



## Report from the Chair

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**Memo To:** Provincial Sport & Recreation Presidents and Executive Directors/Chief Operating Officers  
Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport

**From:** Holly Abraham  
Chair, Sport Alliance of Ontario Board of Directors

**Date:** July 14, 2011

**Re:** **Funding Announcement**

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**.....SAO RECEIVES FUNDING FOR SPORT INJURY SURVEILLANCE PROJECT.....**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Sport Alliance of Ontario (SAO) I am delighted to announce that the SAO has received \$142,264 in funding from the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport - Healthy Communities Fund for a project aimed at collecting essential data about injuries occurring in children and youth during physical activity and play.

In collaboration with the Ontario Cycling Association, Ontario Basketball Association, Ontario Soccer Association and York University, the SAO will be leading an initiative called the Sport and Recreation Injury Surveillance Project (SRISP). The focus of the project will be to gather and analyze data at the club and league levels to address questions such as: a) who is being injured; b) the mechanism of the injury; c) the type and severity of the injury; d) the environment in which the injury occurs; and e) what (if any) precautions were taken to prevent the injury.

This project will aid in the development of evidence-based injury prevention programs, subsequently lessening the economic burden of injury from organized sport, recreational activities and play. Information collected from the study will help to educate coaches, trainers, volunteers and leaders in sport and recreation to recognize, change and control the factors that cause injury. This information will assist in ensuring that all physical activity can be enjoyed by children and youth in a safe, healthy and fulfilling manner.

Data collected will provide the foundation upon which we can build effective injury prevention strategies, thereby helping to reduce the incidence and severity of injuries occurring in children and youth participating in grassroots sport and recreational activities.

An over-arching goal of this two year project is to expand the number of sport organizations involved in the project.

For more information and to find out how you can get involved in this important initiative, please contact Heather Stephens – [hstephens@sportalliance.com](mailto:hstephens@sportalliance.com) or 416-426-7314.

Sincerely,

Holly Abraham  
Chair, Sport Alliance of Ontario