



PRESS RELEASE

Thursday, January 16, 2020, 10 a.m.

Safe Sport International 2020 conference, in Québec City in April “More than 20 countries and prestigious organizations”

(Québec City, Thursday, January 16, 2020) – With three months left before the Safe Sport International 2020 (SSI 2020) conference in Québec City from April 15 to 17, Sport'Aide is pleased to reveal the first components of an impressive program which devotes the entire space to healthy and safe sports practices. It is a rich, diversified and international calibre program that will be offered to the scientific and sporting communities, as well as the general public and the business community.

Presented under the theme “**Team up to eliminate violence in sports**”, SSI 2020 will take place in collaboration with Safe Sport International. “Through the organizations and expected attendees, as well as the quality and diversity of the program, this conference will confirm once again that Quebec is a leader when it comes to the security of our young athletes. In April, sports without violence and Québec City will be the international focal point,” promises **Josée Turcotte**, Chairwoman of Sport'Aide, host of SSI 2020.

For **Isabelle Charest**, Minister for Education and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, this event is not to be missed. “I am delighted that such a prestigious event concerning sport is taking place in Québec. The SSI 2020 conference fits perfectly with my priorities as Minister for Education and I will pay attention to the work as it progresses. I am certain that our Quebecois expertise will stand out. It is essential that our athletes and sportspeople can evolve in a safe environment at all levels so that practicing a sport is a positive experience for everyone.”

More than 20 countries represented at SSI 2020

Delegates and organizations from more than 20 countries are expected at the Québec City Convention Centre for SSI 2020. Among the many organizations, Sport'Aide and Safe Sport International are very pleased to mention the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, the International Olympic Committee, the Canadian Olympic Committee, the Council of Europe, the Child Protection in Sport Unit, the English Football Association, FIFA, the International Ski Federation, the Barça Foundation, the NCAAS and the United Nations.

Held for the first time in Madrid, Spain, it is not by accident that the next SSI conference is taking place in Québec and that it is organized by Sport'Aide, which has presented its approach in Finland and Sweden in the last few months. “We are very pleased to collaborate with Sport'Aide, an avant-garde and dynamic organization noted as an example. For three days, our conference on healthy and safe sports environments will be under the lights,” promises **Anne Tiivas**, Chairwoman of Safe Sport International.



The scientific community will also be well-represented, as researchers from the universities of Anvers, Brighton, South Korea, Laval, Montreal, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Portland, Rotterdam, Sherbrooke, Texas, Toronto and Utrecht will be at SSI 2020.

Mobilize to protect our young athletes

Presented in order to favour awareness, reflection, exchanges... and work, SSI 2020 will continue the **objective** of developing and providing concrete solutions to mobilize the various stakeholders so that TOGETHER, we can prevent and curb all types of violence in sports. To do this, all sports-related authorities (governments, sports and leisure organizations, whether municipal, academic or other) will be invited to SSI 2020. The registration period is [open and accessible online](#).

A few of the topics that will be discussed:

- National actions against sexual violence in sport
- Current knowledge: research and initiatives on violence in sport
- Specific types of interpersonal violence in sport
- Influence of the coach-athlete relationship on healthy and unhealthy sport
- Current initiatives in specific sports environments
- Current initiatives favouring healthy and safe sport
- Legislation for healthy and safe sport
- National perspectives on healthy and safe sport
- Search for a better understanding of violence in a sports environment
- Recommendations for the future I-II
- Role of parents for safe sport
- Support coaches for healthy and safe sport
- Self-inflicted violence by athletes in sport
- Sexual violence against children
- Sexual violence in a sports environment
- Violence experienced by adolescent athletes

The general public is also invited

After having proceeded with the “Québec declaration”, which will close the SSI 2020 conference on Friday, April 17, the general public will be invited to this large assembly on the protection of our young athletes where a “general public” agora will become a place for to meet other people and rediscover the simple pleasure of practicing a sport.

The public will be invited to come and have fun while discovering and practicing emerging sports, traditional sports, Paralympic sports, native sports, etc. “In a nutshell, two days of fun and discoveries... leaving any notion of competition at the Convention Centre entrance. Steps are being taken with various partners, but if federations, clubs or organizations would like to join us for this conference, they will be welcome,” states Josée Turcotte, Chairwoman of Sport'Aide.

Who is Safe Sport International?



Formed under the direction of the Brunei International Research Network for Athlete Welfare and with the backing of UNICEF, Safe Sport International (SSI) brings together experts from different countries operating in the fields of sport, child protection, security, education and sports medicine. Their mission: to ensure that sports organizations benefit from the advice, education and support required to develop measures that aim to protect young athletes.

Aligning with the mission pursued by SSI, Sport'Aide is already taking action to educate and raise awareness among the general public about this problem recognized by the scientific community, sports organizations, government and child protection authorities.

Sport'Aide aims to provide leadership to favour a healthy, safe and harmonious environment for young athletes and provide a support service for the various players in the sports world. Finally, Sport'Aide's field of action covers the entire sporting system, from academic to municipal and community organizations, from beginner to elite levels, and in all sporting disciplines.

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For more information or to set up an interview :

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Note: Other than Canada, countries represented at SSI 2020

South Africa	Algeria	Germany	Australia	Belgium
Croatia	Spain	United States	Finland	Iceland
Japan	Malaysia	Norway	Netherlands	Philippines
Portugal	United Kingdom	Singapore	Zambia	Zimbabwe