

## **ADR program for amateur sport**

November 27, 2001

To the members of the National Sports Organizations, Coaches and Athletes,

We wish to inform you that the ADR program for amateur sport will soon be available in Canada. It is a service that will offer independent arbitration and mediation within the amateur sport community at a national level.

In January 2000, the Secretary of State for Amateur Sport in Canada, Denis Coderre, created a working group to develop a national Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) system for amateur sport in Canada. In May 2000, the report *A win-win solution: Creating a national Alternative Dispute System for Amateur Sport in Canada* was submitted to the Secretary of State.

In October 2001, following the previous report, the Secretary of State created a second working group called the ADR implementation committee. In August 2001, this committee submitted a report to the Secretary of State that contained a critical path and strategies to implement the ADR program. Based on that last report, the Secretary of State decided to take action and asked the CCES to provide guidance and assistance in this implementation process.

The Interim ADR program will be governed by a steering committee made up of representatives from COA, Commonwealth Games Canada, the Office of the Secretary of State for amateur sport, Athletes CAN, and two members of National ADR Implementation Committee.

The CCES has been asked for its assistance in setting up an Interim ADR system in a manner consistent with the Report of the Implementation Committee on the national ADR system. The CCES created the above steering committee to provide oversight and guidance to the establishment and operation of the ADR program. Gordon Peterson, former Chair of the Implementation Committee, was appointed as the chair of the Steering Committee. The consultancy firm of AMG Inc (CONSULTANTS AMG) was contracted by the CCES, more specifically involving the services of Mr. Benoit Girardin to establish and ensure the delivery of all the acquired services, operations and duties of the Secretariat, the Tribunal and the Resources Center. The administration of hearings will essentially be the arbitration and mediation elements of the Interim ADR Program, composed of a pool of arbitrators and mediators operating in accordance with a published Code of Procedures.

The Disputes Secretariat will provide the administration and operation support for the hearings and Program staff. An independent arbitration center will be retained to fulfill the responsibilities of the Secretariat.

Because we want to have a pool of mediators and arbitrators available as soon as possible, we would appreciate your input and recommendations concerning qualified individuals that might be interested and that would meet the eligibility standards of the program. The program asked for individuals who have legal background, ADR background, sport experience or expertise and, are independent from the sport system. The steering Committee will study every candidate and decide who will be

on the adhoc roster for the Salt Lake City Games and also on the regular list of arbitrators and mediators. We would appreciate your response before December 11, 2001.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about the program, I would be pleased to answer your questions at your convenience.

Regards,

Benoit Girardin LL.L, MBA, B.sc.Coaching  
CONSULTANTS AMG  
AMG inc  
8305 Chemin Côte de Liesse,  
Ville saint Laurent, Québec, Canada  
H4T-1G5  
Phone/ligne directe: (514) 733-6697  
Fax/télécopie: (514) 745-0602  
Cellulaire/mobile: (514) 241 2096  
email/courriel: bgirardin@videotron.ca, consultamg@vl.videotron.ca