



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada

Chief Public
Health Officer

Administrateur en chef
de la santé publique

DEC 10 2010

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

Mesdames Alison Bochsler and
Lisa Kaldeway
Co-Chairs
Ontario Society of Physical Activity
Promoters in Public Health
1000 Pitt Street
Cornwall, Ontario K6J 5T1

Dear Mesdames Bochsler and Kaldeway:

Thank you for your correspondence of November 8, 2010, concerning the Active Healthy Kids Canada Report Card.

As Chief Public Health Officer, I am committed to improving the health and well-being of all Canadians, in particular that of our children and youth. The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) supports national policies and initiatives to help Canadians live a healthy lifestyle, and the Government of Canada continues to promote physical activity and healthy eating through initiatives such as the Children's Fitness Tax Credit, *Canada's Physical Activity Guides*, *Canada's Food Guide*, and renewed funding for ParticipACTION.

The Agency is also working closely with the provinces and territories to meet children and youth physical activity targets set by federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation for 2015. In the promotion of physical activity and healthy living, PHAC offers funding to support time-limited, project-specific activities through the Agency's Healthy Living Fund (HLF).

Currently, PHAC's HLF has reoriented its priorities to support the 2015 children and youth physical activity targets and to contribute to priorities for federal action on childhood obesity. Specifically, the National Stream of the HLF will aim to increase physical activity in the after-school time period. This approach is being

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implemented by supporting the development of a multi-dimensional project that harnesses existing networks, strengthens collaboration and encourages non-governmental organizations to work together, including Active Healthy Kids Canada, toward this common Ministerial goal. As a result, funding for the National Stream of the HLF has been fully allocated.

This temporary reorienting of the HLF meant that we did not issue an open call for proposals this year. However, we are hopeful that non-governmental organizations, such as Active Healthy Kids Canada, will have other funding opportunities in future years. For updates on future funding opportunities, you may wish to visit the PHAC website at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca>, and/or the Healthy Living Unit website at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/hl-mvs/index-eng.php>.

Regarding the tracking of physical activity trends to inform decision makers and stakeholders at all levels, surveillance of physical activity continues to be a priority for PHAC, along with surveillance of other risk factors for chronic disease. Working with the provinces and territories, PHAC is currently undertaking a needs assessment of physical activity data at the direction of Ministers responsible for Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation. This work is intended to help us strengthen our physical activity surveillance across the country. In addition, we are very excited about upcoming releases from the Canada Health Measures Survey, which provides useful data about body composition and physical activity and fitness levels.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Butler-Jones".

David Butler-Jones, MD
MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM