SPORT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES?

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Summary of the presentation

- Inclusion as a concept
- Specific situation of indigenous people in Canada
- Indigenous Sport
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Sport
- Conclusion
Inclusive programs or social inclusion?

**Inclusive programs**
- Sport for all
- Accessibility, focus on the most vulnerable groups (gender, disabilities, age groups, culture, ethnic groups, religions, socio-economic status etc.)

**Social Inclusion**
- Social inclusion describes how a society values all its citizens, respects their differences, guarantees that all the basic needs are met, welcomes and allows full participation in that society.
- Participation in civil society
- Participation in the economy
- Social assistance
- Social Capital...
Why participation in sport should not mean inclusion/integration/assimilation?

◦ Nation to nation
◦ Respecting culture
◦ Inclusion must not mean assimilation / integration
Indigenous Sport

Euro-Canadian Sport
- Secular
- Individualism
- Competitiveness
- Compartmentalized

Indigenous Sport
- Holistic
- Community/Land-based
- To compartmentalize sport as a secular activity, is to ignore or eliminate the interconnectedness between the physical, spiritual, intellectual, and emotional. (Zogry, 2010)
The dualism and the making of an indigenous sport system

- North American Indigenous Games
- Arctic Winter Games
- Aboriginal Sports Circle
- Sport Canada policy on participation of indigenous people in Sport
The recommendations of the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission were to:

- “educate the Canadian public on the history of indigenous athletes across the country”;
- “ensure continued support for the North American Indigenous Games, including funding to host the games and for provincial and territorial team preparation and travel”;
- “amend the Physical Activity and Sport Act to support reconciliation by ensuring build capacity in the Canadian sport system, are inclusive of Aboriginal peoples”;
- provide “access to community sports programs which reflect the cultural diversity and the traditional Indigenous sports”;
- develop “programs for coaches, instructors and sports officials which are culturally appropriate for indigenous people”;
- fight against racism in sport and integrate the voices of Indigenous peoples in the governance of the large sporting events in Canada.

(Arellano & Vaillancourt, 2019; Affaires autochtones et du Nord Canada, 2018)
Conclusion

- Valuing Indigenous knowledge
- Self-determination
- Self education
- Partnerships
References


