# 2016 Sport Canada Research Initiative Conference Plenary Presentations

Carly Adams

Imaging Community: Women's Ice Hockey, High Performance Sport and

Rural Survival in Southern Alberta

Martin Camiré

Teacher-coaches' influence on the global development of student-

athletes: An examination of perceived dual role benefits and challenges

Adam Baxter-Jones

The effects of adolescent physical growth and maturation on selection

into sport and the long-term effects on sports participation

**Peter Donnelly** Multiculturalism and physical culture: The case of the GTA

Nicholas L. Holt Positive Youth Development Through Sport: PYD SportNET

Jonathan A. Weiss

Psychosocial Predictors of Sport Retention in Youth with Intellectual

Disability

**Sue Cragg**Considerations for increasing sport participation among members of

under-represented groups in Canada



Imaging Community:
Women's Ice Hockey, High
Performance Sport and Rural
Survival in Southern Alberta

Carly Adams & Hart Cantelon University of Lethbridge



#### Context

Purpose: Examine the impact of the Warner Hockey School (WHS) on the village of Warner and the potential role of high-performance sport in community survival and revitalization.

Specific objectives – identify and analyze:

- Why the WHS was established and the process that the community undertook to make the school a reality;
- How the 'imagined community' of Warner came to include high performance hockey;
- The role of elite hockey academies in the Canadian hockey system and the impact of such schools on women's hockey;
- The potential role that high performance sport might play in Canadian rural survival.



#### Methods

- Case study design
- Multiple qualitative data collection strategies:
  - Analysis of school and community documents;
  - Semi-structured interviews with community members, school and hockey school staff, informed hockey experts, and past players (n=32);
  - Participant observation at village council meetings, school events, hockey galas, showcase camps, and games.



# Uncertainty despite success

- Since 2003, WHS has helped Warner accomplish its central goal: to retain kindergarten to grade 12 schooling.
- The WHS is a nationally and internationally recognized elite female hockey program (2015 JWHL Champions).
- Over 90% of WHS players pursue hockey careers at postsecondary level in CIS and NCAA, many with scholarships.
- Warner interviewees: WHS has "saved the village."
- But, WHS visibility and team success has not led to community revitalization or development.
- Result: Villager dissonance



## Imagining community

- Warner residents have a strong connection to history of the town, family, and school. Strong commitment to future prosperity of the community.
- Hockey players, while invited and welcomed, do not share the same intimate connection.
- Players view Warner as a timely destination, a place to pursue excellence and educational advancement with the end goal of a university scholarship and/or a place on the national team.



# A culture of elitism: Opportunity and threat

- In 2003, WHS was one of two female hockey academies in Canada.
- The WHS's future is threatened by the growing popularity of elite female hockey.
- Warner needs to differentiate itself from other schools, many from larger centres.
- Paradox: Success of Warner is a cause for celebration;
   Future of WHS and the Village of Warner is uncertain



# **Implications and Next Steps**

- Hockey academies are highly sought out as paths to specialized coaching, increased skill development, postsecondary athletic scholarship offers, and possible selection to national and international teams.
- Further research is needed on the impact of highperformance sport academies in rural and urban centres across Canada and the benefits provided for athletes, community members and the associated schools.



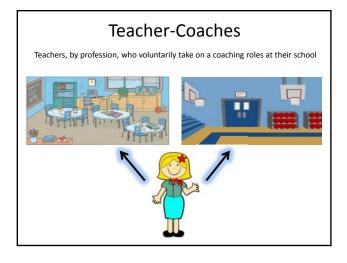
#### Dissemination

- Presentations have been made at national and international academic conferences.
- Presentation at the University of Lethbridge. Warner community members, players, Lethbridge community members and faculty and students from the U of L in attendance.
- Papers and book chapters have been/will be submitted to sport and rural development related journals/books.
- Book project in early stages







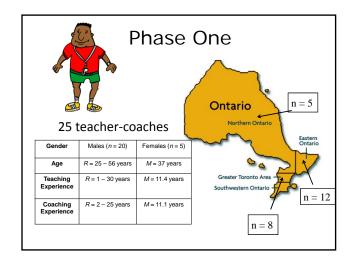




# **Two Phases**

- 1. Exploratory Qualitative Study
- 2. Survey Study





International Sport Coaching Journal, 2015, 2, 125-136 http://dx.doi.org/10.1123/iscj.2014-0096 © 2015 Human Kinetics, Inc.



