

Garrett Holmes,  
Founder,  
The Canadian Student-Athlete Association.

June 14, 2021

The Hon. Lisa MacLeod,  
Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries,  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 438 University Avenue,  
Toronto, Ontario.  
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Minister MacLeod,

My name is Garrett Holmes. I am the Founder of the Canadian Student-Athlete Association.

I read today's announcement regarding the release of a framework for select Ontario professional and elite-amateur sport leagues to return-to-play and could not help but notice the absence of the OUA (Ontario University Athletics) on your list of elite amateur sport organizations.

I am sure this was an oversight on the Government's part, as the OUA develops elite student-athletes across 23 sports to a degree unmatched by any other organization in this country (other than the broader USports community itself).

Did you know for example, that in the just completed 2021 CFL draft, 57% of all draft picks were from USports, and that 13% came from the OUA? Compare those numbers to any amateur organization on your list and you will see there is no question the OUA produces elite athletes on a scale that clearly merits it being included. I use football as an example. The same case can be built for any of the 23 sports the OUA participates in.

I am therefore formally asking you to add the OUA to the list of elite amateur sport organizations in the Ontario Governments return-to-play format, so that university and college student-athletes across all sports may return to developing their elite skills.

Regards,

Garrett Holmes.