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Sport for Development and Peace Initiatives with Indigenous People: A systematic scoping review from international perspectives

Tegwen Gadais, Umair Asif, Louis-Charles Pitre, Kazem Hozhabri, Laurie Decarpentrie, Andrée Anne Garneau, Jeremy Hapeta, Rochelle Stewart-Withers, Jairzinho Francisco Panqueba Cifuentes, Brent Mcdonald, et al.

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7 Gadais, T.,^{1,2}, Asif, U.^{1,2}, Pitre, L-C.^{1,2}, Hozhabri, K.^{1,2}, Décarpentrie, L.^{1,2}, Garneau, A-A.^{1,2},
8 Hapeta, J.^{2,3}, Stewart-Withers, R.^{2,4}, Paqueba, J.⁵, McDonald, B.⁶, Mwaanga, O.⁷, Varela Pulido,
9 N.⁸, Arellano, A.⁹, Parlavecchio, L.¹⁰, Brazeau, J.¹⁰, Regroupement des Centres d'amitié
10 autochtone du Québec (RCAAQ)¹¹, Skogvang, B.O.¹², Evans, J.¹³, Goulet, S-J.^{1,2}, Otis, M.¹⁴,
11 Rondeau, J-J.¹, Bernard, P.^{2,15} & Graeff, B.^{2,16}

12
13 ¹Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Département des sciences de l'activité physique,
14 Montréal, Canada

15 ²UNESCO Chair Sport for development, peace and environment

16 ³ Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha University of Canterbury, Ōtautahi Christchurch, Aotearoa New
17 Zealand

18 ⁴Te Kunenga Ki Pūrehuroa Massey University, Te Papa-i-Oea Palmerston North, Aotearoa New
19 Zealand

20 ⁵Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, Bogota, Colombia

21 ⁶Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia

22 ⁷University of London, London, United Kingdom

23 ⁸Université Laval, Québec, Canada

24 ⁹Ottawa University, Ottawa, Canada

25 ¹⁰Centre d'amitié autochtone de Lanaudière, Joliette, Canada

26 ¹¹Regroupement des Centres d'amitié autochtone du Québec, Wendake, Canada

27 ¹²Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, Elverum, Norway

28 ¹³Moondani Toombadool Centre, Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn, Australia

29 ¹⁴Institut Tshakapesh, Uashat, Canada

30 ¹⁵INSERM, Université de Rennes 2, Rennes, France

31 ¹⁶Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Rio Grande, Brazil

32

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34

35 **Corresponding author**

36 Tegwen Gadais, PhD

37 Professor

38 Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Département des sciences de l'activité physique

39 141, avenue du Président-Kennedy

40 Montreal, QC Canada H2X 1Y4

41 e-mail: gadais.tegwen@uqam.ca

42

43 **Manuscript word count:** 7617/8000-10000

44 **Abstract (345/350 words)**

45 **Background:** This review explores Sport for Development and Peace (SFD/SDP) initiatives
46 involving Indigenous people (IP), with the aim of providing a comprehensive analysis of the
47 research landscape from an international perspective. IP, marginalized due to the on-going
48 implications of colonization and ensuing structural inequalities, are increasingly engaging or being
49 engaged in SFD/SDP programs to foster health, education, cultural preservation, and social
50 cohesion.

51 **Methods:** A systematic-scoping review using PRISMA-ScR guidelines was used to identify
52 academic works encompassing SFD/SDP and IP published since 2000. After applying strict
53 inclusion criteria in more than seven languages, including Indigenous languages, covering multiple
54 geographic regions, such as Oceania, Europe, and the Americas, 37 references were identified
55 through database searches in Scopus, SportDiscus, ERIC, SocINDEX, and Sociological Abstracts
56 (ProQuest) and Google Scholar. Experts from the field were consulted, gray literature was
57 explored, mapping field and authors with R and the quality of studies was assessed.

58 **Results:** Findings highlight a wide range of program structures and outcomes. Prominent themes
59 include alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (notably 3, 4, 10, and 16), decolonization
60 and cultural resurgence, health and well-being, and sport as a tool of resistance against systemic
61 inequality. Challenges such as limited funding, logistical constraints, and political tensions remain
62 significant. A critical insight is the necessity for culturally sensitive, community-led approaches
63 that integrate Indigenous worldviews and knowledge systems. Programs centred on Indigenous
64 practices show more sustainable and meaningful impact. Despite a growing body of research, most
65 studies originate from English-speaking contexts—primarily Canada and Australia—indicating a
66 need for greater linguistic and cultural inclusivity.

67 **Conclusion:** This review offers actionable insights for practitioners, policymakers, and scholars.
68 It calls for participatory, sustainable approaches rooted in Indigenous contexts and urges future
69 studies to adopt Indigenous-centred or mixed-methods designs, especially longitudinal work to
70 assess long-term outcomes. Overall, this review underscores the importance of Indigenous centred,
71 or culturally adaptive, community-led SFD/SDP initiatives for fostering meaningful development
72 and reconciliation in IP and communities globally. This paper also recommends that academics
73 undertaking scoping reviews where IP are the topic of interest, move critically and cautiously with
74 any frameworks they apply.

75

76 **Keywords:** Sport for development and peace, sport-based initiatives, Indigenous, First Nations,
77 development through sport, systematic-scoping review.

78

79 **Highlights**

80 ***1. Culturally Grounded and Community-Led Programs Yield Greater Impact***

81 One of the most significant findings of the review is that SFD/SDP initiatives that integrate
82 Indigenous worldviews, traditional practices, and community-led approaches demonstrate more
83 lasting and meaningful impacts. Programs that embed cultural sensitivity from the outset—through
84 community involvement in design, implementation, and evaluation—are more effective in
85 promoting health, well-being, empowerment, and cultural resurgence among Indigenous Peoples
86 (IP).

87

88 ***2. Challenges Persist Across Geographies***

89 Despite the promising potential of SFD/SDP initiatives, structural challenges persist. These
90 include limited funding, logistical hurdles, and political tensions that hinder program sustainability
91 and expansion. Furthermore, the lack of integration of Indigenous ethics and knowledge systems
92 into evaluation frameworks, such as PRISMA-ScR and CASP, reveals a methodological mismatch
93 that may undervalue Indigenous-led scholarship and practices.

94

95 ***3. Gaps in Inclusivity and Global Representation***

96 The review notes that the overwhelming majority of studies (37/37) were published in English,
97 with most research conducted in Canada and Australia. This highlights a need for greater linguistic,
98 cultural, and geographical inclusivity in the SFD/SDP literature. Moreover, while youth and
99 women are frequently the focus of these initiatives, intergenerational dimensions and the inclusion
100 of Elders remain largely absent, despite their central role in Indigenous knowledge transmission.

101 **1. Introduction**

102 This article focuses on studies that have been conducted on sport for development and
103 peace with Indigenous people (IP)¹. The aim is to draw up a rigorous portrait of the current state
104 of research at an international level in this field, using a PRISMA-ScR methodology (Tricco et al.,
105 2018), between 2000 and 2025. This study presents the results of the quantitative-qualitative data
106 extracted and analyzed.

107 Clarification of two terms used in this work is already in order. Firstly, the term
108 “Indigenous” is used here as an all-encompassing concept to include several IP appointments (e.g.,
109 First Nations, Natives, Aboriginal, Māori, Sami) and many of these terms were used for database
110 searches. Secondly, it was chosen to use the concept of SFD/SDP, sport for development (e.g.,
111 SfD, S4D) and sport for development and peace (SDP), in a combined manner due to the variety
112 of terms and appointments to which academics refer when talking about sport for development
113 (Graeff et al., 2024; Hozhabri et al., 2022). This project therefore focuses exclusively and
114 deliberately on studies that refer to these two labels (Appendix B).

115

116 *1.1. Indigenous people: Past, present and future*

117 Since the beginnings of colonization, IP have been subjected to evangelization, genocide,
118 assimilation or forced acculturation as part of a socio-cultural power struggle and in response to
119 political and economic projects (Dufour, 2019; Lévesque, 2015; Truth Reconciliation Commission
120 of Canada, 2015) The intergenerational impacts of assimilative violence imposed on IP through
121 their systems (e.g., legal, political, education) are major (Dufour, 2019). In Canada, for example,
122 approximately 150,000 Indigenous children were forcibly removed from their families by the
123 Canadian government and placed in culturally, psychologically and often physically abusive
124 residential schools. These institutions aimed to assimilate nomadic populations, thereby
125 facilitating resource exploitation, particularly in forestry.

126 In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) the colonial practices fostered the assumption
127 that Indigenous cultures were unable to adapt to a rapidly modernising society and that they were
128 not able to take proper care of their children. For example, in Peru under colonialism, Indigenous
129 children were separated of their families and divided into different types of residential institutions

¹ Throughout this paper our stance is to always capitalise Indigenous. We do so as a sign of respect in light of equivalency, as “European” and most often “Western” when used are capitalised.