# Examining High School Teacher-Coaches' Perspective on Relationship Building With Student-Athletes

Martin Camiré University of Ottawa

Adult leaders in sport can exert considerable influence on young athletes' development but this influence is mediated by the quality of the relationship that is formed between both parties. The purpose of the current study was to examine high school teacher coaches' perspective on relationship building with student-athletes. Teacher-coaches 200 men. 5 women, Mage = 37.0 years, ger ange; 25-56 years) from Canada took part in semistractured interviews. Results indicated how the participants believed being both a teacher and a coach was advantageous because it allowed them to interact regularly with student-athletes. The teacher-coaches devised a number of strategies (e.g., early-season tournaments, regular team meetings) to nutrue relationships and believed their recurrent interactions allowed them to exert a more positive influence on student-athletes than adult leaders in a single role. In terms of outcomes, the teacher-coaches believed their dual role helped increase their job satisfaction, positively influenced their identity, and allowed them to help student-athletes through critical family (e.g., alcoholism, divorce) and personal issues (e.g., suicide). The current study suggests that the dual role of tracher-coache is beneficial to both teacher-coaches and student-athletes. However, future work is needed, paying attention to how teacher-coaches can further nurture quality relationships with student-athletes.

Keywords: school, sport, job satisfaction, identity, development

#### **Intrinsic Motivation for Sport**

"It's a different relationship, it's a bit closer. We're working hard together [in sport] because we want to. Kids have to take classes. No one has to play sport. They want to play sport. I don't have to coach, I want to coach"



#### Increased Job Satisfaction

"On my birthday, my football players bought a cake that said 'happy birthday coach'. They had me wear a helmet and shoulder pads and sang me happy birthday. You know, they're the most testosterone guys in the school and they thought about getting me a cake. I had tears in my eyes because I never expected that"



#### **Crisis Prevention**

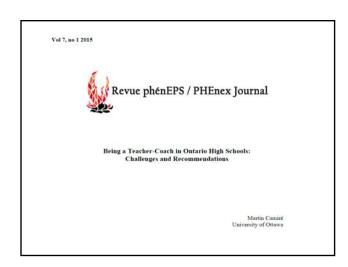
"I had to go to the Children's Aid Society this weekend. I met with social workers who told me 'Listen, this kid is always talking about you, how do you think we can help him?' It blew me away. I didn't realize the impact I could have"



# Parental Figure

"I'm aware of at least six kids I know the father is not present. I can't tell you how many times it slipped and some kids called me dad by accident"





#### Time Issues

"I coached girls' basketball, boys' basketball and they overlapped. I remember days showing up for practice at 6:45 and then having practice after school until 18:30. It's November so it's dark, I never saw the sunlight, it's really draining. I used to always get really sick at that time and it's all because of fatigue".



#### Administrative Issues

"Coaching is becoming harder; it's just stupid red tape bull shit. Now it's a freaking package that is 16-17 pages thick. I've got to send it off and get it approved by the superintendent. It's just been mounting paperwork"



#### Phase Two

National Survey of High School Teacher-Coaches



International Sport Coaching Journal, 2016, 3, 145-155 http://dx.doi.org/10.1123/lecj.2015-0110 © 2016 Human Kinetics, Inc.



