



# Ontario Sport Community Summit Report

## 2026



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# Executive Summary

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The sport system in Ontario is fragmented and not working for Ontarians. Sport organizations are recovering from the disruptions of COVID-19, and adapting to the implementation of Rowan's Law, the updating of the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act, as well as several national safe sport policies and initiatives including the recent publication of the Future of Sport Commission Report. All of this is happening as demands and expectations for inclusion and accessibility in sport are growing. Despite this increased complexity, funding for PSOs has remained stagnant. Academics and practitioners have called attention to the current challenges and lack of strategic direction for sport in the province. Our work aimed to address these issues directly by gathering sport leaders across many organizations for a sustained discussion on the current state and possible future for sport in Ontario.

Input from participants broadly indicated that the sport system in Ontario is fragmented, disorganized, and lacks both strategic direction and coordination. More specifically, leaders identified the following key action items for policy makers:

## **System Leadership, Coordination & Sustainable Investment:**

1. Upskill Sport Organizations
2. Build Coalitions for Collaborative Action
3. Diversify Revenue Streams
4. Recognize Informal and Alternative Sport Settings

## **Sport Access & Lifelong Participation:**

1. Address Fragmentation
2. Create Pathways for Lifelong Participation
3. Propagate Opportunities

## **Safe, Inclusive & Holistic Sport:**

1. Keep Sport Fun
2. Establish and Implement Best Practices
3. Commit to Equity
4. Standardize Safe Sport

These action items are intended to support a strategic direction for sport in the province. Overwhelmingly, participants suggested that fragmentation has weakened the political imperative to make sport more accessible for everyone. A lack of a unified plan and a clear structure for sport in Ontario has exacerbated challenges throughout the sport system and puts organizations at substantial risk for governance failures or system-level collapse. We encourage sport leaders, organizers, policy makers, and general community members to take these action items into their work, and use them to support their organizing, management and advocacy.

**WRITE A LETTER  
TO YOUR MPP**

