

2015 Federal Election Sport Questionnaire Ottawa

Candidate: Andrew Leslie, Liberal Party of Canada

Riding: Orleans

The Liberal Party of Canada agrees that participation in amateur sports is critically important to encouraging and promoting an active and healthier society, particularly among young Canadians. We will look for ways to promote and facilitate healthy lifestyles for Canadians, and we welcome all suggestions in doing so.

Further, the party recognizes the importance of sport in preventative health care. We will actively engage with Health Canada, the provinces and territories, experts, and Canadians to determine the best solutions to resolve issues that affect the health of Canadians.

We also want to ensure that all Canadians have the tools to make healthy decisions. Promoting healthy and active lifestyles leads to higher quality lives and a more sustainable health care system. Despite world-class care and medical advances, the health of Canadians is deteriorating. We are all better off if the population is healthy, as health care costs are lower and Canadians are happier and more productive.

I should mention that a Liberal government will maintain the Children's Fitness Tax Credit. We will also go further to invest in the long-term health of Canadians and the economy. First, a Liberal government will make the largest infrastructure investment in Canadian history. We will nearly double federal infrastructure investment to \$125 billion—from the current \$65 billion—over the next decade, meaning an additional \$9.5 billion per year for infrastructure by year ten.

As part of this investment, we will boost funding for social infrastructure by nearly \$6 billion over the next four years and almost \$20 billion over ten years. This will include dedicated funding that prioritizes recreational infrastructure. Investing in recreational infrastructure projects increases Canadians' access to healthy-living facilities nation-wide so that the average Canadian can participate in amateur sports locally. Stronger support for amateur sport and physical activity leads to higher quality life for Canadians and ultimately to a more sustainable health-care system.

Please keep an eye out for further Liberal announcements in the days and weeks to come.