#### Profiling the Canadian High School Teacher-Coach: **A National Survey**

Martin Camiré, Meredith Rocchi, and Kelsey Kendellen University of Ottawa

Each academic year, a large number of teacher voluntarily assume coaching positions in Canadian high schools and thus undertake the dual role of teacher-coach. To date, much of the scholarship on teacher-coaches has been conducted with small samples of participants and assuch, the conclusions that can be drawn about the state of the Canadian teacher-coach are limited. The purpose of the current study was to profile the Canadian high school teacher-coaches in the contract of the coacher coaches (males = 2046, 67%) remaniting from all Canadian provinces and territories completed a questionnaire examining personal background and work conditions. Results indicated that aspects of teacher-coaches' personal background significantly influenced the benefits and challenges they perceived from coaching as well as the recommendations they suggested to improve their coaching experience. The recommendations put forth by the teacher-coaches to improve their work conditions must be earnestly considered by school administrators to ensure the long-term viability of the Canadian high school sport system, which is largely sustained by dedicated volunteers.

Keywords: coaches, youth sport, development, working conditions

Coaches play an integral role in the personal devel-nent of young athletes, a notion recently emphasized as an extracurricular activity, therefore undertaking the dual role of teacher-coach at their school (School Sport

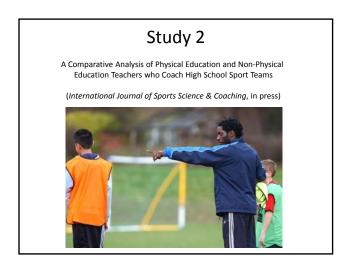
	Descriptive Statistics for Personal I	Background	Informati
	Measure	Frequencies	
N = 3062	Measure	n	%
	Age		
	20s	392	13%
	30s	962	32%
	40s	1004	33%
	50+	654	22%
	Gender		
	Male	2046	67%
	Female	998	33%
	Province		
	Alberta	611	20%
	British Columbia	439	14%
	Manitoba	365	12%
	New Brunswick	166	5%
	Newfoundland and Labrador	82	3%
	Nova Scotia	72	2%
	Ontario	870	28%
	Prince Edward Island	23	1%
	Quebec	123	4%
	Saskatchewan	300	10%
	Territories	11	<1%

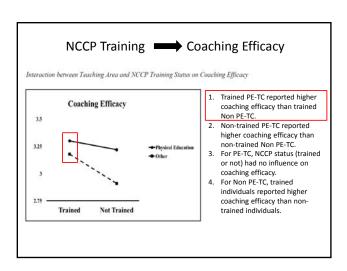
Measure	Categorical Variables		
	n	%	
NCCP Trained			
Yes	2194	72%	
No	790	26%	
I don't know	78	3%	
Reduced Teaching Load			
Yes	92	3%	
No	2945	97%	
Types of Team(s) Coached			
Boys	798	27%	
Girls	628	21%	
Both	1121	37%	
Co-Ed	468	16%	

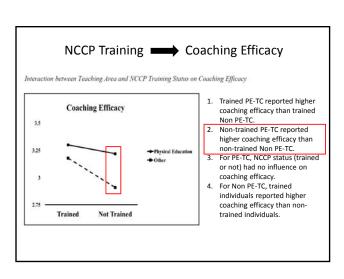
	Continuous Variables		
Benefits	M	SD	
More Opportunities to Interact with Students	6.53	0.97	
Get to Know More Students	6.08	1.33	
Enhances Credibility Among Students	5.70	1.37	
Affords High Level of Respect from Students	5.53	1.39	
Maintains Productive Class Atmosphere	5.35	1.54	
Gives a "Cool" Factor	4.87	1.69	

