

**Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport**

Office of the Assistant Deputy Minister  
Sport, Recreation and Community  
Programs

777 Bay Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 1S5  
Tel.: 416 326-4371  
Fax: 416 314-6301  
www.mtc.gov.on.ca

**Ministère du Tourisme, de la Culture et du Sport**

Bureau du sous-ministre adjoint  
Sports, des loisirs et des  
programmes communautaires

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October 24, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Combative Sport - Provincial Sport Organizations

FROM: Steve Harlow  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Sport, Recreation and Community Programs Division  
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport

RE: Proposed Regulation Designating Amateur Combative Sports

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Dear Provincial Sport Organization Partner,

In June 2013, the Government of Canada made amendments to the Criminal Code which allows provinces to designate in which amateur combative sports contests are permitted.

All provinces and territories, including Ontario, have been considering options on how to respond to these amendments.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport has posted a proposal responding to the Criminal Code changes to the regulatory registry for consultation.

I encourage you and your members to view and provide comments on the proposal [here](#). We especially look forward to receiving advice from our stakeholders and partners who have an informed interest in amateur combative sports.

At this time, the ministry is proposing to designate the following nine sports in regulation:

- |                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| (1) Boxing     | (6) Mixed Martial Arts |
| (2) Jiu Jitsu  | (7) Taekwondo          |
| (3) Judo       | (8) Wrestling          |
| (4) Karate     | (9) Wushu              |
| (5) Kickboxing |                        |

Under the ministry's proposal all amateur contests in these sports would be exempt from Section 83 of the Criminal Code.

The ministry's proposal to designate these sports would clarify the legal framework for amateur combative sports in Ontario. In addition to designating these sports, the ministry is proposing to allow amateur contests in other combative sports with the consent of the ministry on a case-by-case basis.

If the proposal is approved, the ministry would consult with you on the development of additional safety requirements for the designated sports proportionate to the risk they represent.

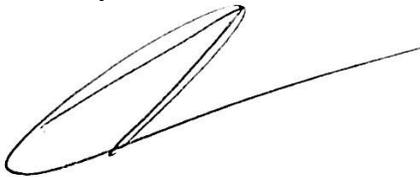
I would like to invite you to a meeting with other combative sport Provincial Sport Organizations to share your feedback on the ministry's proposal. The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> floor of 777 Bay Street in Toronto.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, you may join by teleconference by calling 1-866-633-1033. When prompted, please enter the Conference ID 8177864#.

I hope you will support our effort to clarify the legal framework for amateur combative sports in Ontario by attending this meeting and providing us with your input through the regulatory registry.

To confirm your attendance at the November 5, 2014 meeting, please contact Newsha Djamshidian at [newsha.djamshidian@ontario.ca](mailto:newsha.djamshidian@ontario.ca) or (416) 327-0398. In your response, please indicate any dietary, accessibility or other requirements to support your participation in the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Harlow