130 that were responsible for their care and education according to their race, origin and other
131 conditions (Lumos, 2021). What remains shocking is that, despite the robust evidence of the harm
132 this practice inflicts on child development across multiple domains—physical, cognitive, social,
133 and emotional (Bakermans-Kranenburg & Van Ijzendoorn, 2011; MacLean, 2003) - as well as its
134 association with neural atrophy and abnormal brain development (Nelson III et al., 2011) it
135 continues to persist in the LAC region, where IP remain disproportionately represented (Lumos,
136 2021). Indeed, Indigenous children are significantly overrepresented in child welfare systems
137 around the world including countries like Australia, Canada, and the United States (Blackstock et
138 al., 2020; Sinha et al., 2013; Tilbury, 2009). Factors contributing to this overrepresentation include
139 socioeconomic disadvantage, intergenerational trauma from colonization, and systemic biases in
140 child welfare practices (Douglas & Walsh, 2013; Gatwiri et al., 2021).

141 Globally, the same appalling reality has been experienced by IP in Aotearoa New Zealand,
142 Australia, Canada, South America and Scandinavia, with regional and cultural adaptations and
143 procedures specific to each colonial empire. For example in Aotearoa New Zealand even though
144 it is recognised that the IP – Māori, did not cede sovereignty to the British Crown as evidenced by
145 He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni - 1835 (the Declaration of Independence), and
146 Te Tiriti o Waitangi 1840 (Te Reo² Version) and The Treaty of Waitangi 1840 (English version)
147 (O'Malley, 2018), the Crown has continued to assert authority and enact legislation that
148 undermines Māori tino rangatiratanga (Indigenous sovereignty), often failing to honor the intent
149 and promises embedded within these foundational documents.

150 IP represent an essential component of the world's cultural and social diversity (Stewart-
151 Withers & Hapeta, 2022). However, they often face unique socio-economic disparities and
152 development challenges, resulting from historical policies, marginalization and discrimination. As
153 a result, today's IP are seen as oppressed, vulnerable populations whose rights and freedoms are
154 not equal to those of the colonizing members of their countries or territories of origin³. On the
155 international scene today, consideration and respect for IP is growing and intensifying (United
156 Nations, 2007), albeit slowly. For example, globally IP continue to mobilise in pursuit of justice

² Te Reo is the Indigenous language of Māori and is recognised as one of three official languages of Aotearoa New Zealand. The others being English and New Zealand Sign Language.

³ It is important to note that despite the dire realities that IP face, IP also seen themselves beyond the Western - deficit gaze. They recognise themselves as survivors, having huge resilience to even exist, given all that they have and continue to face.

157 and as part of an Indigenous self-determination agenda. IP are the focus of many interests and
158 attempts to tell a story of truth, and reconcile conflicts or disrespect for the past. In Canada, for
159 example, a truth and reconciliation commission was set up in 2015 to note significant gaps in
160 education between Aboriginals and Canadians (Truth Reconciliation Commission of Canada,
161 2015). The project is part of this attempt at reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal
162 peoples, but above all of “decolonization”, which designates, among other things, the political
163 process during which a colony obtains its independence and sovereignty from its metropolis. In
164 Aotearoa New Zealand as part of the Treaty of Waitangi Act (1975), ‘The Waitangi Tribunal’ was
165 established providing a legal process by which Māori Treaty claims, and injustice could be
166 investigated. Tribunal inquiries are contributing in part to the reconciliation of outstanding
167 grievances between Māori and the Crown.

168 This said, there is also a discernible right-wing response which is challenging Indigenous
169 rights and equity initiatives. In Australia, in 2023, a referendum to establish an Indigenous Voice
170 to Parliament in the form of an advisory committee was rejected by the majority of voters. Loud
171 and public opposition from conservative political parties raising concern over national unity
172 contributed hugely to down voting of the ‘Voice’ referendum. Many Aboriginal and Torres Strait
173 Islander Indigenous leaders and scholars argued this to be a major setback in terms of settler and
174 Indigenous reconciliation efforts (Blackwell, 2024). In Aotearoa New Zealand, over 2024-early
175 2025, the proposed Treaty Principles Bill tabled by ACT Part – a right-wing conservative party
176 led by David Seymour, sought to redefine the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, aiming to apply
177 them uniformly to all citizens. This move was perceived by many as undermining Māori rights,
178 leading to widespread protests, including the Hīkoi mō te Tiriti. The bill was ultimately voted
179 down in Parliament by 112 to 11 (1News, 2025). Finally and more recently in the United States of
180 America, the Trump administration has initiated a campaign against Equity, Diversity and
181 Inclusion (EDI) initiatives. The above-mentioned illustrate some of the coordinated efforts to set
182 back policies and programs aimed at addressing historical injustices and promoting equity for
183 marginalized or disadvantaged groups, such as IP.

184

185 *1.2. Sport with Indigenous people: Colonization or development tool?*

186 In parallel with the colonization processes in which IP were involved, sport has been used
187 as a tool of domination by colonizing peoples (Abbassi, 2009; Bancel & Combeau-Mari, 2014).

188 Sports invented and formalized by the British during the 19th century, such as rugby, soccer, field
189 hockey and cricket, were very successful in the English colonies, for example (Holt, 1990).
190 Teachers and soldiers sent by Great Britain to the four corners of the world in the 19th century
191 continued to practise these sports, which gradually became integrated into the local cultures of
192 British colonies, such as India, Pakistan and Australia (Turcot, 2016). Sport was also used as a
193 “gentle form” of acculturation, and so the Empire used it to approach populations and transmit the
194 values of British society. In the private schools reproduced in the colonies, sporting loyalty was
195 passed on to the populations of the conquered countries. The IP were inevitably imbued with this
196 phenomenon, as illustrated by rugby in Aotearoa New Zealand, pétanque in Madagascar, and
197 cricket in India, Pakistan and Australia. We also note that the IP themselves practised traditional
198 activities exported by the colonizers, such as lacrosse and hockey. Later, the colonizers would also
199 train IP as sporting elites to compete with the colonizing countries in international competitions.

200 While sport has been used as a mechanism for colonization, studies show that it is also
201 used as site of resistance or political contest, but also a space to showcase themselves and their
202 culture (e.g., cricket in India, rugby in Aotearoa New Zealand), as well as a tool for emancipation
203 and development (Arellano et al., 2018; Burnett, 2010; Halsall & Forneris, 2016). With the advent
204 of the SFD/SDP movement, which targets vulnerable populations in particular, sport now appears
205 to be a tool with great potential for encouraging IP in their struggles, in connection with several
206 SDGs in particular (Hozhabri, 2022; Schulenkorf et al., 2016). In fact, there is growing interest
207 among researchers in SFD/SDP in light of IP (Smith & Smith, 2023; Stewart-Withers et al., 2023).
208 Among the themes explored, we note that researchers are interested in health promotion
209 (Cunningham & Beneforti, 2005; Macniven et al., 2019), youth empowerment (Bruner et al., 2016;
210 Peralta et al., 2014; Strachan et al., 2018), cultural revival and decolonization (Johnston-Goodstar,
211 2020; Seiler & Chepyator-Thomson, 2023), and intergenerational reconciliation (Forde et al.,
212 2023; Panqueba & Carreón, 2023; Panqueba & Pacach, 2019; Stewart-Withers et al., 2023).
213 Finally, a few literature reviews have been carried out on SFD initiatives with youth in Canada
214 (Gardam et al., 2017), for example, also a discussion of IP SDP programs in Canada and Australia
215 (Giles et al., 2018) and a critical exploration of SFD policies for Aboriginal peoples in Australia
216 (Lucas et al., 2021).

217 While sports for development and peace initiatives in the SFD/SDP movement appear to
218 many authors to offer a promising framework for addressing these challenges holistically, by

219 promoting social inclusion, health, education and community cohesion, to date no systematic
220 review of the international literature has been conducted on the subject. This review therefore aims
221 to provide a synthesis of current knowledge on the use of SFD/SDP among IP on an international
222 scale. Using an interdisciplinary and international systematic approach (PRISMA), this review
223 aims to explore the impacts, challenges and best practices of these initiatives, while highlighting
224 the cultural and contextual perspectives specific to IP.

225

226 *1.3. Objectives of the study*

227 The aim of this systematic review is to propose a rigorous, detailed and critical analysis of
228 published studies on SFD/SDP initiatives involving IP, in order to offer a comprehensive and
229 holistic portrait of the research field based⁴ on a PRISMA-ScR research protocol. More
230 specifically, this review aims to:

- 231 1. Explore global and international scientific literature on SFD/SDP with IP;
- 232 2. Synthesize results from two types of outcomes:
 - 233 a. Quantitatively: Identify and analyze characteristics of studies on SFD/SDP with IP
234 (i.e., authors, date, country for the study, country of researchers, language, type of
235 publication and domain, study design, targeted populations, journals of publication,
236 sustainable development goals, funding, objective, results, conclusion);
 - 237 b. Qualitatively: Identify and analyze different elements from studies on SFD/SDP
238 with IP (e.g., frameworks, keywords, principal and secondary topics, and thematic,
239 as well as assessing the quality of the studies).