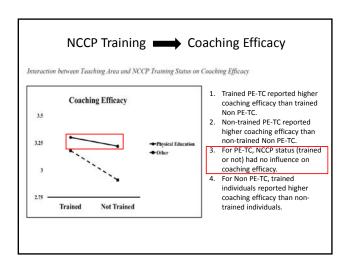
Challenge	Is this a challenge?		Extent of Challenge	
	n (yes)	% (yes)	M	SD
Meeting Family Obligations	2412	90	5.80	1.43
Managing Time	2444	91	5.57	1.47
Managing Administrative Duties	2404	90	5.71	1.41
Arranging Transportation	2222	83	5.39	1.64
Maintaining Discipline	1829	68	4.85	1.81
Competing Against Community Teams	1724	64	5.01	1.90
Competing Against Sport Schools	1765	66	5.09	1.90
Cutting Students	2116	79	5.18	1.76
Dealing with Students Considered Entitled	2304	86	5.18	1.61
Dealing with Parents	2343	87	5.05	1.63
Accessing Coach Education	2149	80	4.79	1.70
Receiving Recognition	2155	81	4.71	1.83
Receiving Support from Colleagues	2233	84	4.60	1.88
Receiving Support from the School	2210	82	4.69	1.76
Students Crossing Professional Boundaries	2010	75	4.24	1.71

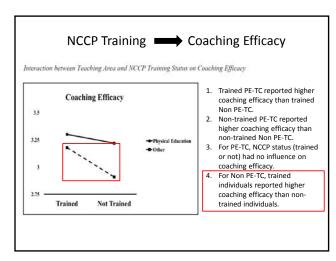
Initiative	Usefulness of Recommendation		
AMMIN'S	M	SD	
Having Schools Cover Coach Education Fees	6.45	1.08	
Recognizing Coach Education as PD	6.28	1.27	
Having PA Days for Coach Education	6.26	1.27	
Being Compensated in Time	6.00	1.58	
Receiving more Resources from School Boards	5.87	1.59	
Designating Sport Administrative Assistants	5.61	1.74	
Integrating Sport in the School Curriculum	5.47	1.74	
Accessing Internet Coach Education	5.40	1.82	
Reducing Administrative Duties	5.35	1.78	
Being Compensated Financially	5.31	1.99	
Having a Daycare on School Premises	3.54	2.39	

