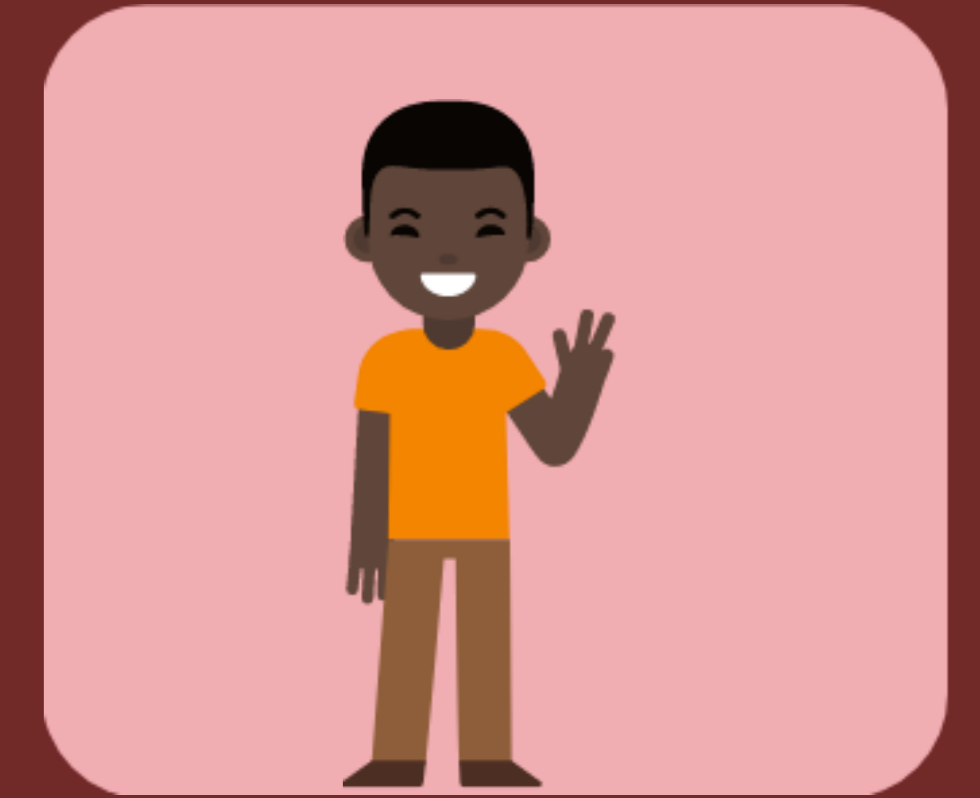


Fostering Inclusive Sport and Recreation in Rural Communities

Grace Nelson
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Kyle Rich





Background

Social Inclusion - What is it?

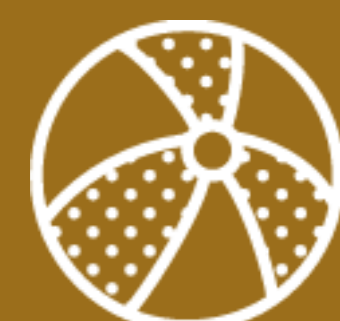
Social Inclusion Policy - The Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP)

Social Inclusion Policy – Northern Policy Institute

Background



How sport and recreation practitioners and managers understand social inclusion of diverse groups in and through sport and recreation in their rural communities.



How discourses of community and inclusion impact the way sport and recreation practitioners and managers define and understand social inclusion.



Findings



Participants articulated an understanding of social inclusion that was informed by...

"We're all in this together"

Findings

Understandings of belonging were communicated which often "othered" diverse populations....



"They' aren't from here"



Findings

Ambiguity of whose responsibility it was to both understand what social inclusion means, as well as to create and implement policies...

"Whose responsibility is it?"

Practical Implications

- Organizations should strive to understand the unique circumstances of new community members (Rich et al., 2015).
- Sport and recreation organizations must rethink how policy is being implemented and translated.
- We must move beyond inclusion as a guiding principle or value and put action into strategic planning.
- Rural communities rely heavily on existing networks and traditions (Mair, 2009).



Recommendations



Implementation related decisions are made throughout the entirety of the planning process (Leone et al., 2015).



Seek out gatekeepers to embedded community groups (Goff, 2020). Bring them to the table when discussing policy or programming initiatives.



Recommendations



Capacity building (Doherty et al., 2014). Create opportunities for open dialogue and education around social inclusion.



Actively and meaningfully engage new community members (Rich and Giles, 2015). Don't treat them as a check box.





Thank you!
Miigwetch
Merci

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SOCIAL INCLUSION IN SPORT AND RECREATION

RESOURCES AND TOOLS



<https://infograph.venngage.com/p/I/jX3B5Q5Lc>



The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
<https://www.amcto.com/Education-Events/Corporate-Training>



Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program (North Bay)
<https://www.northbayimmigration.ca/>



Sport for Life
<https://sportforlife.ca/portfolio-view/sport-life-newcomers-canada/>



Sport Information Resource Centre
https://sirc.ca/knowledge_nuggets/welcoming-newcomers-to-canadian-sport/
<https://sirc.ca/blog/engage-newcomers-in-sport/>



Canadian Coalition for Inclusive Municipalities
<https://en.ccunesco.ca/>
Toolkit for Small and Rural Municipalities
<https://en.ccunesco.ca/resources#first=10&sort=%40commoditypublishdate%20descending>



Canadian Women and Sport
<https://womenandsport.ca/>



Advocacy
<https://fonom.org/>
<https://www.prontario.org/>
<https://www.roma.on.ca/>