

Policy 251

Subject:

Persons with a Disability

Effective: Revisions:

August 16, 2007 October 1, 2018

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The Sport and Recreation Policy for New Brunswick states the fundamental principle that "All citizens should have equitable, barrier free access to a broad range of quality sport and recreation activities." It also recognizes that a role of the provincial government is "barrier breaking aggressively identifying and helping to remove obstacles that hinder equitable participation."
- 1.2 Studies have shown that persons with a disability are under-represented in the sport and recreation system. People with a disability are under-represented in positions of leadership, coaching, officiating and as participants.
- 1.3 It is clear that participation in sport, recreation and physical activity results in clear health and quality of life benefits. Conversely, non-participation in sport, recreation and physical activity is associated with a myriad of health problems.
- 1.4 This Policy provides clear direction for the Branch in its future decision making.

2.0 Application

2.1 This Policy applies to the Sport and Recreation Branch.

3.0 Definitions

- 3.1 Sport: A particular form of recreation requiring a combination of physical, technical, tactical and mental skills. Persons of all ages, stages and skill levels are welcomed to participate and are inspired to improve.
- 3.2 Recreation: The experience that results from freely chosen participation in physical, social, intellectual, creative and spiritual pursuits that enhance individual and community wellbeing.
- 3.3 *Physical Activity*: is all leisure and non-leisure body movement produced by the skeletal muscles and resulting in an increase in energy expenditure.

4.0 Authority

4.1 The Youth Assistance Act



5.0 Goals / Principles

- 5.1 To increase the participation of persons with a disability in sport and recreation in New Brunswick by:
 - a) To increase the number, variety and quality of opportunities available to persons with a disability,
 - b) To improve awareness of the opportunities to person's with a disability, and
 - c) To reduce barriers to participation for person's with a disability.

6.0 Requirements / Standards

6.1 The Sport and Recreation Branch is committed to promoting the inclusion of person's with a disability as participants, leaders and volunteers through the provision of financial and consultative support towards equitable, barrier free access to a broad range of quality sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities from community to high performance.

7.0 Guidelines / Recommendations

7.1 The above Policy Statement will be used to guide Branch planning, program development, support and decision making.

8.0 Contact for more information: (506) 453-2928 – SR/SL@gnb.ca

Approved by:

Jeff LeBlanc

Director, Sport and Recreation Branch