



The SDRCC to be Present at the 2015 Canada Winter Games

February 2015

Thanks to a long-standing collaboration with the Canada Games Council, the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) is proud to be part of the 2015 Canada Winter Games experience. As in previous Games, the SDRCC will offer **onsite dispute resolution services** such as resolution facilitation, mediation and arbitration, for any matter referred to it through the CGC Dispute Resolution Policy or through a provincial/territorial team appeal policy.

An important part of SDRCC's work is focused on **prevention of sports-related disputes**. Tools and resources will be distributed at the SDRCC kiosk in the Athletes' Village to help athletes, coaches, sport administrators, officials or volunteers have a better understanding of their rights and responsibilities as participants. All Games participants are invited to stop by and take advantage of our free print materials and promotional items. SDRCC staff will also be present to answer questions on dispute prevention and resolution as well as on SDRCC services. Come and get a copy of our newest publications: *Main Causes of Disputes and Prevention Strategies*, which contains key elements for a preventive approach in sport organizations and *Team Selection Policy Checklist*, a new tool to evaluate and help formulate constructive feedback on draft policies.

Similar to its presence at the Canada Games, the SDRCC can attend other sports-related events with its kiosk to distribute educational materials and promotional items. In addition, for teams that encounter disputes during the Games and may wish to review their existing policies to prevent reoccurrence for the next Games, the SDRCC is available to assist by offering suggestions to improve internal processes and reduce the risk of disputes. Provincial/territorial teams may also benefit throughout the year from workshops delivered to their team members by SDRCC staff on specific subjects such as team selection issues, internal appeal policies or processes, athletes' rights and responsibilities, good governance practices and more.

"We consulted the SDRCC staff in the development of our team selection criteria for the 2015 Canada Games" said Les Skinner, Hockey NWT President. "They were able to point out to us some possible sources of confusion; they helped us clarify the process and use more precise wording. Their feedback, coming from an external point of view, was much appreciated and proved very useful in finalizing our policy."

These SDRCC prevention and education services are free of charge and can be accessed at any time by members of the Canadian sport community. For more information, visit our website at www.crdsc-sdrcc.ca. ■