

**Sport Matters Group (SMG)
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

**SENIOR LEADER POSITION
July 21, 2010**

The Sport Matters Group (SMG)

It is an extraordinary time for sport and physical activity in Canada.

The record-breaking performance at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics and Paralympics was a bold and demonstrative statement about the remarkable results that are possible when the right partners come together at the right time to create the right environment. The 2010 experience proved that when the Canadian sport community takes control of its own destiny, the results are both powerful and indisputable.

The Sport Matters Group (SMG) is a voluntary collection of leaders who have been actively involved in shaping and influencing the evolution of the Canadian sport system over the last decade. SMG operates through an open platform that invites voluntary contributions of time, expertise, resources, and ideas – all to be applied collectively to achieve common goals. It is a place where leaders connect with one another to address cross-cutting issues, to talk about the important contributions that sport makes to society, to collaborate in advancing sport and public policy, and to innovate in finding solutions to varied and complex issues.

SMG leaders are keenly aware that continued progress is both essential and critical if we are to achieve the sport culture in Canada that we collectively envision. We should celebrate recent successes, but we must not stand still!

Over the last 10 years, SMG has created a strong foundation by addressing some of the key drivers necessary to advance the development of sport in Canada. Its collaborative style and focused approach has delivered many tangible results for the sport sector:

- We helped to shape how our sector leads itself.
- We provided a vehicle for like-minded organizations to convene and discuss major issues and priorities affecting sport.
- We built our capacity to mobilize and to influence public policy.
- We helped to foster innovation by identifying strategic opportunities that advanced sport's place in Canada, and enabled groups to be connected to them.

We are now witnessing a shift that signals a widespread and increased recognition of sport's value to Canadian society. Sport's role in creating a strong, healthy, active and vibrant civil society is becoming more apparent and better understood both inside and outside the sector. We are just now beginning to understand the true potential of sport to strengthen our nation, our communities, and the citizens within them.

Building on its track record and the positive momentum coming out of Vancouver 2010, SMG is well positioned to enter the next phase of our development. We are ready for a paradigm shift, through a broader lens that connects sport, physical activity and other complementary sectors. We are ready to facilitate a process that describes the community's own vision for sport and sport's important place in developing Canadian society.

SMG Senior Leadership for the future

SMG is looking for a dynamic senior leader who will serve as the architect and steward of a collaborative process that articulates this new and broader vision for the sport sector. We want to describe and define the contributions that Canadian sport is ready to make to achieve this vision, including how we want to be organized from playground to podium.

As the new Senior Leader, you will help stakeholders in a variety of sectors - sport, physical activity, health and others - to chart a new course to create a vision for sport, while also continuing to enhance our established capacity to influence public policy.

As the new Senior SMG Leader:

- you are a leader amongst leaders;
- you seek variety and enjoy multi-tasking, working with and through people;
- you are creative, proactive, entrepreneurial, flexible and fun; and
- you work well in a small staff team.

Through the common vision developed by the sport sector, you will lead and facilitate for SMG:

- greater connectivity amongst sport, recreation and physical activity communities;
- a strengthened public policy capacity across sport systems; and
- a strengthened, innovative and synergistic sport sector.

What we want in SMG's new Senior Leader

The Sport Matters Group acts as a convener, creating opportunities for knowledge transfer, peer-to-peer interaction, and network-building, while it simultaneously reinforces shared values and supports and celebrates individual contributions. SMG owns neither property nor successes; rather, victories small and large belong to the community as a whole, and the values of shared leadership, engagement, collaboration, and open-source meritocratic contribution are constantly reinforced. We leave our respective hats at the door and focus on overarching priorities to collectively and collaboratively advance sport in Canada.

Required Knowledge and Skills

You are the right candidate for Senior Leader if you bring the following knowledge and skills:

- strategic thinker and visionary, with a history of values-based decision-making;
- strong interpersonal, people management, and facilitation skills;
- compelling speaker/writer and persuasive, ideally, in both official languages;
- strong understanding of the Sport Matters Group (SMG) values and approach – what we do and how we do it;
- understanding the landscape of sport in Canada;
- Understanding of the public policy process; and
- strong organizational and multi-tasking skills

Desired knowledge and skills

The following knowledge and skills would be considered additional assets:

- political and public policy advocacy and relationship building in the public policy context; and
- securing and managing resources and unique kinds of contributions (e.g. working with Foundations).

The ideal candidate will have demonstrated success in:

- leading, designing and delivering visioning exercises, campaigns, policy proposals, and collaborative projects;
- building networks and partnerships in a pan Canadian environment;
- leveraging the skills and resources of others to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes;
- using emerging technologies to communicate with and engage stakeholders; and
- working in untraditional, complex, ambiguous, or unstructured environments.

If you see yourself fulfilling the role of the SMG Senior Leader, please submit your resume along with a covering letter outlining your skills, knowledge and experience. Resumes will be received in confidence at seniorleaderrecruitment@sportmatters.ca.

Applications will be reviewed after August 15, 2010.

Advance reading: The Sport Matters Group: “Unorganizing” the Future of Canada’s Not-for-Profit Sector

Available at www.sportmatters.ca

Thank you for your interest.