⁴ One of the challenges as noted by Stewart-Withers et al. (2024) is that many Editorial boards have had no real appetite for publishing Indigenous centred SFD work, often raising questions about wider application, wider interest and the quality of the scholarship. The personal experiences of some of the Indigenous authors on this piece is they are first-off directed towards, advised to, instead try, journals which have an Indigenous focus. Moreover, Indigenous-led research often ends up being published in less-traditional scholarly outlets, as community reports, as dissertations, or via Indigenous media. Positively this makes it accessible to IP and their communities given they do not have the same access to journal databases and research which remains behind paywalls.

240 **2. Methods**

241 *2.1. Research protocol and registration*

242 This study follows the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-
243 Analysis (PRISMA) guidelines for conducting and publishing systematic reviews and scoping
244 reviews (Moher et al., 2015; Page et al., 2021; Pham et al., 2014; Tricco et al., 2018). The research
245 protocol was written using the PRISMA extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR) model.
246 (Pham et al., 2014; Tricco et al., 2018), which was adapted in line with the study's objectives. The
247 final protocol was registered on the Open Science Framework (<https://osf.io/24zda>). Figure 1
248 summarizes the four PRISMA steps.

249 Gadais, T., Asif, U., Pitre, L., Hozhabri, K., Decarpentrie, L., Garneau, A. A., ... Bernard,
250 P. (n.d.). Sport for Development and Peace Initiatives with Indigenous People: A systematic
251 scoping review from international perspectives. Retrieved from osf.io/s9pvx_v1

252

253 **INSERT FIGURE 1 HERE**

254

255 *2.2. Step 1 – Identification phase*

256 For the identification phase, two subsequent steps were carried out: a) the selection of data
257 sources, and b) the execution of a search strategy. In addition to consulting databases, references
258 were identified using two complementary methods.

259

260 *2.2.1. Database sources*

261 Initially, five electronic databases (n=5) were consulted: Scopus, SportDiscus, ERIC,
262 SocINDEX, and Sociological Abstracts (ProQuest). These databases were chosen for their ability
263 to cover a wide range of domains in different languages in the field of SFD/SDP. The ProQuest
264 database was used to identify gray literature (e.g., theses, dissertations, book chapters). In addition,
265 we took a complementary look at the first ten pages of results in Google Scholar. Our queries were
266 limited to references published between January 1, 2000, and February 28, 2025, in more than
267 seven languages (i.e., French, English, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Urdu, Persian and some
268 Indigenous languages, such as Māori, Sami, Inuit, Anishinaabe or Atikamekw) spoken by
269 members of the research team or collaborators. These references were integrated into the

270 PRISMA-ScR analysis to obtain a sufficiently recent and up-to-date picture of the scope of the
271 literature. The equations used for each database are available (Appendix A).

272

273 2.2.2. Complementary methods

274 Following the results obtained from the database consultation, two complementary
275 reference identification methods were also carried out, with the aim of varying the data sources
276 and increasing the number of references identified. The two complementary search processes were
277 finalized on February 28, 2025. Firstly, we drew on snowball sampling (Parker et al., 2019) by
278 analyzing the bibliographies of selected references from the seven databases previously surveyed.
279 Based on their titles, we identified references that we could assume would be relevant to consult
280 more closely.

281 Secondly, we consulted experts in the field of SFD/SDP and IP to ensure that we covered
282 the most important publications relevant to our research objective. The consultation was carried
283 out on a voluntary basis and by email solicitation. Experts were contacted in order to seek their
284 help to exhaust all the possible literature available about SFD/SDP and IP. The criteria for the
285 selection of the experts were the relevance of their research in accordance with the topic of the
286 present review and the number of publications in the domain. A total of 16 experts were asked for
287 published articles of which they had knowledge about SFD/SDP studies with IP. Nine (n=9/16) of
288 these experts responded and 33 new references were introduced and added to the total number of
289 papers that were identified.

290

291 2.2.3. Data management

292 All references identified on the electronic databases and by complementary identification
293 methods were exported to and classified by database in Endnote 21. Duplicates were removed by
294 a professional librarian (JJR) and the principal researcher of this study (TG).

295

296 2.3. *Step 2 – Screening phase*

297 2.3.1. Inclusion criteria

298 To be selected and eligible for inclusion in this systematic review, references had to meet
299 the following inclusion criteria: a) The study had to be any type of study about SFD/SDP with IP;
300 b) Studies carried out in a research institution in a so-called developed or developing country; c)

301 Written in French, English, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Urdu, Persian and some Indigenous
302 languages spoken by the author team; d) Main topic concerning SFD/SDP and IP and/or related
303 terms, names or concepts (in the title and/or abstract and/or text) referring to SFD and/or SDP
304 defined by several authors (Gadais, 2019; Gadais et al., 2022; Giulianotti et al., 2019; Richards et
305 al., 2013); e) Secondary topic referred to topics related to SFD/SDP and IP (e.g., education, health,
306 gender equity, peace, violence, the environment); f) published between January 1st 2000 and
307 February 28th, 2025; g) the article had to be available online.

308

309 2.3.2. Coding

310 For the second stage, three coders (UA, LCP, KH) analyzed, separately, only the titles
311 and abstracts of references identified in an *Excel* file (i.e., title, date, author, abstract) from each
312 database using the inclusion criteria. To accomplish this task, a coding tool in the form of an *Excel*
313 grid was developed by one of the researchers (TG) and validated by the entire research team. At
314 the end of the coding of each database, including those from the snowball method and expert con-
315 sultation, the data from the three *Excel* coding grids were pooled in a table also developed by the
316 principal investigator (TG) and validated by all members of the research team (Appendix B) to
317 calculate inter-judge agreement. The initial average agreement of all databases is 0.55. Following
318 this initial result, a meeting was held with a fourth researcher in the role of referee (TG) to resolve
319 disagreements (Levac et al., 2010). These meetings helped solidify the final inter-judge agreement
320 (0.90) and improve the quality of the references selected for each database. At the end of this
321 process, references that did not meet the selection criteria were excluded.

322

323 2.4. Step 3 – Eligibility phase

324 To ensure continuity and consistency, the same three researchers who carried out phase 2
325 of reference selection also carried out the third phase, that of reference eligibility. They read the
326 selected references separately in their entirety, with the aim of validating their adherence to the
327 inclusion criteria. After analyzing a batch of five references for eligibility, a meeting was held with
328 a fourth researcher (UA, LCP, KH, and TG) to ensure consistency between the researchers or to
329 resolve any disagreements regarding the interpretation of certain concepts, the research question
330 or the research objectives (Levac et al., 2010). These discussions enabled the codes and data

331 extraction matrix to be updated and adjusted in a collegial and iterative process. At the end of this
332 phase, N=81 references were determined eligible for data extraction.

333 In addition, during the same comprehensive reading of the selected references, researchers
334 also identified and coded the data to be extracted (e.g., authors, date of publication, country of
335 research, objectives, framework, design of review, results, elements of conclusion (Tables 2 and
336 3).

337

338 2.5. Step 4 – Inclusion phase (extraction)

339 Finally, 37 references were selected for the last stage of PRISMA. They were extracted
340 and organized in a matrix developed in *Excel* by four researchers (UA, LCP, KH, SJG) and the
341 principal researcher (TG). Data extraction was organized into two main sections (Table 1):
342 quantitative (for comparable elements) and qualitative (for elements that were difficult to
343 compare). Regular meetings between researchers who carried out the selection and eligibility
344 stages helped to clarify and adjust certain data, thus promoting a better synthesis of the results. At
345 the end, only empirical studies, meaning scientific articles and book chapters, were retained to
346 ensure greater rigour in the peer review process. Consequently, theoretical articles, commentaries,
347 editorials, and reports were eliminated. For transparency, Appendix B mentioned the reason for
348 elimination of a paper. The quality of the reviews was checked using the Critical Appraisal Skills
349 Programme (CASP Checklist⁵). Data sets were analyzed with R software⁶.

350

351 **INSERT TABLE 1 HERE**

⁵ <https://casp-uk.net/casp-tools-checklists/>

⁶ R Scripts used are available by contacting corresponding author.

352 3. Findings

353 The results of this review have been grouped into two sections: quantitative and qualitative.
354 After using strict inclusion criteria from an initial total of 1,452 publications involved in SFD/SDP
355 studies with IP, results of database searches were narrowed down to 37 studies selected and
356 extracted.

357

358 3.1. Quantitative findings

359

360 INSERT TABLE 2 HERE

361

362 INSERT TABLE 3 HERE

363

364 Tables 2 and 3 present the main characteristics of the selected references in relation to the
365 quantitative criteria. First, several elements are quite obvious in the results. The majority of
366 references are scientific articles (32) and a few book chapters (5). This can be explained by our
367 methodological choice to remove other types of publication, as the peer review process was
368 impossible to document for publications other than scientific articles. Also, all the references
369 identified were published in English (37/37) despite the multilanguage research protocol.

370 Secondly, certain trends emerge for other quantitative criteria. Less than half of the studies
371 identified were funded (17/37) with the majority being conducted in Canada (11) and Australia
372 (4). This tends to show the heterogeneity, sensibility and variety of funding sources between
373 countries and this specific topic. Publication dates cover a span of more than ten years from 2010
374 to 2023, with three years being more productive (2016: 6; 2019: 7; 2023: 7). The number of 2023
375 articles could be explained by the publication of a special issue on this specific topic at the *Journal*
376 *of Sport for Development* with 5 references.

