while facilitating access to medical resources where appropriate.

- s.13

**Recommendations**

This note is for information purposes only.

## **Appendix 1 - LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOVERNMENTS FROM THE JANUARY WORKSHOP**

s.13,s.17

## **Appendix 2 – LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES WORK GROUP**

F-P/T governments:

1. AB: **Adam Sollitt** - Sport Consultant, Sport Development, Alberta Sport Connection
2. BC: **Kyle Todoruk** - Manager, Injury Prevention and Physical Activity, BC Ministry of Health
3. NT: **Colin MacPherson** - Regional Sport & Recreation Coordinator at Government of the Northwest Territories
4. QC: **Michel Fafard** - Directeur, Direction de la promotion de la sécurité, Gouvernement du Québec (CO-CHAIR)
5. Sport Canada: **Jocelyn East, PhD**-Senior Policy officer Ethics in Sport (CO-CHAIR)
6. Public Health Agency of Canada – **Dawn Sheppard**, Partnerships and Strategies Division, Public Health Agency of Canada

The national sport and medical community:

7. Coaching Association of Canada: **Alain Roy** - Director, Educational Partnerships
8. Hockey Canada: **Todd Jackson** - Hockey Canada, Sr. Manager Ins./Member Services
9. Canadian Soccer Association – **Annette Wildgoose** - Director, Legacy and Special Projects
10. Canadian Concussion Collaborative (CCC) - **Pierre Frémont, PhD**- Family, sport and exercise physician, Laval University – Chair of the CCC

**Appendix 3 – DRAFT HIGH LEVEL ACTION PLAN**  
s.13

Page 027 to/à Page 028

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## **Federal-Provincial/Territorial Sport Committee**

### **Briefing Note**

#### **SAFETY IN SPORT INITIATIVES CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURIES IN SPORT**

October 16, 2015

#### **Issue**

Recommendations from the Concussion and Head Injuries in Sport Work Group

#### **Background**

- In March 2014, M. Luc Fournier (QC) sent a letter to the Co-chairs of the F-P/T Deputy Ministers Committee requesting that governments give attention to inappropriate behaviours in sport relating specifically to “Growing knowledge about the incidence of head injuries and concussions in sport which is prompting interest in measures to prevent, detect and treat these injuries.”
- The FPTSC subsequently conducted a survey of F-P/T governments on current initiatives underway in their jurisdiction related to head injuries and concussions. This represented an update of the 2012 inventory of safety and anti-harassment initiatives undertaken by all F-P/T governments. The network of F-P/T government representatives responsible for ethics in sport issues in their jurisdiction were contacted to answer the survey.
- Based on the results of this survey, and on discussions with various group involved in this issue, the FPTSC decided in October 2014 to host a one day workshop with the objective to obtain guidance for government action in this area. Governmental representatives, several national sport organisations, and members of the medical community attended this workshop on January 27, 2015.

• s.13,s.17

•

- The working group, co-chaired by Sport Canada and the Government of Quebec, was created in June 2015, and includes members-experts from various fields, as

expressed by the participants at the January workshop. The list of members is available in Appendix 2

- The objectives of the Concussion and Head Injuries in Sport Work Group were to:
  - Prioritize the recommendations proposed by delegates of the January 27 Workshop, under the main areas for action;
  - Provide clarity on the content of the recommendations by providing a high level action plan, and
  - Prepare key recommendations for the FPTSC on next steps to implement the action plan.

### **Considerations**

s.13,s.17

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that <sup>s.13,s.17</sup>

s.13,s.17

s.13,s.17

## **Appendix 1 - LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOVERNMENTS FROM THE JANUARY WORKSHOP**

s.13,s.17

## **Appendix 2 – LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES WORKING GROUP**

F-P/T governments:

1. Alberta: **Adam Sollitt** - Sport Consultant, Sport Development, Alberta Sport Connection
2. BC: **Kyle Todoruk** - Manager, Injury Prevention and Physical Activity, BC Ministry of Health
3. NWT: **Colin MacPherson** - Regional Sport & Recreation Coordinator at Government of the Northwest Territories
4. QC: **Michel Fafard** - Directeur, Direction de la promotion de la sécurité, Gouvernement du Québec (CO-CHAIR)
5. Sport Canada: **Jocelyn East, PhD**-Senior Policy officer Ethics in Sport (CO-CHAIR)
6. Public Health Agency of Canada – **Dawn Sheppard**, Partnerships and Strategies Division, Public Health Agency of Canada

The national sport and medical community:

7. CAC: **Alain Roy** - Director, Educational Partnerships
8. Hockey Canada: **Todd Jackson** - Hockey Canada, Sr. Manager Ins./Member Services
9. Canadian Soccer Association – **Annette Wildgoose** - Director, Legacy and Special Projects
10. **Pierre Frémont, PhD**- Teacher Laval University-Chair of Canadian Concussion Collaborative

**Appendix 3 – DRAFT HIGH LEVEL ACTION PLAN**

s.13

Page 035 to/à Page 036

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

# Recommendations for policy development regarding sport-related concussion prevention and management in Canada

Pierre Frémont,<sup>1</sup> Lindsay Bradley,<sup>2</sup> Charles H Tator,<sup>3,4</sup> Jill Skinner,<sup>5</sup> Lisa K Fischer,<sup>6</sup>  
from the Canadian Concussion Collaborative

Copyright

Page 038

Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Copyright



## Recommendations for policy development regarding sport-related concussion prevention and management in Canada

Pierre Frémont, Lindsay Bradley, Charles H Tator, et al.

*Br J Sports Med* published online July 12, 2014

doi: 10.1136/bjsports-2014-093961

---

Updated information and services can be found at:  
<http://bjsm.bmj.com/content/early/2014/07/12/bjsports-2014-093961.full.html>

---

*These include:*

### References

This article cites 4 articles, 4 of which can be accessed free at:  
<http://bjsm.bmj.com/content/early/2014/07/12/bjsports-2014-093961.full.html#ref-list-1>

### P<P

Published online July 12, 2014 in advance of the print journal.

### Email alerting service

Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

---

### Notes

---

Advance online articles have been peer reviewed, accepted for publication, edited and typeset, but have not yet appeared in the paper journal. Advance online articles are citable and establish publication priority; they are indexed by PubMed from initial publication. Citations to Advance online articles must include the digital object identifier (DOIs) and date of initial publication.

---

To request permissions go to:  
<http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions>

To order reprints go to:  
<http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform>

To subscribe to BMJ go to:  
<http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/>

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Leading Canadian Health Organizations' new recommendations call for concussion protocols to protect all Canadians participating in high risk sports**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL: THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2014**

Copyright

Page 041 to/à Page 062

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Copyright

Page 063 to/à Page 136

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13