

LTAD Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2019 (6:00 pm – 8:30 pm EST) Hilton Lac Leamy Hotel, Gatineau, QC

Attendees: Debra Gassewitz (MSO), Sean Liebich (NSO), Anna Mees (NSO), Meredith Gardner (NSO), Peter Niedre (MSO), Corey Beard (Sport Canada), Julie Seaborn (Sport Canada), Carolyn Trono (S4L), Sarah Blezy (S4L), Vicki Harber (LTAD expert joined online)

Regrets: James Sneddon (NSO), Matt Kennedy (PSO)

Summary of Discussions

Human Resource Needs in Quality Sport Division

The group had a robust discussion about the human resource needs for the LTAD Division. National Sport Organizations are asking for more guidance and assistance for LTAD implementation to occur, especially given the need to update to LTD 3.0

Human resource and staffing needs to be ramped up in order to provide this service effectively. The group discussed in more detail the direction the division has taken and should take, current staffing and what is needed to serve the needs of NSOs. It was also noted that there is a significant risk of losing the momentum where sports developing age and stage appropriate quality sport programs, if S4L is not able to support implementation and national alignment.

Sport Canada commented that they could be tighter in terms of Sport for Life deliverables around direct support to NSO's, but they recognized that there is not enough funding to support implementation of LTAD in all NSOs; who are all in very different places.

The conclusion was that Carolyn needs an expanded team to effectively guide LTAD with NSO's in LTAD implementation, and additional coordination skills and services within the S4L internal team is also needed.

Strengthening LTAD Across Canada

Ideas, strategies and what must be done to strengthen LTAD across Canada was discussed at length. Implementation was a key theme. While many resources are created and shared at the national level, it is highly challenging to flow information and program direction to sport programs on the ground at the club level. The group identified that LTD 3.0 was a good example of this.

Discussion was also about the need for Sport for Life to lead sport system sharing, benchmarks, development, and provide centralized expertise. The progress tracker has been created as a tool to do this. However the effectiveness, reach and use of the tracker requires more resources. It needs to be

used as a tool widely to be kept up to date and to create accountability and data for planning. If used effectively the tracker could establish gaps, priorities and create more alignment. There should be a minimum of 1 expert day a year for every NSO to identify gaps and provide guidance on reviewing the content and planning linked to the tracker. NSO's must ensure that the status of the tracker is communicated annually across staff, volunteers and stakeholder groups.

NSOs need more predictability on what is expected along with an easy way to track and monitor and internally communicate progress including indicators of a healthy sport system.

Communication with NSOs

The group reviewed the letter that was written from action items from November 8. Considerable feedback was provided and there was strong advice to redraft this communication. The letter is intended to go to NSOs describing how to access service from Sport of Life.

Summit and Leads Day Debrief

Brief discussion was had around LTAD Leads Day 2019. All agreed that the morning was great with the 4 round format and digital input via ment-i-meter. It was a very productive and efficient day. Group agreed that next steps are accountability and next steps for Sport for Life to address needs identified by NSOs.

It was mentioned that many NSO Leads expressed concerns about the Progress Tracker including frustration with entering and updating information. The group's feedback about the Summit was that the schedule was confusing. Some want printed versions for next time.

Carolyn suggested in the next fiscal year, in conjunction with events, that the group do a 2- part planning piece to give it proper time and focus, to be ready for the following fiscal year. If budget allows we will aim for around the CAC Partner's Congress and during the Fall.