

## **Status of the High Performance Athlete Study**

Sport Canada will be conducting the 4<sup>th</sup> Status of the high performance athlete study over the summer. Carded athletes, coaches, high performance directors and Canadian Sport Centres presidents and service managers will be surveyed. EKOS Research Associates Inc have been contracted to conduct the study.

The intent of the study is to gather information on the high performance athletes' training and competition environment. It will also gather data on the athlete social and economic characteristics and investigate satisfaction with the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP).

The findings will assist in the evaluation of the AAP and on other Sport Canada' programs. It will contribute to the ongoing process of Sport Canada's policy and program review and development.

EKOS developed a self-administered online survey for the athletes. In May and June, it will be tested with approximately 50 carded athletes, chosen random. The final version will be in place at the end of June. EKOS will communicate directly with the carded athletes to invite them to complete the survey.

In addition a telephone survey will be conduct with 100 national team coaches and high performance directors. Finally the Canadian Sport Centres presidents and service managers will have a short online surveyed.

The information collected through the questionnaires and the telephone interviews will be completely confidential and no responses will be linked to individual names.

*AAP Manager Bob Price "I would like to encourage the athletes to complete the survey as soon as possible after you receive the invitation from EKOS. By completing the survey they will make a valuable contribution to the AAP and to other Sport Canada's programs and also give themselves the chance of winning on of the prizes - Digital camera, iPod Touch Nintendo DSi or PlayStation Personal (PSP) or Wii and Mini laptop."*

For further details about the survey, contact Bob Price, AAP Manager, 819-956-8027 or bob.price@pch.gc.ca or Marie Gendron, AAP Senior Program Officer, 819-956-8046, marie.gendron@pch.gc.ca.