377 Among the methodological designs used, there are three (3) literature reviews with varied
378 protocols (Gardam et al., 2017; Giles et al., 2018; Lucas et al., 2021) and four (4) program
379 evaluations with varied approaches (Arellano et al., 2018; Essa et al., 2022; MacIntosh et al., 2016;
380 Whitau & Ockerby, 2019). There is also a single (1) quantitative study (Phillips & Jackson, 2023),
381 3 conceptual or theoretical studies (Henhawk & Norman, 2019; Norman et al., 2023; Sheppard et
382 al., 2021), but above all a large majority of studies that adopted a qualitative design (26) ranging

383 from case studies (Burnett, 2010; Lindsey & Grattan, 2012), Critical reflexion (Sheppard, 2023),
384 document analysis (Lucas & O'Connor, 2021; Millington et al., 2022) or discourse analysis
385 (Fabian & Giles, 2023) to the exploration of a theme through individual interviews (Nelson et al.,
386 2023; Sheppard et al., 2023). Thus, the methodologies used for data collection and analysis, and
387 the results and conclusions of the studies, offer a wide variety that tend to characterize very
388 different cultural, geographical and socio-political contexts, sometimes complex for project
389 implementation, but also rich in terms of possibilities.

390 Geographically, the countries studied are mainly divided between Canada (19) and
391 Australia (13). We also identified Aotearoa New Zealand (4), several Pacific countries (i.e., Fiji
392 (1) and Pacific Islands (1)), several African countries (i.e., Zambia (3), South Africa (1)) and
393 finally Mexico (1) and Guatemala (1), two Latin American countries. Figure 2 was drawn with R
394 and shows that the majority of researchers are from Global North with predominance of English-
395 speaking countries such as Canada (50), Australia (26), Aotearoa New Zealand (10), and the UK
396 (6). The most productive authors on the subject are Giles (10), Hayhurst (7), Arellano and Rynne
397 (5), and finally Sheppard, Millington and Fornesi (3).

398

399 **INSERT FIGURE 2 HERE**

400

401 Finally, Table 4 lists the journals and research fields from which the selected studies
402 originated. The vast majority were conducted in the fields of sports management (15) and
403 sociology (7). Other fields are also represented, such as leisure (3), physical education (2) and
404 specific journals on the theme of IP (2). All selected chapters concerned the SFD field.

405

406 **INSERT TABLE 4 HERE**

407

408 *3.2. Qualitative findings*

409 With regard to the SDGs targeted by the studies (Table 2), SDGs 3, 4, 10 and 16 are
410 predominantly addressed (SDG3: 10; SDG4: 11; SDG10: 12; SDG16: 14). There are also a number
411 of additional themes around SDG5 (3), SDG11 (1) and SDG13 (1), as well as other topics such as
412 Policy (2) and Sustainability (1). Next, the keywords used in the references, as well as the main
413 and secondary themes explored by the authors, can be summarized around seven categories. These

414 categories cover the main themes addressed in the studies listed, providing an overview of the
415 various approaches and issues surrounding SFD/SDP in Indigenous contexts.

416 *a. SFD/SDP in Indigenous contexts:* these studies explore the role of sport as a tool for
417 social development, identity building and resilience in Indigenous communities. Examples include
418 using sport to empower people living with HIV/AIDS in Zambia based on the Ubuntu philosophy
419 (Mwaanga & Banda, 2014), offering a review of SFD programs for Aboriginal youth in Canada
420 (Gardam et al., 2017), or investigating bio-pedagogies and Indigenous knowledge in SFD for
421 young urban Aboriginal women in Canada and Australia (Hayhurst et al., 2016).

422 *b. Decolonization and resurgence through sport:* selected studies offer a critical analysis
423 of SFD/SDP initiatives in the context of colonialism and the resurgence of Indigenous cultures.
424 These include a critique of SFD and the re-imagining of *lacrosse* as a tool for Indigenous
425 resurgence (Arellano & Downey, 2019), a critical reflection on settler colonialism and sport for
426 Indigenous resurgence (Essa et al., 2022), or the exploration of decolonization in the context of
427 the incarceration of IP in Canada (Norman et al., 2023).

428 *c. Challenges and strategies in SFD/SDP programs for IP:* these studies identify specific
429 challenges facing SFD/SDP programs in Aboriginal communities and an exploration of strategies
430 for their success. For example, Halsall & Forneris (2016) analyze challenges and strategies for the
431 success of a First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth sports program. Lucas et al. (2021) propose a
432 critical research agenda for SFD policy and practice among Australian IP. Finally, Millington et
433 al. (2020) explore extractive industry perspectives on sport, responsibility and development in
434 Aboriginal communities in Canada.

435 *d. The impact of sport on health, well-being and social cohesion:* these studies explore the
436 effects of sport on physical and mental health, as well as on social cohesion in Indigenous
437 communities, such as the sustainable impact of a development program through sport, recreation
438 and the arts for Indigenous youth (Gartner-Manzon & Giles, 2016), the role of rugby in preventing
439 delinquency among Pacific Islanders (McDonald et al., 2019) or finally the application of
440 Indigenous principles for social change through sport in Aotearoa New Zealand (Hapeta et al.,
441 2019), as have global relevance. Most especially, Hapeta et al. (2019) given the promotion of
442 Indigenous worldviews and a critique of this idea of the theory practice divided as the authors are
443 highly critical of how SFD is done with IP and thus offer a set of principles which they argue as
444 universal to most IP.

445 *e. Partnerships, policies and representation in SFD/SDP*: some of the studies identified
446 analyze the partnership dynamics between Indigenous communities, external agencies and public
447 policy in SFD/SDP programs. For example, MacIntosh et al. (2016) explore partnerships between
448 communities and external agencies in SFD programs. Lucas & O'Connor (2021), meanwhile,
449 critically analyze the representation of Indigenous Australians in SFD policy. Finally, Arellano et
450 al. (2018) propose an evaluation focusing on the use of a *Right To Play* program for Indigenous
451 youth.

452 *f. Sport, sustainability and social responsibility*: in this category, studies explore the links
453 between sport, environmental sustainability and social responsibility with Indigenous
454 communities. Some have investigated the extractive industry, sport and sustainability in
455 Indigenous communities (Millington et al., 2022), the links between IP, sport and environmental
456 sustainability (Henhawk & Norman, 2019), or they have explored co-transformations through
457 land-based practices as part of SDP (Paraschak & Heine, 2019).

458 *g. Sport as resistance and the fight against inequality*: this last category includes references
459 that explore the use of sport as a space of resistance against structural inequality and state
460 hegemony. They offer a discussion of sport as a site of resistance against state hegemony
461 (Sheppard et al., 2023), an exploration of structural inequality, homelessness and self-
462 rehabilitation through sport (Koch et al., 2020) or an application of the intergroup relations
463 continuum to group dynamics in Fijian rugby and soccer (Sugden et al., 2020).

464 In addition to the themes covered by the references, it is interesting to note that IP youth
465 (12), IP girls and women (5) and their communities (9) are the main groups studied, also no
466 mentioned about elders yet important inside IP communities.

467 In terms of theoretical frameworks, the studies used postcolonialism (5), intersectional
468 feminism (3), Ubuntu philosophy (4), empowerment and community approaches (7), sustainable
469 and sociocultural development (6), decolonization and cultural resurgence (5), critical approaches
470 (CSR, settler colonialism, social justice) (4) and finally critical pedagogies (3). There is a
471 preponderance of community and critical frameworks, which are most frequently used to
472 emphasize empowerment, community resilience and critique of postcolonial structures.
473 Geographical and cultural diversity are also evident. In this sense, the Ubuntu philosophy has
474 mainly been applied in Africa (Burnett, 2010; Mwaanga & Banda, 2014), while decolonization
475 and cultural resurgence frameworks are more common in Canadian and Australian contexts

476 (Arellano & Downey, 2019; Essa et al., 2022; Fabian & Giles, 2023; Lucas et al., 2021; Sheppard
477 et al., 2023). To conclude, an intersectional perspective has been used to include the specific
478 experiences of girls and women from IP backgrounds (Hayhurst et al., 2016).

479 Finally, the quality of the studies was assessed (Appendix D) using the CASP checklist
480 criteria. Three studies were analyzed using the grid for literature reviews, while the others were
481 analyzed using the grid for qualitative studies, corresponding to their study design. For the
482 literature reviews, the analysis revealed notable weaknesses or a lack of precision in the
483 information given by the three reviews in terms of the validity of the results (i.e., Assess quality
484 of included studies, results combined), the results (i.e., Overall results of the review), and the
485 importance of the results. Analyzing the quality of qualitative studies was a very complex task,
486 since many of the details required to complete the standard grids were not made clear by the
487 authors. As a result, it was extremely difficult to qualify the quality of the studies. This limitation
488 may, in part, stem from word restrictions imposed in the publication process, which often prevent
489 authors from providing a full explanation of their methodological procedures, thereby
490 complicating the assessment of study rigor. At the end, the PRISMA-ScR protocol showed itself
491 to have limitations. This concern will be explored in detail in the discussion section of this article.

