



REGIONAL SUMMIT OF NIAGARA 2023

Summit Agenda and Presenters
Thursday, April 20th, 2023 @ Canada Games Park

8:30am-9:00am – Arrival, Check-in, Breakfast, Welcome.

9:00-10:15am - Leaders Landscape Breakfast @ Canada Games Park

Thriving Through Changing Times – Recorded Keynote Address from Hayley Wickenheiser



Panelists:



Dr. Julie Stevens



Dr. Sinead McElhone



Mr. Doug Hamilton

Building on the success of the 2022 Niagara Canada Summer Games, community members, influencers and conference delegates will gather for the official opening of the Niagara Sport for Life Summit. The opening program will include a recorded keynote address from Canadian sport icon and medical professional, Haley Wickenheiser, along with a live panel discussion facilitated by CKTB's Rod Mawhood, about global issues impacting physical activity, sport and the health of our region. The panel will discuss how we can use physical activity and sport as a tool to make a positive difference in belonging while addressing the long-term health and wellbeing of Niagara.

 **Sport for Life**
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Thriving Through Changing Times – Expert Panel

Host: Mr. Rod Mawhood (Local Announcer, Sportscaster and Show Host)



Rod Mawhood is a lifelong Niagara native and has been involved in all three mediums of journalism – Radio, Television and Print, for close to three decades. A graduate of Broadcast Journalism from Mohawk College in Hamilton, Rod started his media career at the largest radio station in Canada, 680 News, before branching into television at The Score (now Sportsnet 360). Rod came back to Niagara in 2009 to work for what is now Bell Media (Newstalk 610 CKTB) where he does daily sportscasts, and hosts a weekly show called the Niagara Sports Report featuring athletes, builders and coaches from the Region or with ties to it. Rod also announces for numerous sporting franchises and organizations including the Niagara IceDogs, Niagara River Lions, Welland Jackfish and St. Catharines Athletics.

Panelists:

Dr. Julie Stevens, Professor, Sport Management, Director, Center for Sport Capacity

Julie is a Professor in the Department of Sport Management at Brock University. She recently served as the Special Advisor to the President – Canada Games, where she led all academic initiatives related to Brock’s involvement with the 2022 Canada Summer Games in Niagara. She is the Director of the Centre for Sport Capacity (CSC) where she works with passionate colleagues committed to research, experiential learning opportunities for students, and practical support for sport organizations.

Dr. Sinead McElhone, Director (Acting) Organizational and Foundational Standards at Niagara Region

Sinéad McElhone has a BSc (Hons) degree in Human Nutrition and a PhD in the large-scale epidemiological study of obesity in children and adolescents, both from Ulster University in Northern Ireland. She then worked in Australia as a post-doc research fellow in child obesity, nutrition & physical activity before returning to England and obtaining a position as a Senior Lecturer/Program Director of a BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition program. During the Pandemic, she became Director (Acting) of a large group of epidemiology, informatics, data governance, communications, research, evaluation, QI and administrative professionals and is currently leading on implementing several large strategic research, data and change management initiatives across Public Health.

Doug Hamilton

Doug Hamilton is a Board member of Sport Niagara, the legacy agency born out of the 2022 Niagara Canada Summer Games. Doug was an Olympic medalist (1984) and World Champion (1985) rower. During his career as an environmental lawyer at one of Canada's premiere law firms, Doug continued to contribute as a volunteer in several Canadian amateur sport organizations, including serving as VP High Performance of Rowing Canada, Board member of the Canadian Olympic Association, VP Sport and Venues of the Toronto 2008 Olympic Bid Group, Chair of Canadian Sport Centre Ontario, and Board member of the TO2015 Pan Am Games. Doug was also Chair of Niagara's 2022 Canada Summer Games Host Society and Bid Group. Doug lives in St. Catharines with his wife, Lynn, a former Canadian Olympic basketball player.

10:15-10:30am – Morning Break – “Walk the Walk”



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10:30-12:00pm - Niagara Summit Session #1 - Entry and Retention

Summit delegates will learn from community members and subject experts about the barriers to recreation and physical activity participation, and then work to identify ways for current and new members of the Niagara community to be introduced and welcomed into recreation and sport in the region.

Session Presenters and Panelists:



Mr. Jeff Tiessen



Dr. Matthew Kwan

Jeff Tiessen

Double-arm amputee, three-time Paralympian, gold medalist and World Record holder, Jeff Tiessen is founder and president of Disability Today Publishing Group and former Executive Director of ParaSport Ontario. As a publisher and journalist, Jeff's work focuses on providing individuals with physical disabilities with tools and ideas for healthy, active living. An award-winning journalist and inductee into the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame, the Windsor-Essex County Sports Hall of Fame and the University of Windsor Sports Hall of Fame, and recipient of the Senate of Canada's Sesquicentennial Medal and King Clancy Award, Jeff is a respected educator, advocate and highly sought-after public speaker.

Dr. Matthew Kwan

Matthew is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Child and Youth Studies at Brock University and Adjunct Professor in Family Medicine and Associate Director of the Infant and Child Health Lab at McMaster University.



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Matthew has recently launched a project in Calgary designed to provide newcomer youth with opportunities to develop their physical literacy, and researchers are keen to see what impact the two eight-week programs have on young newcomers. Called Immigrant-Focused Physical Literacy for Youth (iPLAY), this unique initiative brings youth together for 90-100 minute weekly sessions to explore activities they may have never tried before.

12:00pm-12:45pm – Lunch for all delegates

(Recorded keynote from Farhan Lalji)





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12:45pm to 2:45pm – Niagara Summit Session #2

- Building our Common Communication

Summit delegates engaged in this workshop will learn about the health challenges facing Niagara from a variety of local data sources. Delegates will then work to identify ways that their organizations can contribute to the larger promotion of physical activity in the Region, identifying the tools they need to help increase participation in their segment of active recreation and sport in Niagara.

Session Presenters and Panelists:



Dr. Julie Stevens
Professor, Sport Management,
Director, Center for Sport Capacity



Dr. Sinead McElhone
Director, Organizational and Foundational
Standards at Niagara Region Public Health

2:45pm-3:15pm – Niagara Sport for Life Summit celebration/conclusion



Mr. Doug Hamilton
Sport Niagara
Board of Directors



Mr. Jay Tredway
Assistant Head of School, Ridley
College & Summit Co-ordinator