

Cory Vanthuyne - Yellowknife North

- 1. All Canadian provinces and territories have agreed to increase participation in sport by 10% by 2020. What is the most effective way for this territory to make that happen?**

Communities should have the resources to provide recreation facilities and programs for their residents. One way of supporting this is to work towards reducing the gap in territorial funding for communities. I will continue to work to make this happen.

I also encourage our schools to have regular time for physical activity built into their daily schedules, and to provide their facilities to after-hours recreation programs.

- 2. Access, affordability and availability of sport and recreation programs and facilities are vital to our communities. Where does the improvement of this fit into your priorities for the next 4 years?**

This is important to me. Many of my priorities – economic growth and diversification, improvement of transportation links between our communities, green and renewable energy – will all work to support a lower cost of living, which in turn will free up resources that communities can put towards recreation facilities and programs.

As stated above I also believe that reducing the funding gap to our communities will go a long way towards providing the resources they need to run effective, accessible recreation programs. I will continue to pressure the government to reduce this funding gap.

- 3. Will you work with your fellow members of the Legislative Assembly to create awareness of the issues facing sport in the NWT and address the needs of our organizations? A lot is expected of sport without it ever being a priority issue for Territorial government. How do you propose to change this?** I will continue to support sport at the community, regional and territorial level. I am a supporter of the Arctic Winter Games and regional sporting competitions. I will continue to lend my support to accessible, affordable sport programs at all levels.
- 4. Research has shown that the rates of obesity and illness, particularly in children, continue to rise at alarming rates. The cost of delivering healthcare in this Territory has become almost all consuming to the Territorial budget. How would you incorporate sport and physical activity into a preventative approach and policy on wellness?**

Our territory has a great many challenges on the wellness front. I think that encouraging regular physical activity in schools, right from the JK level, could pay off significantly by helping develop a generation of healthier, and therefore happier, young people. I support this being developed through our education system.



While not an organized 'sport,' I also encourage our schools to incorporate on-the-land cultural programs in their programs, which encourage physical activity, health and wellness, and cross-generational communication.

Lastly, our schools should incorporate nutritional education so young people are aware of the benefits and the risks of nutritional choices.

- 5. While our Sport Volunteers are the pillar of all sport matters in the NWT; their efforts go unappreciated and undervalued. Do you have any plans to change the way that volunteers are overlooked in their roles and in what ways do you plan to recognize them if selected?** *I agree that volunteers are fundamental to the success of sport programs. I think that the NWT has a strong volunteering culture and community. Volunteers should be recognized and respected in formal and informal ways. It's important for individuals, families and communities to recognize and show their appreciation to the volunteers who support the activities in which they're involved. More formally, MACA's annual Outstanding Volunteer Awards are an important public recognition of the best in volunteering in the NWT.*