492

493 **4. Discussion**

494 The aim of this systematic literature review was to provide an overview of international
495 research in the field of SFD/SDP in relation to IP, using a PRISMA-ScR protocol. The results of
496 this review highlight the mixed impact of SFD/SDP initiatives on IP worldwide, while revealing
497 a diversity of approaches and results. This discussion is structured around the main findings of the
498 study, the challenges identified, the implications for practitioners and policymakers, and
499 recommendations for future research. A reflection is also led on the use of sport as a tool for
500 development, emancipation or post-colonization with IP. We offer also a critique as to using a
501 Western derived scoping tool such as PRISMA-ScR CASP Checklist to judge, for example, the
502 quality, thus value, of Indigenous-led scholarship.

503

504 *4.1 Major findings of the review*

505 A detailed analysis of the literature on SFD/SDP initiatives with IP reveals several notable
506 features. First and foremost, the variety of cultural, geographical and socio-political contexts in

507 which these initiatives have been implemented makes them both complex and rich in possibilities.
508 The studies reviewed show that they have often been successful in promoting physical and mental
509 health (Norman et al., 2023), youth empowerment (Gartner-Manzon & Giles, 2016; Halsall &
510 Forneris, 2016), social cohesion (Rossi, 2015) and intergenerational reconciliation (Arellano &
511 Downey, 2019; Kope & Arellano, 2016). For example, sports programs aimed at preserving
512 cultural traditions while encouraging civic participation have demonstrated positive effects at both
513 individual and community levels (Hayhurst et al., 2016). However, the success of these initiatives
514 largely depends on adaptation to cultural specificities and respect for local traditions (Hapeta et
515 al., 2019; Paraschak & Heine, 2019). Indeed, programs that have incorporated the customs and
516 traditional sporting practices of IP appear to have had a more lasting and profound impact
517 (Arellano et al., 2018; Whitau & Ockerby, 2019). This highlights the importance of working with
518 local communities from the design and implementation phases of SFD/SDP initiatives. These
519 findings are consistent with the rest of the literature on the subject (Asselin & Basile, 2012;
520 Assemblée des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador, 2014; Durham Community Research
521 Team, 2012; Gardam et al., 2017; Meyer et al., 2022).

522 Despite the successes observed, several challenges persist in implementing SFD/SDP
523 initiatives with IP. Financial obstacles are particularly recurrent, often limiting the scope and
524 sustainability of programs (Halsall & Forneris, 2016). In addition, logistical constraints, such as
525 limited access to sports infrastructure and lack of skilled human resources, are further barriers
526 (Gardam et al., 2017). Political tensions and conflicts of interest between stakeholders can also
527 hinder the achievement of the objectives of these initiatives (Henhawk & Norman, 2019).
528 Furthermore, cultural sensitivity, although recognized as essential, is not always fully integrated
529 into programs, which can lead to misunderstanding or rejection by IP and communities (Arellano
530 & Downey, 2019; Hapeta et al., 2019).

531 The results of this review, however, provide valuable insights for practitioners and policy-
532 makers engaged in promoting the well-being of IP through sport. Firstly, it is essential to foster a
533 participatory approach, where IP and communities are involved at every stage of the process, from
534 program design to evaluation, as highlighted by research on disadvantaged or oppressed
535 populations (Asselin & Basile, 2012; Décarpentrie et al., 2024). This involvement not only ensures
536 the cultural relevance of initiatives but also enhances their acceptability and effectiveness.
537 Secondly, SFD/SDP programs must be supported by robust public policies that recognize and

538 value the specificities of IP. This includes the need to ensure adequate and sustainable funding, as
539 well as the training of sport and development professionals who are sensitive to the realities of IP
540 at the very least, or as Whitinui (2021) argues genuinely act as an accomplice to IP's aspirations
541 (Stewart-Withers & Hapeta, 2022; Stewart-Withers et al., 2023; Whitinui, 2021).

542 Finally, this review highlights several gaps in the current literature that could be filled by
543 future research. Firstly, there is a need for a deeper understanding of the underlying mechanisms
544 that explain the success or failure of SFD/SDP initiatives with IP. In this respect, models have
545 been proposed to better understand the complex mechanics of SFD/SDP programs (Gadais et al.,
546 2022). Longitudinal, interdisciplinary (from various disciplines) and comparative studies could
547 also provide valuable insights into the long-term impacts of these programs. In addition, it would
548 be beneficial to further explore the interactions between different dimensions of development (e.g.,
549 health, education, social cohesion) and how they mutually reinforce each other in the context of
550 sports initiatives. Furthermore, alternative forms of knowledge production, such as art, music, and
551 poetry, may offer different insights into the role of sport in IP culture and its connections to
552 sustainable development goals (SDGs). Finally, particular attention should be paid to the research
553 methodologies used in this field to ensure that they respect and integrate the perspectives of IP at
554 the very least. Or at very best come from an Indigenous worldview, as seen in the case of Phillips
555 & Jackson (2023) and Hapeta et al. (2019) where they use Indigenous-centred (Kaupapa Māori)
556 methodology. It could also be relevant to cross-reference mixed research data known as first- and
557 third-person (Quidu & Favier-Ambrosini, 2014), and other epistemological approaches, such as
558 course-of-action (Theureau, 2003) or phenomenological analysis (Vermersch, 2006) to obtain
559 results that are more comprehensive and complex but above all closer to the reality of IP.

560

561 *4.2 Sport with Indigenous people, tool for development or neo-colonization?*

562 The results of this review bring us back to the tensions mentioned in the introduction,
563 namely, is sport a tool for development, emancipation or neo-colonization among IP? The dialectic
564 now revolves around the significant potential of sport to promote health, resilience and social
565 inclusion, but sport is not neutral (Hokowhitu, 2017; Smith & Smith, 2023). Consequently, it needs
566 to be handled with care, highlighting tensions inherited from colonial history. We must remember
567 that, historically, sport has often served as an instrument of cultural domination in the colonies,
568 promoting acculturation and the transmission of the values of colonizing societies (Holt, 1990;

569 Smith & Smith, 2023; Turcot, 2016). However, these same sporting practices, when reappropriated
570 and adapted by and for IPs, can become powerful tools of emancipation and cultural resurgence
571 (Arellano & Downey, 2019; Bancel & Combeau-Mari, 2014; Bruner et al., 2016; Hapeta et al.,
572 2019).

573 As mentioned by one of our Inuit co-authors, sports are primarily practiced within our own
574 groups in our communities. We usually play among ourselves, within the community and
575 sometimes between neighboring communities, but there is very little interaction with white
576 communities. This limited cross-community participation reflects broader patterns of social
577 separation and cultural cohesion. It may be shaped by factors such as shared identity, limited access
578 to integrated spaces, or the persistence of informal social boundaries. In addition, she mentioned
579 that for Inuit at least, sport is traditionally linked to survival and life on the land (Nitassinan).
580 Activities like hunting, snowshoeing, canoeing, and traditional games helped develop physical and
581 mental strength. These land-based practices are not just physical exercises but part of cultural
582 identity and connection to nature. And today, they are being revitalized to promote health and
583 preserve their heritage.

584 Contemporary SFD/SDP initiatives emphasize participatory and culturally sensitive
585 approaches, integrating local knowledge and traditional sporting practices (da Silva Freitas et al.,
586 2023; Freitas et al., 2022). For example, educational programs using traditional games in Latin
587 America (Panqueba & Pacach, 2019) or incorporating cultural principles such as Ubuntu in Africa
588 (Mwaanga & Banda, 2014) have demonstrated their ability to strengthen community ties and
589 revitalize previously marginalized cultural identities. In Canada and Australia, sports initiatives
590 aim to reconcile generations and promote the physical and mental health of young IP, while
591 promoting the decolonization of sports practices (Arellano & Downey, 2019; Arellano et al., 2018;
592 Rossi, 2015; Whitau & Ockerby, 2019).

593 However, these initiatives are not without their challenges. Financial, logistical and
594 political obstacles persist and limit their implementation, while the lack of real integration of
595 Indigenous perspectives can lead to mixed results or cultural tensions. The literature also stresses
596 the need for a mixed, more sensitive and long-term approach, focusing on the active involvement
597 of local communities at all stages of programs, from design to evaluation (Décarpentrie et al.,
598 2024; Quidu & Favier-Ambrosini, 2014). Thus, while sport alone cannot resolve socio-economic
599 disparities or historical injustices, it undoubtedly constitutes a negotiating space where

600 development, emancipation and cultural resurgence can converge to meet the needs of IP, while
601 challenging persistent colonial narratives and structures.

