Date

Address

Dear [Provincial MPP government representative name here],

Ontario’s local sports organizations have been drastically impacted by COVID-19 and we desperately need the provincial government’s financial support to provide much needed opportunities for children to thrive and for adults to stay healthy.

In consultation with Sport for Life, who recently conducted a national survey to measure the operational and financial impacts of COVID-19 on local sports organizations, [insert organization name here] is reaching out to you today in request of your support and advocacy as our MPP.

Sport for Life collected and circulated data from 1,300 respondents representing nearly 4 million members and more than 56 sports. Ontario accounts for 19% of the 1,300 nationwide responses, representing more than 578,542 members and 39 sports.

Ontario’s results articulate significant operational and financial ramifications due to COVID-19:

* 98% of Ontario’s sports organizations have been affected by COVID-19;
* 55% will be impacted into 2021;
* 68% of Ontario’s clubs and associations cannot access Canadian emergency funding;
* 18% may not recover without emergency support, resulting in less opportunities for sport.

Local sports organizations, ours included, have seen decreased revenue from registration fees, sale of goods, fundraising, sponsorships, as well as numerous other impacts. We’re also very concerned about the additional financial impact that organizations and participants, particularly lower socio-economic families, will face as they return to sport.

Local sports organizations, which represent about 4% of the sport sector across Canada, collectively employ roughly 14,500 employees. As such, the viability of the overall community sport sector could affect more than 350,000 jobs significantly impacting Canada’s unemployment rate.

In these turbulent times, we need your support to be able to maintain operations and provide safe sport programs and services to Canadians. As our MPP, we urge you to bring our concerns and financial needs forward for discussion to ensure we can continue to play an essential role in the health, wellness and economy of our community, our province and our country.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

[Insert Name and signature here]

For more information on the nationwide *Impacts of COVID-19 on Local Sports Organizations* survey, please contact: **Francesca Jackman,** Coordinator, Executive Services: francesca@sportforlife.ca