



Executive Summary

Athlete Feedback on Sport Canada's Proposed Revisions to the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP)

The Athlete Assistance Program funding plays a vital role in the funding continuum of an athlete's development and sport career. The following provides an overview of the athlete feedback provided to Sport Canada on their proposed revisions to the Athlete Assistance Program. Should you wish to review the full report, please contact Jasmine Northcott.

Income Test

- We support a \$50k income test for the Excellence Subsidy and an \$80k income test for the Child Dependent subsidy.

Special Needs Subsidy

- We support the special needs subsidies as outlined by Sport Canada in their Consultation Document ("Excellence", "Child Dependents" and "Performance Support" for Paralympic athletes) **but not at the expense of reducing the number of cards.**

International Standard – Top 8

- We have concerns with regards to this recommendation; we feel that the qualitative and subjective factors that will determine the rate of progression to a top 8 standard and the additional discretion that this provides to NSO's in nominating athletes for AAP funding must be carefully managed and clearly articulated.

Tuition Support

- We recommend that tuition support be offered for each year of being carded to a maximum of 8 years and that this is available to an athlete during or after their athletic career.

Targeting Sports

- We recommend that the success of an individual athlete from a non-funded NSO be recognized and that athletes have earlier access to AAP funding by expanding the International Card criteria in order to support one-off success and the potential for those successes to elevate a sport to a new level.

AAP Budget Increase

- We recommend increasing the AAP budget and athlete funding levels to reflect the Bank of Canada consumer price index (CPI) by 20%.
- Provide additional funding to support Sport Canada's recommendations of needs based funding for the top 4 in the world ranked performers ("Excellence", "Child Dependents", and "Performance Support").
- Continue to fund athlete education and general increases in tuition costs for post-secondary education.

Report submitted to Sport Canada by AthletesCAN, the Canadian Olympic Committee Athlete Commission, and the Canadian Paralympic Committee Athlete Council. To see the full report, please contact Jasmine Northcott, Executive Director, AthletesCAN.