

# **Herstory: The Structuring of the Fitness and Amateur Sport Branch's Women's Program, 1974-1988**

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Canada's Fitness and Amateur Sport Branch's Women's Program has addressed concern about the conditions for women in sport through a number of initiatives. However, these initiatives have not led to equality for women in sport. For example, the number of women holding higher level positions on National Sport Organizations is limited as women comprise only 28% of the executive director positions, 23% of the technical director positions and 10% of the national coaching positions.

This paper constructs a herstory of the ongoing dynamics that have produced the Women's Program's initiatives from the perspectives of the agents most directly involved. This herstory is driven by a theoretical framework based on structure and agency, and this herstory is written as continuous development

of the duality of structure framework. This research documents the structures that shaped the actions of the agents involved in the development of the initiatives for women in sport, as well as the structures that were shaped as a result of the agents' action.

This herstory, based on the perceptions, recollections and roles of the women involved in the development of the initiatives, serves two purposes. It shows the contributions of those women involved in the development of the initiatives, and it provides an opportunity for reflection and analysis of their ability to act within the existing structural limitations.



**Hi There**