

the Report. For the Association, any initiative in that regard should respect "the various unique roles/responsibilities of the numerous partners involved in the Canadian Sport System."⁽¹³⁾ Some agencies recognize that there should be more consultation between parties and a greater involvement by governments, athletes, NSOs, multi-sport organizations, volunteers, coaches, administrators, the educational system, etc. In light of the hearings, the Sub-Committee concludes that there is a need for a system that is sufficiently flexible to permit contributions from all interested parties. Shared leadership would imply the greater involvement of the sports community in the decision-making process and would reinforce cooperation, partnership and coordination.

The Sub-Committee strongly supports the goal of leadership and linkage expressed in the Task Force Report and therefore recommends:

- 15. That there be a continuing process of consultation involving all elements of the sports community which would allow sports representatives to meet on a regular basis to discuss matters compatible with their common interests. Members of the Aboriginal communities and other groups who have special concerns and needs should be invited to participate in the establishment of the new process.**

C. Role of an Independent Body

The idea of shared leadership described in the last section implies the need for initiatives to promote consultation and cooperation among members of the sports community. One of the suggestions introduced by the Task Force is the establishment of a Consultative Council on National Sport. This body would draw its membership from national sports organizations, multi-sport agencies, the federal government and other experts. The council would provide advice to the Minister on the following issues: national goals for sport, a broad financial framework for the quadrennial and beyond, and the relationships and roles of major agencies in achieving goals.

The establishment of such a consultative council received unanimous support from representatives of agencies and organizations appearing before the Sub-Committee. Most council would be useful in promoting coordination between the main participants in the sports system in the formulation of national objectives.

⁽¹³⁾ Canadian Canoe Association, Brief, p. 2.