

NEW DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM FOR AMATEUR SPORT

MEDIA RELEASE

January 17, 2002 (Montreal): - A new national, independent dispute resolution program has been launched under the auspices of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, and in partnership with Sport Canada, Canadian Olympic Association, AthletesCAN and the Commonwealth Games.

The ADR-SPORT-RED program is at an interim stage of development and is presently composed of an independent arbitration process, a Disputes Secretariat (court office) to administer the hearings, and a resource centre (SIRC) to assist the athletes and the sport community to make best use of the program.

The ADR-SPORT-RED program officially opens on Friday January 18, 2002, and at this stage will primarily focus on issues related to the selection of athletes for the upcoming Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games. The program will also be available to National Sport Organizations on a contractual basis.

Attached is a backgrounder for further information on the new ADR-SPORT-RED program, which is funded by Canadian Heritage and the Secretary of State for Amateur Sport, the Hon. Paul DeVilliers.

For more information, please contact: www.adrsportred.ca or www.cacniq.org

Benoit Girardin, Director of the ADR-SPORT-RED Program at (514) 733-6697, cell (514)241-2096 or by email at bgirardin@adrsportred.ca

Court Office of ADR-SPORT-RED Marie Andrée Marquis toll free 1-877-909-3794 or by email cacniq@adrsportred.ca

The resource centre (SIRC) at (613) 231-7472 or by email at sirc@adrsportred.ca

PRESS RELEASE-LAUNCHING of the ADR-SPORT-RED program for AMATEUR SPORT in Canada -Thursday January 17. 2002

(Montreal) Canada has a new program for out of court settlement of disputes for amateur sports. The national ADR-SPORT-RED program is an out of court settlement system for disputes that offers mediation and arbitration services to the national sports community.

In May 2000 the Secretary of State for Amateur Sport, the Honourable Denis Coderre formed a work group composed of members of the Canadian sport community in order to come up with recommendations for solutions aimed at out of court settlement of disputes related to sports across Canada. The sport community recommended the implementation of a settlement system based upon mediation and arbitration. In October 2001, the Secretary of State for Amateur Sport approved this proposal and requested assistance from the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) to assist and supervise the implementation of the first phase of the program. Having accepted the mandate, CCES formed a steering committee comprised of representatives of the sport community in order to implement the ADR-SPORT-RED program.

This first interim phase will last as long as it takes to create a permanent ADR-SPORT-RED organisation. Under this interim phase the program only has jurisdiction over cases where internal regulations or an agreement with the national organisation allow for independent dispute resolution.

The program has as its objective to offer mediation or arbitration alternatives for members of national sports organisations including, among others, athletes, trainers, directors and managers of these organisations. Recourse to the ADR-SPORT-RED is only accessible to members of the national sport community after the internal resources of the organisation have been exhausted. This program is funded by Canadian Heritage and is made financially available to members of the sports community nationwide. The ADR-SPORT-RED is grateful and renders tribute to Canadian Heritage as well as former Secretary of State for Amateur Sport, the Honourable Denis Coderre and his successor, the Honourable Paul DeVillers for their financial support.

The steering committee of the CCES supervises and governs the ADR-SPORT-RED in its entirety, which includes two program sections: the Tribunal and the Policy Resource Centre.

The Tribunal is divided into three parts: the ordinary division, the ad-hoc division and the Disputes Secretariat (Court Office). The ordinary division handles arbitration and mediation cases that do not fall under Major Games and Special Events, which in fact includes all other national sports related cases.

The ad-hoc division handles cases related to Major Games and Special Events. Consequently, the ad-hoc division will have as its first task to hear cases related to the team selection of the Canadian Olympic Team for the winter Olympics Games in Salt Lake City 2002. This ad-hoc division of the Tribunal acts through a panel of arbitrators specially selected and trained for that purpose. The most prominent arbitrators across the country have been recruited. Among them are members of the International Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). The ADR-SPORT-RED-program will not have jurisdiction during the Salt Lake City Games as this falls under the exclusive competence of the International Court of Arbitration for sport. The regulations on procedures and statutes of the ADR-SPORT-RED program are similar to the ones of the Court of Arbitration for Sport with the necessary adaptations for Canada.

Two co-Chief Arbitrators and a President and Vice President will govern the Tribunal. Mr. L. Yves Fortier, a member arbitrator of the Court of Arbitration for Sport for the Salt Lake City 2002 games and a former member of the United Nations and Mr. Richard H. McLaren, a member arbitrator of Court of Arbitration for sport during the Olympic Games in Nagano and Sydney have both accepted to act as co-chief arbitrators responsible for the ordinary division. The Honourable Charles Dubin has accepted the role of President of the ad-hoc division for the Olympic and Para-Olympic Games in Salt Lake City 2002. Mr. Victor Lachance of the CCES will act as Vice President of the ad-hoc division.

An independent professional arbitration and mediation centre from outside the sports community will administer the Disputes Secretariat (Court Office) for the ADR-SPORT-RED. The Court Office (CACNIQ), headquartered in Montreal with alliances in British Columbia and Ontario has the role of assisting members of the Tribunal and the parties in the settlement of disputes. The Court Office will also intervene as an

information centre for the sport community seeking to utilize the services of the program (Toll Free Number) 1-877 909-3794.

The Resource Centre will offer necessary information about the ADR-SPORT-RED program as well as resources or documentation regarding sports related jurisprudence databases, model policies for internal rules regarding appeals for sports organisations, model of arbitration and mediation clauses and general orientation about the ADR-SPORT-RED program. Moreover, the site www.adrsportred.ca is available online in order to provide the desired information. SIRC (Sport Information Resource Centre) will act as the resource and documentation centre for the program.

The ADR-SPORT-RED program has been launched and officially opens its doors on January 18, 2002.

For more information on the ADR-SPORT-RED program, please contact Mr. Benoit Girardin, CONSULTANTS AMG inc, Director of the ADR-SPORT-RED, at (514) 733-6697, cell (514)241-2096 bgirardin@adrsportred.ca; or Ms. Marie Andrée Marquis of the Court Office (CACNIQ) at the toll-free number 1-877-909-3794 or at cacniq@adrsportred.ca.

Online information is also available from January 18, 2002, at www.adrsportred.ca or on the Court Office website www.cacniq.org.

ADR-SPORT-RED Program, Court Office, 1 Place Ville Marie, suite 2825, Montreal (Quebec) Canada H3B 4R4 1-877-909-3794, Phone (514) 876-9002 fax (514) 876-9003 www.cacniq.org. cacniq@adrsportred.ca