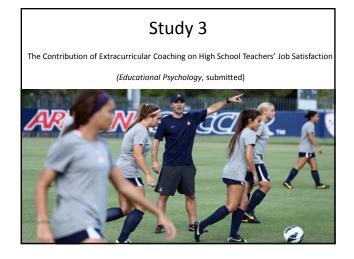


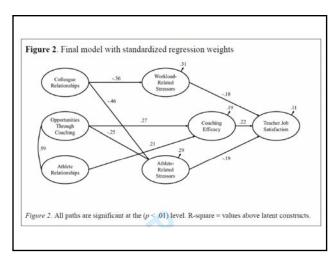














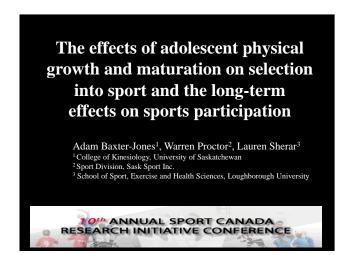


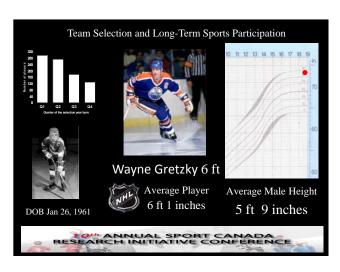




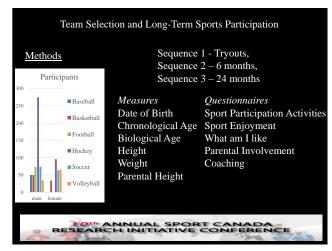


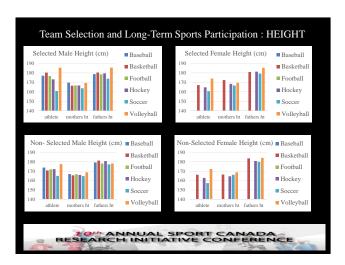


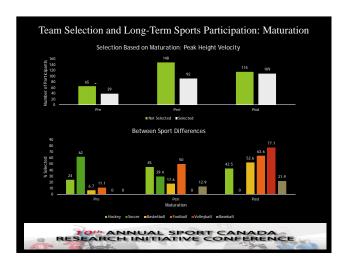


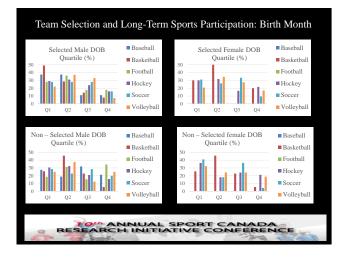


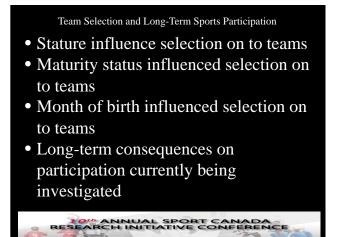














Peter Donnelly Centre for Sport Policy Studies Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education







#### Two parts of the project

- 1) Foundational science collect, identify and classify everything that exists in the area of GTA physical culture
  - student/RA research and citizen science
- 2) Develop a more granular analysis of specific activities relevant to the research questions
  - secondary sources and key informant interviews



# Toronto Two sets of research questions

- 1) How many different forms of physical activity do people participate in in the GTA? Who participates? Where did the activity come from? etc.
- 2a) What are the life cycles of physical activities?
- 2b) How are physical activities involved (or not) in processes of integration and inclusion?
- 2c) Policies and politics of multiculturalism and physical culture?



# Results and consequences (1)

So far, 120+ posted; some 250+ waiting; citizen science starting; expect up to 1,000 different activities

Effects of GTActivity difficult to anticipate; some possibilities include:

- Site may help to connect communities and individuals across the GTA
- Site may help to broaden our sense of what constitutes physical activity/active living
- Site may become a community resource that identifies and confirms specific GTA communities



### Consequences (2)

- There are key reasons for supporting new (1<sup>st</sup> generation) activities, whether they are integrating or not
- New activities that survive add to the physical cultural repertoire of all Canadians
- The revival of some activities (folk games, children's games, games that are not being passed on to the young) may be a key element of increasing participation.



## Results (2)

We are beginning to gain a sense of, and to test some different trajectories in the life cycle of physical activities

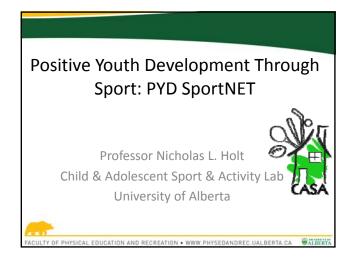
The survival of activities beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> generation appears to depend on that 1st generation beginning to integrate the activity into the larger multicultural community

Jurisdictions differ in their level of support for 1<sup>st</sup> generation physical cultures, but that support seems to be important for expanding physical cultural diversity, and participation



#### Thank you

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#### **Team**

- Nick Holt
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- Jessica Fraser-Thomas
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- Martin Camiré
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- CCSA



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- Meghan Harlow
- Kristine Cheung

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#### **Rationale**

- · Canada has some of the world's leading researchers in youth sport, and one of the most sophisticated sport systems ("IOC, 2016").
- Yet, there is a research-to-practice gap when it comes to applying knowledge from youth sport research to the delivery of sport in Canada (Holt, 2016; "Sport Canada 2014").

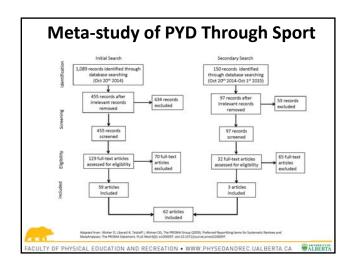


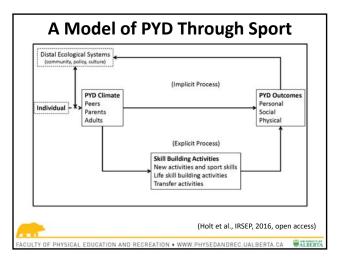
# **Positive Youth Development**

- To facilitate youth development by providing experiences that enable participants in adult-supervised programs to gain transferable personal and social life skills, along with physical competencies.
- These skill and competency outcomes will enable participants in youth sport programs to thrive and contribute to their communities, both now and in the future.

