

# OVERVIEW OF THE REPORT ON OPERATIONS FOR 2014-2015

The SDRCC's operations were conducted under four main objectives in 2014-2015 (the Period). This outlines how they were achieved.



## OBJECTIVE 01

Continue to offer the highest level of ADR expertise through innovative and professional delivery of services and resources.

- The SDRCC reviewed and amended the *Canadian Sport Dispute Resolution Code*. In addition to being aligned with the 2015 Canadian Anti-Doping Program, the new Code clarifies and improves rules and procedures effective January 1, 2015. An annotated version of the Code was also published on the SDRCC website.
- SDRCC arbitrators and mediators were convened to the annual SDRCC conference in November 2014 for training and professional development. Eight new dispute resolution professionals also attended an orientation session on that occasion. The 44-person roster reflects Canada's regional, cultural, gender and linguistic diversity.
- A total of 46 cases were filed, including 12 asserted doping violations, 3 doping appeals, 3 carding appeals and 14 disputes relating to team selection, quota or eligibility. Seven of these cases were urgent and were resolved in three days or less.
- The SDRCC was onsite during the 2015 Canada Winter Games in Prince George, BC, ready to provide dispute resolution services. No dispute arose during these Games.
- Partial statistics showed that legal representatives on the SDRCC Pro Bono list assisted in at least 26 cases and saved parties over an estimated \$200,000 in legal fees.

## OBJECTIVE 02

Develop new content and tools to further inform and educate members of the Canadian sport community about dispute resolution and effective risk-reduction strategies.

- *Main Causes of Disputes & Prevention Strategies* was published in print format and as an online interactive tool, to help sport administrators prevent common disputes through sound management practices.
- The *Team Selection Policy Checklist* was introduced as a tool to assist athletes, coaches and sport administrators in the review of draft team selection policies.
- The appeal policy package was updated to become the *Guide to the Development of an Appeal Policy*. The model policy proposed in the guide is intended for medium to large size sport organizations. A simplified version, designed to assist sport organizations with limited resources, will be released in the next period.
- SDRCC services and resources were promoted through social media. LinkedIn was prioritized and analytics showed that the number of SDRCC followers has more than doubled during the Period.

## OBJECTIVE 03

Enhance interaction with the sport community to broaden the scope of influence and increase the impact of dispute prevention and resolution efforts.

- The SDRCC was present with its kiosk and facilitated workshops at national partner events including the AthletesCAN Forum, Sports Officials Canada, the Sport Leadership Conference and CS4L Summit. Staff members also attended the Canadian Interuniversity Sport's AGM and distributed dispute prevention resources. Workshops were also delivered by SDRCC staff at Karate Canada's AGM.
- Reaching out to the provincial sport community, the SDRCC was invited by Sport PEI, ViaSport BC, Sport North, Sport Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Government of New Brunswick to conduct workshops. The SDRCC also displayed its kiosk at the Canada Winter Games in Prince-George, BC, the Acadia Games in Bathurst, NB, and the Quebec Games in Longueuil, QC.
- The SDRCC sought to share resources and expand the reach of its dispute prevention resources by signing memorandums of agreement with the Canada Games Council and the Prince George Host Society, AthletesCAN, the Coaching Association of Canada, Club Excellence and ViaSport BC.
- The SDRCC was invited to speak at events organized by the BC Council of Administrative Tribunals, the Social Security Tribunal and the ADR Institute of Canada.
- Following a consultation process with key partners and stakeholders, the SDRCC rewrote its communication plan to align its communication initiatives with its strategic priorities.

## OBJECTIVE 04

Develop and implement transparent and responsible management and governance policies.

- The SDRCC conducted a review of its corporate by-laws in order to remain current and reflect responsible management and governance practices. The Board of Directors adopted the revised by-laws in March 2015.
- On behalf of the Minister of State (Sport), the SDRCC advertised the call for applications to join its Board of Directors and solicited applications from the sport and legal communities. The Minister appointed four new directors to begin their mandates in May 2015 and three more to join in December 2015.
- The SDRCC complied with all of its legislative and contractual obligations during the Period.