



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
- Artic 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

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