• (Holt, 2016).







# **Talking With Sport Organizations**

- 46 PSOs and counting
  - Alberta (10), Manitoba (5), Ontario (12), Québec (10), Prince Edward Island (9)
- 20 NSOs/MSOs



# **Main Findings**

#### • Barriers

- Time, capacity
- Knowing 'what is out there' and 'what is credible'
- Lack of communication from researchers

#### • Opportunities

- Using research to make or justify decisions
- Key topics: parent education; retention and recruitment

#### Moving Forward

Easy, shareable ways to present access credible research

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#### **Initial Reach**

- Infographics average 2,800 views and 110 interactions
  - Infographics targeted to coaches are most highly viewed.
- One infographic, promoted as a SIRC knowledge nugget, received over 9,000 views.
- The Sport Parent has received over 3,000 views and 50 interactions

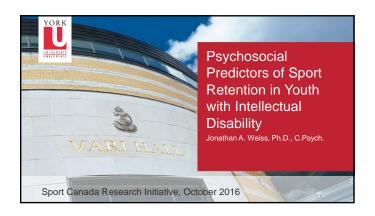




# **Take Home Messages**

- 1. PYD SportNET is an attempt to address the research-to-practice gap.
- 2. It is about building partnerships and creating linkages
- 3. Follow us, retweet, read, ask





# Acknowledgements

- PI: Jonathan Weiss (York)
- Co-I: Yona Lunsky (CAMH/UofT, Robert Balogh (UOIT), Jessica Fraser-Thomas (York)
- Collaborators: Jean Cote (Queen's), James Noronha (SOO)
- Research Assistants: Tamara Germani, Suzanne Robinson



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# Background

- · The benefits of sport participation are substantial
- Attrition is common for youth without disabilities, with an average North American rate of 35% annually (e.g., Gould, 1987)
- Many challenges to sport participation for youth with Intellectual Disabilities (ID)
  - Exclusion, less access, sedentary lifestyle (Temple et al. 2006; Walsh, 2005)



# Objective

- So sport may be helpful, it is certainly valued by many
- What keeps youth with ID involved in sport?
- Longitudinal analysis over a 3 year period



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# **Special Olympics**

- Commonly used at community levels
  - Proliferation of different streams to sport – Traditional, Unified, Active Start, etc...
- A number of psychological/emotional correlates, with less evidence for physical and intellectual benefits (Tint, Thomson, & Weiss, 2016)
  - Few RCTs
  - · High risk of bias

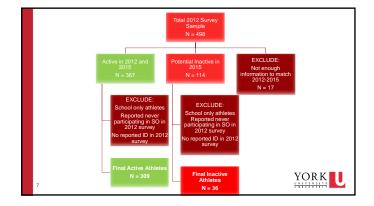


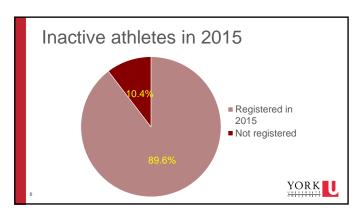


#### Method

- Invite caregivers of all registered SO Ontario athletes 11-21 years of age to participate in survey in 2012 (N = 2400)
  - Of those who complete Time 1, who remains registered in 2015 database?
  - Time 1 n = 498, though with missing data
- All variables measured in 2012 (before dropout)







# What does not differ between groups?

- Athlete characteristics: Age, gender, level of independence, problem behaviours, diagnoses
- Parent and sociodemographics: Age, SES, income, level of parent support for physical activity
- Inclusion and participation outside of SO: Friendship quality, access to resources, level of participation outside SO
- · Age when athlete first got involved in SO
- · Total number of gold medals