602

603 *4.3 Strengths and limitations*

604 To our knowledge, this paper represents the most comprehensive evaluation to date of
605 available references in the field of Sport for Development and Peace (SFD/SDP) with Indigenous
606 populations (IP) from an international perspective. It makes a significant contribution to the
607 discourse by systematically reviewing global literature and critically examining the role of sport
608 in both colonial domination and Indigenous resurgence. Several strengths underscore the rigor and
609 originality of this review. First, the study employed a PRISMA-ScR methodology, ensuring both
610 methodological rigor and breadth. A quantitative and qualitative data extraction process was
611 conducted by independent researchers, alongside a robust assessment of the methodological
612 quality of included reviews. Second, the scope of the research was impressively broad, drawing
613 on sources in more than seven languages—including official United Nations languages (e.g.,
614 English, French, Spanish), less common languages (e.g., Portuguese, German, Urdu, Persian), and
615 Indigenous languages (e.g., Māori, Sámi, Inuit, Anishinaabe, Atikamekw). This linguistic and
616 cultural inclusivity demonstrates a strong commitment to epistemic justice. Third, the research
617 protocol extended to gray literature and involved consultation with numerous experts, helping to
618 identify and include less-visible or overlooked references. Fourth, the paper foregrounds a
619 decolonial lens by exploring sport’s dual role as a tool of colonial oppression and as a vehicle for
620 Indigenous empowerment and resurgence. Fifth, it advocates for community-led and participatory
621 approaches in SFD/SDP programs, emphasizing the importance of Indigenous knowledge systems
622 and traditions. Finally, the review incorporates an intersectional analysis that considers the diverse
623 experiences of Indigenous groups—particularly in relation to gender, youth, and community
624 dynamics—thus reinforcing the complexity and contextuality of SFD/SDP initiatives.

625 Several limitations should also be mentioned. First, and to be consistent with our study
626 objectives, we have chosen to limit our references to those that have the SFD/SDP label and are
627 mainly interested in IP. Several references were initially identified but were not considered for
628 extraction and final analysis, as they did not correspond to these two research standards for our
629 topic (Appendix B). However, it would be useful to study the content of these studies in greater
630 detail to gain a more complex view of the subject of IP and sport. Second, our work and the

631 discussions it generated among researchers also underscored the limitations of the “SFD/SDP”
632 label, since many initiatives using sport to aid development in IP are not identified under this label,
633 and SDP is label different by IP (Johnston-Goodstar, 2020). As illustration, specific Indigenous
634 journals have been missing such as *Mai*⁷ or *AlterNative*⁸. It, therefore, would appear necessary to
635 open up the designation of this label to a more global and transcultural approach to the uses of
636 sport, as noted by a review of the field of SFD/SDP (Hozhabri et al., 2024). Third and of huge
637 importance we acknowledge the limitations of using a Western-derived tool, the PRISMA-ScR,
638 and CASP checklist, to undertake a scoping review on SFD/SDP scholarship in relation to IP, we
639 explain this further by making links back to our Appendix D information. One such limitation of
640 using this tool to make sense of scholarship written by IP, about IP, is that being an ‘insider’
641 matters, having context information can matter. If the tool is applied simply and crudely to the
642 Phillips & Jackson article (2023) where they receive “no” for the question: Have ethical issues
643 been taken into consideration? The entire article has ethics throughout – rather it is Indigenous
644 ethics. The authors talk about tikanga which is all about behaving ethically - doing what is right,
645 doing what is tika. As a Human Rights Council funded piece of work it is automatically known it
646 has institutional ethics approval. What the authors haven't done is state explicitly in the article
647 “We received Ethics Approval for X and Y, rather they have engaged with ethics in practice. By
648 applying the tool crudely, it views ethics very narrowly and does not account for ethical ways of
649 knowing and being and, hence doing.

650 Fourth, our reliance on academic databases and written literature limited the inclusion of
651 non-traditional sources such as community reports, oral histories, and Indigenous media—forms
652 of knowledge transmission central to many Indigenous cultures. While we attempted to mitigate
653 this through multilingual searches and expert consultation, future reviews could benefit from more
654 direct engagement with Indigenous scholars and communities to incorporate these forms of
655 knowledge. Additionally, the review would benefit from deeper critical engagement with
656 Indigenous epistemologies and research methodologies beyond the brief invocation of Ubuntu
657 philosophy. Frameworks such as Kaupapa Māori, Anishinaabe teachings, or African Indigenous
658 knowledge systems could enrich the decolonial critique and offer alternative foundations for
659 evaluating SFD/SDP initiatives. Furthermore, the review could more explicitly analyze the

⁷ <https://www.journal.mai.ac.nz/>

⁸ <https://journals.sagepub.com/home/aln>

660 structural power imbalances in sport governance and the problematic nature of the term
661 “development,” which often implies unidirectional interventions from dominant actors. A more
662 critical interrogation of these dynamics, as well as expanded analysis of sport as resistance—
663 including Indigenous-controlled sports movements—would enhance the scope and impact of the
664 work. In this sense, the inclusion of a reflexive section addressing researcher positionality and
665 relationships with Indigenous communities would strengthen the transparency and ethical
666 grounding of the review. Similarly, another section offering practical, community-informed
667 strategies for decolonial SFD/SDP implementation could enhance its value for practitioners and
668 policymakers seeking to centre Indigenous sovereignty and agency.

669

670 **5. Conclusion**

671 This systematic review has shed light on the impact of SFD/SDP initiatives with IP around
672 the world, while highlighting the challenges and opportunities they represent. The results reveal
673 that, when well designed and culturally informed, these initiatives can play a crucial role in
674 promoting health, empowerment and social cohesion within Indigenous communities. Sport is
675 used as a tool which is not well designed and is not culturally adapted to make judgements calls
676 about Indigenous work. Thus, not all the references are Indigenous work, some studies work with
677 IP, some studies are by IP. However, their success depends largely on the ability and the will of
678 practitioners and decision-makers to integrate cultural specificities, and local needs into the design
679 and implementation of programs.

680 Despite the benefits observed, the review also highlighted a number of persistent
681 challenges, including financial, logistical and political constraints, as well as difficulties in
682 integrating cultural sensitivity into programs. To overcome these obstacles, it is essential to adopt
683 a participatory approach, involving Indigenous communities at every stage of the process, and to
684 strengthen public policies in favour of SFD/SDP.

685 The findings of this review pave the way for many future research perspectives, including
686 studies that use more sensitive methodologies to better understand the mechanisms underlying the
687 effectiveness of SFD/SDP initiatives and their long-term impacts on IP. It is also crucial to
688 continue exploring the interactions between the different dimensions of development in order to
689 maximize the benefits of these initiatives. Indeed, SFD/SDP initiatives have considerable potential
690 to contribute to the well-being of IP (Phillips & Jackson, 2023). However, to fully achieve this

691 objective, they must be supported by culturally grounded, inclusive and sustainable approaches
692 and methodologies, capable of responding to the complex challenges faced by these communities.
693 This review represents an important step toward fostering a deeper understanding and more
694 effective collaboration with IP in applying SFD/SDP principles. Lastly, just as SFD/SDP
695 researchers and practitioners must consider carefully the methodologies they use when working
696 with IPs, the same level of critical reflection is necessary for scholars who evaluate the quality of
697 existing SFD/SDP research.

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929 **Authors contribution**

930 The authors confirm that they are responsible for the following steps in the preparation of
931 this study. TG, UA and KH designed the study. UA coordinated data collection and analysis with
932 TG and JJR. LC, SJG, AAG and KH participated in data coding, extraction and analysis. UA, KH,
933 LD, JH, BM, BS, RSW and NVP helped identify references as experts in Indigenous people. TG
934 wrote the first version of the manuscript. All the authors Indigenous or non-Indigenous (TG, UA,
935 LCP, KH, LD, AAG, JH, RSW, JP, BM, OM, NVP, AA, LP, JB, RCAAQ, BS, SJG, JJR, JE, MO,
936 PB, BG) participated in the revision of all documents and data, and in the preparation of the final
937 version of the manuscript.

938

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944 Jennifer Brazeau, Jairzinho Francisco Panqueba Cifuentes).

