

Government Involvement in Sport and Physical Activity

The Public Sector supports the sport and physical activity system in various ways - through direct funding to sport and physical activity initiatives and organizations, through providing access to other types of funding (e.g. gaming, infrastructure) and through policy and strategies that support the environments in which sport and physical activity can thrive (e.g. schools, communities, green spaces). This chart identifies ways in which individuals, organizations and communities are supported by governments. Listed with each reference to Ministries, Departments or Branches are examples of the types of support and/or involvement Governments provide - these are not all-inclusive lists). In some cases, funding is transferred from one level of government to another, or is dependent on matching grants.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

SPORT BRANCH (Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts)

- Funding to 2010 LegaciesNow Society for distribution to various stakeholders in the sport sector
- Provides oversight and assistance to major projects and events (e.g. World Police and Fire Games, 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Team BC)
- Inter- and intra-government relations (e.g. working with Ministry of Health, Sport Canada, other provincial/territorial governments and agencies)
- Provincial policy and strategies to address systemic issues and opportunities in sport and physical activity (eg. BC's Policy on Sport and Physical Activity, SportSafe injury prevention strategy)
- National leadership
- Aboriginal programs (e.g. Aboriginal Excellence).

OTHER MINISTRIES

- Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General - community sport and recreation groups can apply for gaming revenue
- Ministry of Transportation - oversees cycling policy on provincial roads and highways
- Infrastructure Division, Ministry of Economic Development - administers infrastructure grants accessible to recreation facilities (e.g. Canada BC Infrastructure Program, Olympic Live Sites), administers Rails to Trails program
- Ministry of Environment - oversees provincial parks and Crown lands used for outdoor recreation
- Ministry of Community Services - through provincial and federal government transfers, funds municipal recreation (e.g. provides funding to municipalities which in turn, provide community recreation programs, services and facilities).
- Tourism and Resort Division, Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts - commercial recreation, ski resort development.

POPULATION HEALTH BRANCH (Ministry of Health)

- Funds provincial health initiatives that promote physical activity (e.g. Action Schools BC, ActNOW)
- Inter- and intra-government relations (e.g. working with Health Canada, Sport Branch, Ministry of Education and other provincial/territorial governments and agencies)
- Works with Provincial Health Authorities and non-profit organizations (e.g. BC Health Alliance, Heart and Stroke Foundation) to promote physical activity

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- Develops and oversees Physical Education Curriculum (K-12) and associated policies
- Develops and oversees initiatives that promote physical activity such as: Healthy Schools Initiative
External Sport Credits (in partnership with the Sport Branch)
Graduation Portfolio's Health and Fitness requirements

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

SPORT CANADA (Department of Canadian Heritage)

- Athlete Assistance Grants to National-level athletes
- Funding to National Sport Organizations
- Funding to National Multisport Organizations
- Funding for Major International and National Events
- Canadian Sport Policy, FPT strategies and other federal policies and initiatives.

PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA (Health Canada)

- Grants to national physical activity organizations and initiatives (e.g. Go for Green, Canadian Parks and Recreation Association)
- Canadian Healthy Living Strategy

WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION CANADA (Department of Canadian Heritage)

- Canada BC Infrastructure grants (matching with provincial government and community funding)

OTHER POTENTIAL SUPPORT

(where sport and physical activity initiatives have been supported)

- Department of Justice (National Crime Prevention Initiative)
- Environment Canada (national parks, emission reduction strategies)

NATIONAL ATHLETES, PARTICIPANTS, ORGANIZATIONS AND INITIATIVES

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

- Recreation programs and services (through Recreation Commissions, recreation centres, municipal parks and greenspaces)
- Funding and Operating Sport and Recreation Facilities
- Local grants for events, organizations and initiatives

COMMUNITY MEMBERS, LOCAL EVENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS