

SPRING ECONOMIC UPDATE 2026

Sport Investment Summary

\$755 million over 5 years + \$118 million ongoing

Investing in Sport — From Playground to Podium | Canadian Heritage | Starting 2026–27

The federal government has made a generational investment in Canada's sport system, describing it as a nation-building priority. The sport sector currently supports over 100,000 jobs. NSO core funding has remained largely unchanged since 2005. This budget addresses that gap.

HOST & COMPETE \$50M over 5 years	ATHLETE SUPPORT \$45M + \$8M ongoing	NSO PARTICIPATION \$660M + \$110M ongoing
Bring more world-class events to Canada. Tied to legacy-building projects — facilities built or upgraded for major events will continue to serve communities and grassroots sport.	Help athletes train, compete, and perform — including mental health support. Funding linked to robust safe sport measures. Responds to the Future of Sport in Canada Commission.	Increase NSO core funding — unchanged since 2005. Grow participation among children and youth. NSOs expected to partner with private sector and invest at all levels of sport.

KEY IMPLICATIONS FOR NATIONAL SPORT ORGANISATIONS

Funding increase	NSO base funding meaningfully increased after two decades of stagnation — the \$660M envelope is the primary vehicle for national sport organizations.
Safe Sport conditions	Athlete support funding explicitly linked to safe sport frameworks and measures. Organizations must demonstrate compliance.
Participation mandate	NSOs expected to make programming changes to grow youth and community participation — including private sector partnerships.
Infrastructure legacy	Hosting investment tied to legacy outcomes; upgraded facilities must benefit grassroots sport long-term.
Equity focus	Investment designed to increase access for women and girls, low-income households, Indigenous, Black and racialized peoples, and persons with disabilities.