



The Participation Nation (PN) Pursuits program is a new initiative from School Sports Newfoundland and Labrador aiming to bring PN activities back into High Schools. During the 2023-2024 school year the PN Pursuits program will be launched as a pilot program to replace the current (but not active) High School Spirit program.

The PN Pursuits program has been developed to help off-set the cost of non-competitive activities designed to get high school students engaged in non-varsity, participation-based programs. These events must meet the guidelines of a Participation Nation activity.

Funding through PN Pursuits is designed to support school groups or individuals for initiatives, training, equipment, or events that increase participation in physical activity (participants or officials), and support healthy, active lifestyles for the individual or group.

### **What is Participation Nation?**

Participation Nation is any recreational based program that engages the natural energy of students, channeling it into an experience that is fun, inclusive, non-competitive and contributes to the achievement of a healthy lifestyle. Participation Nation prides itself on a “cut-free” environment with the goal of getting students who normally only participate in required physical education classes to not only be more active, but feel good about participation and encourage a healthy lifestyle

### **Who can apply?**

School groups or individuals who are continuing with an initiative that increases participation in physical activity at the high school level. The individual or group must have a teacher representative and approval from the school for the initiative, to submit the application. The school applying for the funding must be a minimum Level 1 member in good standing with School Sports Newfoundland and Labrador. If your

school's application for PN Pursuits is accepted, the school must upgrade to a Full Membership.

### **How much funding is available?**

As this is a pilot year for the program, funding will be available based on individual applications, to a maximum of \$5,000. For more detailed information please contact [ntulk@schoolsportsnl.ca](mailto:ntulk@schoolsportsnl.ca)

### **What programs/activities are eligible?**

In order to apply to the program, the school must have senior high students. PN Pursuits has been implemented to cover a wide variety of activities designed to increase participation in already established programs. Start-up and one-off events will not be funded. PN Pursuits is intended to further develop existing initiatives, or to take the school activity or individual to the next step in their chosen pursuit. The applicant must show how the event or activity will give back to the school community and/or athletic program. Examples include, but not limited to:

- a) Individual pursuits – officials training, leader training for school clubs, students coaching certification
- b) Non-varsity activities – northern games festivals, bike club rodeo, adventure program season ending event, run clubs, sport equipment for existing non-competitive sport clubs, nutrition costs
- c) A season ending event for existing clubs or programs that promote physical activity and/or healthy living
- d) Equipment which will increase access and/or participation in inclusive programs
- e) Support personal (students) for varsity programs – streaming/videography, photography, scorekeeping
- f) A one-time specialized instructor for an existing program

### **What is not eligible for funding?**

The following are examples of initiatives that are not eligible for funding through the PN Pursuits program:

- a) Expenses associated with travel or registration for varsity teams
- b) Training for a selection-based varsity team
- c) Funding for start-up programs
- d) School varsity team uniforms
- e) Cost recovery for expenses prior to approval of application
- f) Honorariums for teacher-volunteer or program supervisor
- g) Personal vehicle mileage, expenses and gas
- h) Year End, school wide (one-off) sports days

### **How does my school apply?**

Applications will be available on the SSNL website under Participation Nation, core programs. Applications will be accepted throughout the school year.

- 1) Review the program and application guidelines (above)
- 2) Complete the application, which will include:
  - program budget
  - information on how the program will give back to the school or students
  - timeline for the activity
- 3) Submit a final report within 30 days of the event