

Native athletes until such time as they constitute a fair proportion of the total Canadian participation. It is the view of the Sub-Committee that Native people deserve more attention in the field of amateur sport. Therefore, it recommends:

- 8. That a secretariat be established to encourage the increased active participation of Aboriginals in national and international sports competitions.**

#### **F. Role of Multi-Sport Centres**

Canadian athletes may use a wide range of training facilities, such as local sports clubs and high-performance centres. Prior to major sport events, athletes can also train in lengthy national team-training camps in Canada or abroad. However, there seems to be an increasing sophistication in the facilities and equipment needed at the highest levels of training and competition. Some witnesses stated that the quality of performance at the international level is directly related to the preparation programs for athletes. They underlined the need to provide high-quality sport facilities to Canadian athletes. For this reason, they endorsed the Task Force's suggestion for consideration of the concept of multi-sport high-performance centres to be located in major urban centres and employing professional administrators, coaches, sport scientists, and sport medicine practitioners.

Multidisciplinary centres offer high quality of coaching, support services (scientific and medical) and facilities which make for optimal athletic preparation. According to some athletes who appeared before the Sub-Committee, multi-sport centres for a certain number of sports, where athletes could get together for intensive training a few weeks before the games, could be beneficial. They noted that it was important to remember that such centres would have an optimum size, after which the returns would start to diminish. It is thus essential to get the right-sized centre and the right coordination.

The Sub-Committee believes that the concept of multi-sport high-performance centres is interesting and deserves further consideration. The members of the Sub-Committee therefore recommend:

- 9. That an in-depth study be conducted into the question of multidisciplinary centres and their costs and benefits.**

#### **G. Rights and Status**

Athletes and other members of a national sport organization face a broad range of rules for the conduct of amateur sport. These rules are related to various aspects of sport,