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Figure 1. PRISMA flow chart

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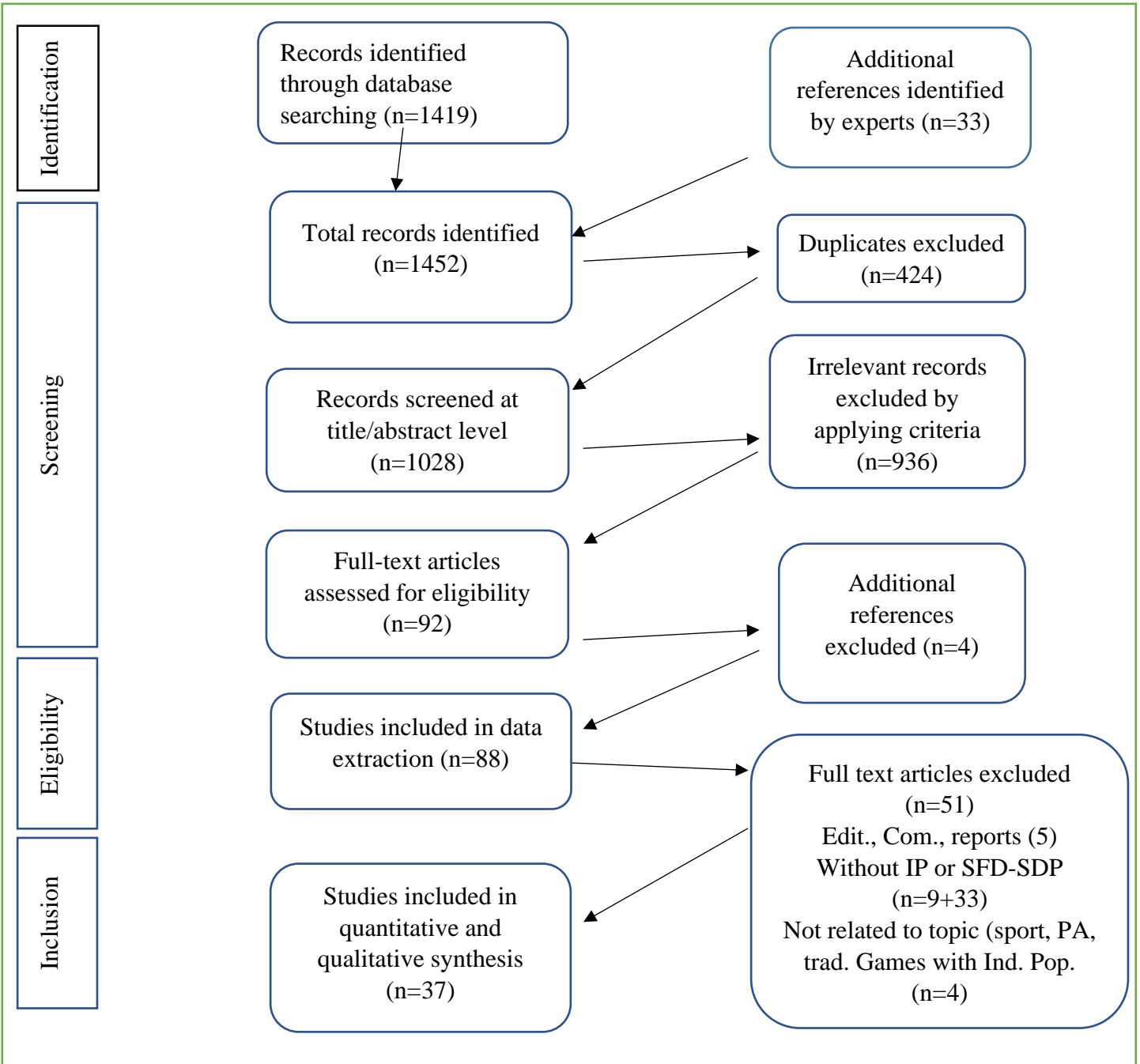
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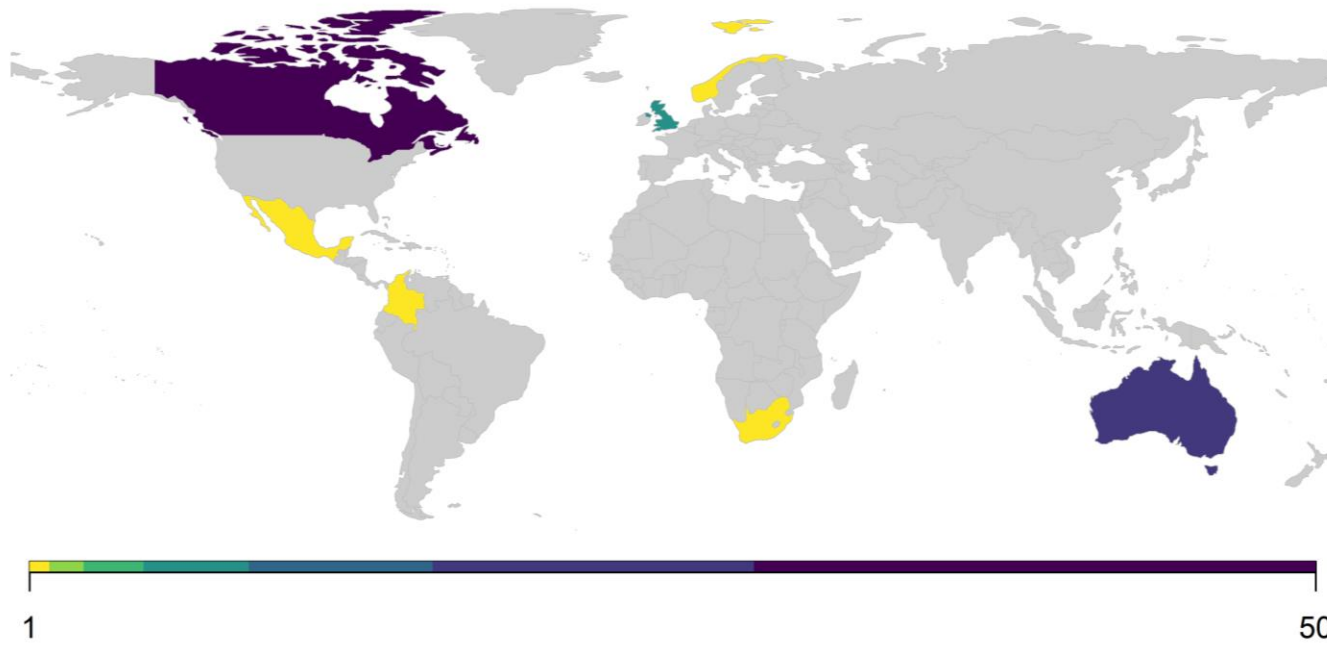
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Figure 2. Mapping of authors of reviews



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979 **Table 1.** (PRISMA Step 4 – Extraction) – Quantitative and Qualitative Criteria for extraction

Quantitative data (comparable)	Qualitative data (difficult to compare)
<input type="checkbox"/> Authors (names) <input type="checkbox"/> Date of publication <input type="checkbox"/> Type of publication (i.e., scientific article, book chapter) <input type="checkbox"/> Language of publication <input type="checkbox"/> Journal (names) <input type="checkbox"/> Country of researchers (country of the researchers' home university) <input type="checkbox"/> Country of research (country where the research was carried out) <input type="checkbox"/> Research Design <input type="checkbox"/> Research Participants <input type="checkbox"/> Data collection <input type="checkbox"/> Data analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Results <input type="checkbox"/> Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Key words <input type="checkbox"/> Principal thematic/topic related to SFD/SDP <input type="checkbox"/> Associated secondary SFD/SDP sub-themes (e.g., social inclusion, peace building, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/> SDGs (i.e., 1 to 17) <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of the review <input type="checkbox"/> Funding organization <input type="checkbox"/> Characteristics of the SFD/SDP intervention context/location <input type="checkbox"/> Characteristics of the SFD/SDP program/intervention (e.g., types of intervention, goals)

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981 **Inclusion criteria:**

982 a) The study must be any types of study about SFD/SDP and Indigenous people (inside title, abstract or text);

983 b) Studies carried out in a research institution in a so-called developed or developing country;

984 c) Written in French, English, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Urdu, Persian or indigenous languages;

985 d) Main topic concerning SFD/SDP and Indigenous people and related terms, names or concepts (inside the Title and/or Abstract)

986 referring to the SFD and/or SDP defined by several authors (Gadais, 2019; Gadais et al., 2022; Giulianotti et al., 2019; Richards et al.,
 987 2013);

988 e) Secondary topic are topics related to SFD/SDP (e.g., education, health, gender equity, peace, violence, environment);

989 f) published between 2000 and November 30th, 2024;

990 g) the article must be available online.

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993 **Table 2.** Characteristics of the included studies

	Reference	Date	Country of research	Country of researchers	Language	SDGs (1 to 17)	Principal topic (Secondary topic)	Indigenous populations targeted	Type of publication	Funding organization (Y/N)
1.	Brunett	2010	South Africa	South Africa	English	4, 16	Sport for development Development approaches Sports programs Community development	Youth Girls	Article	N
2.	Lindsey & Grattan	2012	Zambia	UK	English	10,16	Peace Social change	Zambian communities	Article	N
3.	Mwaanga & Banda	2014	Zambia	UK	English	3	Health Education Gender Equality Social change	Other people, Ubuntu	Article	N
4.	Mwaanga & Mwansa	2014	Zambia	UK	English	3, 4, 16	SDP and Cultural Philosophy	Ubuntu Indigenous Community in Africa	Book chapter	N
5.	Hayhurst et al.	2015	Canada Australia	Canada	English	5	SDP for Indigenous Girls	Indigenous Girls	Book chapter	Y
6.	Rossi	2015	Australia	Australia	English	10,16	Peace Social changes Freedom	Communities	Article	Y
7.	Gartner-Manzon & Giles	2016	Canada	Canada	English	10	Health Education Social change	Youth workers	Article	N
8.	Halsall & Fornesis	2016	Canada	Canada	English	10	Social change Positive youth development	FNMI youth	Article	Y
9.	Hayhurst et al.	2016	Canada Australia	Canada Australia	English	4,5	Education Gender Equality	Youth, girl and woman	Article	Y
10.	Kope & Arellano	2016	Canada	Canada	English	4,16	Peace Education	Indigenous youth	Article	Y

							Youth Empowerment Sport for development Cultural continuity			
11.	MacIntosh et al.	2016	Canada	Canada	English	16	Peace Partnership	First Nation (Cree)	Article	N
12.	Rynne	2016	Australia	Australia	English	3,4	Health Education Connection with oceans	Youth	Article	Y
13.	Gardam et al.	2017	Canada	Canada	English	10	Social change Sport for development	Aboriginal Youth	Article	N
14.	Arellano et al.	2018	Canada	Canada	English	3,4	Education Positive youth development Sport for development	88 communities in Ontario, Manitoba, BC, Alberta	Article	Y
15.	Giles et al.	2018	Canada Australia	Canada, Australia	English	3, 4, 10	SDP	Indigenous Community	Book chapter	N
16.	Arellano et al.	2019	Canada	Canada	English	3, 4, 10	Sport for social change Colonialism and decolonization	Indigenous Canadian communities	Article	Y
17.	Henhawk & Norman	2019	Canada	Canada	English	13	Environment Sustainability	NA ⁹	Book chapter	N
18.	Hapeta et al.	2019	Aotearoa New Zealand	Aotearoa New Zealand	English	3,4	Indigenous Sovereignty Health Education Social change Athlete development	Indigenous communities Youth Māori	Article	N
19.	McDonald et al.	2019	Pacific Islands Australia?	Australia	English	16	Peace Neoliberalism	Pasifika communities in Australia	Article	N

⁹ NA means the information was not available inside the text.