How are inacti	ve athletes different?
Does your child participate in non-sport SO events (% yes) $p = 0$	Do the following things help or make it harder for your
Frequency of SO participation in the last 12 months (5 point scale)	child to participate in SO (Not an issue / usually helps / sometimes helps / usually makes it harder):  -Physical layout, social demands, weather
Friendship quality in Special $p = .0$ Olympics	Are the following available and adquate to support your child's participation in SO (Not needed / usually yes/ Sometimes yes / usually no)
Overall Environmental Support p = .0 Score in SO (%)	-Transportation, information, equipment, money
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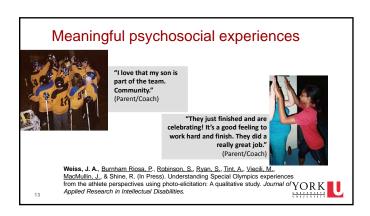
# How are inactive athletes different? Examples from Youth Experiences Survey SO (18 Items): Identity Experiences: Has improved their selfesteem esteem esteem metaltionship score Mean athlete-coach p = .04 relationship score Examples of athlete-coach questions (4 items): Interpressonal Relationships: Learned about helping others Social Capitat: Have become more connected with our community Team Work: Has had the opportunity to act as a leader

# Discussion

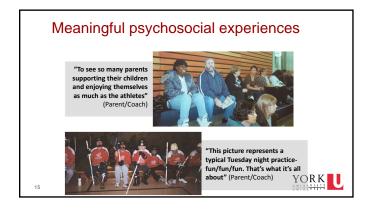
- It is about experiences that differentiates
  - Athlete experience and sport specific factors rather than youth and family characteristics
  - And this is within an organization already developed to support youth with ID



1







# Limitations

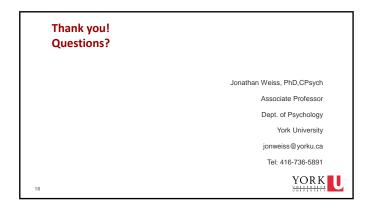
- At most a 20% participation rate at Time 1, likely less
  - · Youth and family representativeness is limited
- Participants in SO may not represent typical youth with ID who struggle to seek sport or participate in other kinds of sport
- Lack of experimental design Time 1 is not a baseline
- All caregiver report

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# Discussion

- Coaches and parents can foster positive experiences and can play an important role in continued sport participation
- Understanding the factors associated with sustained active involvement in sports is critical for sport retention efforts
- It's not just about being involved vs. not: It's what your involvement is like (Tint, Maughan, & Weiss, 2016)

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#### **Purpose**

• provide the Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Committee with a literature review to serve as a common evidence-base for collaborative policy and program development work aimed at increasing participation in sport, particularly among underrepresented groups, and promoting the health of Canadians through sport participation.

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## Populations of Interest

- Woman and Girls
- Indigenous Peoples
- Individuals with Disabilities
- Recent Immigrants and New Canadians
- Socially and Economically Disadvantaged
- Rural, remote and isolated residents
- LGBTQ community members
- Older Adults

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#### Mastery and Challenge

- Competency, physical literacy, cultural capital
- Lack of opportunities in the early years
  - socio-economic disadvantage
  - physical or health challenges or limitations
  - past residency in other countries
  - sexual orientation, gender identity
- → Inclusive ongoing recreation programs that can include players of all levels of skill and ability
- → Ensure access

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# **Engagement and Meaning**

- Co-creation of programming
- Holistic approaches
  - Many influences and supports
  - Sport for development and health promotion
- → Involve target-community members
- → Work with interdisciplinary, intersectoral and inter-jurisdictional partners

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# Belongingness

- Human rights approaches
- Parallel systems and reverse integration
- Promotion
- Setting a welcoming tone
- → Celebrate and promote diversity
- → Educate staff, participants and the public
- → Ensure representation

#### Other

- Environmental Scan
  - Indentify unpublished good practice
- Disseminate
- Monitor and Evaluate

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