20.	Millington et al.	2019	Canada	Canada	English	16	Peace Sport for development	Communities	Article	Y
21.	Paraschak & Heine	2019	Canada	Canada	English	3, 4, 16	Land-based practices in SDP	Indigenous and non-Indigenous people	Book chapter	N
22.	Whitau & Ockerby	2019	Australia	Australia	English	4, 10	Education Difference between culture	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students Promoting health and wellbeing	Article	N
23.	Koch et al.	2020	Canada	Canada	English	10	Education Sport for development and homelessness Sport sociology	Indigenous peoples in Edmonton, homelessness collectively	Article	Y
24.	Millington et al.	2020	Canada	Canada Australia	English	10,16	Social change Sport and social good Relationships between industry and community	Extractive industry representatives of four companies	Article	Y
25.	Sugden et al.	2020	Australia New-Zealand Fiji	Australia United Kingdom	English	10,16	Peace Social change Ethnic division	Indigenous Fijians (I'Taukei) and Fijians of Indian ancestry (Indo-Fijians)	Article	N
26.	Lucas et al.	2021	Australia	Australia	English	16 Other: Policy	Peace Policy Decolonising	Indigenous Australians	Article	N
27.	Lucas & O'Connor	2021	Australia	Australia	English	Other: Policy	Sport for development policies CTG outcomes for Indigenous Australians	Indigenous Australians	Article	N
28.	Sheppard et al.	2021	Australia	Australia	English	3	Environnement Cultural offsetting Benefits of sports	Aboriginal Australians	Article	Y

29.	Essa et al.	2022	Canada	Canada	English	16	Peace Colonial reflection	Staff of Right to Play	Article	Y
30.	Millington et al.	2022	Canada	Canada	English	Other: Sustainability	Sustainable development Extractive industry CSR	Indigenous Canadian	Article	Y
31.	Fabian & Giles	2023	Canada	Canada	English	NA	Indigenous games Indigenous medias	NA	Article	N
32.	Nelson et al.	2023	Aotearoa New Zealand	Aotearoa New Zealand	English	3	Identity Wellbeing Cultural identity	Indigenous student's postgraduate from Otago Māori Rugby org.	Article	Y
33.	Norman et al.	2023	Canada	Canada	English	16	Sport in prison Colonialism and indigenous people	Indigenous peoples in Canadian prisons	Article	N
34.	Panqueba & Carreon	2023	Mexico and Guatemala	Colombia Guatemala	English	NA	Rubber ballgames	Indigenous games	Article	Y
35.	Philips & Jackson	2023	Aotearoa New Zealand	Aotearoa New Zealand	English	11	Indigenous drowning Māori water safety	Future aquatic educators' educators of primarily Pākehā descent (NZ Eur)	Article	Y
36.	Sheppard	2023	Australia	Australia	English	5, 10	Aboriginal and woman Voices	Dyirbal Gumbilbara Bama woman voice	Article	N
37.	Sheppard et al.	2023	Australia	Australia	English	NA	Cultural offsets Hegemony	Indigenous peoples in Australia	Article	N

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996 **Table 3.** Detailed characteristics of the selected studies

Reference	Name of organization and type of Intervention	Objective	Study Design	Data Collection Methods	Analyses	Results	Conclusion
1. Brunett	NA	Explore and discuss the dynamics of sport-for-development in South Africa, particularly in the context of diverse research agendas, donor requirements, and the utilization of indigenous knowledge systems.	Case studies of programmes (3) Participatory Action Research	Interview; Survey; Other: focus group, questionnaire	A Case Study Analysis	The study highlights the complex dynamics of sport for development in South Africa, shaped by politics, development ideologies and global leadership. Diverse research agendas and donor requirements play a significant role in shaping research in this area, and the study highlights the importance of accessing indigenous knowledge systems through collaborative efforts.	The conclusion of this study highlights the importance of recognizing the multifaceted and evolving dynamics of sport for development in South Africa. The research has shown that the politics of development ideologies and global leadership significantly influence the field of sport for development. Different research agendas and donor requirements play a critical role in shaping the direction and focus of research efforts in the field.
2. Lindsey & Grattan	NA	This research aims to explore the role of sport in community development in Lusaka, Zambia, with a focus on local perspectives and contexts.	QL Interviews	Interview	NA	The findings of the study suggest that sport for development in Chawama and Kamwala is a counterexample to the dominant internationalist perspectives in the sport for development literature. The sport was seen as an important aspect of local development efforts due to its popularity, accessibility	The beneficiaries of this research were the communities of Chawama and Kamwala, as well as local stakeholders involved in sport for development initiatives in these areas. The research aimed to provide insights into their perspectives and experiences with sport for development and the findings can inform

							and adaptability to address complex and locally identified problems. Local organizations involved in sport-for-development were primarily indigenous and showed diversity in their approaches. While some aspects of sport for development were linked to global neoliberal policies, many decisions were driven by local community members to address problems identified within their communities.	future development programs and policies in the region. In addition, researchers and practitioners in the field of sport-for-development can benefit from the study's focus on local perspectives and the use of alternative research methodologies to better understand the complexities of sport-for-development processes.
3.	Mwaanga & Banda	NA	N/A	Qualitative	Interview	Thematic Analyses	In particular, participants identified social connectedness and mutual support as vital to their collective empowerment negotiations. Data analysis demonstrates the importance of centralizing cultural discourses in order to achieve locally meaningful development.	The study's conclusions have implications for future SD programs, advocating for an approach that prioritizes cultural sensitivity, inclusivity, and community engagement. It reinforces the notion that meaningful development arises from an appreciation of cultural diversity and a genuine commitment to address the specific needs and aspirations of marginalized groups. By aligning development initiatives with the cultural values and aspirations of the communities involved,

practitioners can create more impactful and sustainable pathways toward empowerment and positive social change.

4.	Mwaanga & Mwansa	EduSport Foundation Zambia & SDP Program	N/A	Conceptual & Case Study	Case Study	NA	The chapter highlights that traditional Indigenous physical activities, particularly land-based cultural practices, have significant potential for inclusion in sport for development (SDP) programs. These land-based activities can foster a collaborative and land-centered logic that is consistent with the physical activity practices of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. By encouraging time spent outdoors and fostering connections to the land, these activities directly address the issue of weakening connections between mainstream Canadian youth and the natural environment. In addition, they offer an alternative to the competitive logic often associated with mainstream sports,	In conclusion, this chapter highlights the potential transformative power of incorporating traditional Indigenous physical activities into SDP initiatives. By centering physical activity practices around the land, these programs can affirm and strengthen Indigenous cultural identities while fostering a connection to the environment. This approach offers a promising model for SDP initiatives that seek to promote ecological awareness and long-term commitment to addressing environmental degradation. Recognizing the inherent strengths of indigenous cultures and their connection to the land is critical to reclaiming and affirming cultural identities, particularly in contexts of marginalization and displacement. Moving away from a competitive
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						validating a less mediated environment for physical activity that resembles natural settings. The case study of Dene and Inuvialuit traditional cultures in the Canadian territories illustrates how the ecological embeddedness of Indigenous practices can shift the focus to ecological relationships as an affirmation of cultural practices and identities.	framework and embracing land-centered activities not only benefits Indigenous peoples, but also has broad implications for mainstream Canadian youth, fostering a deeper appreciation for nature and sustainable practices. Ultimately, the integration of traditional Indigenous physical activities into SDP programs has the potential to foster meaningful partnerships and positive social change by promoting a more inclusive, culturally sensitive and environmentally conscious approach to sport and physical activity.	
5.	Hayhurst et al.	Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society's (VAFCS') recreation programme & Role Models and Leaders Australia (RMLA), Australia & Sport and Recreation	This paper explores a postcolonial feminist participatory action research (PFPAR) study designed to examine the contradictions and challenges surrounding SGD programs for urban Aboriginal young women.	NA	Interview	Thematic Analyses	Our findings demonstrate how stereotyping, encountering racism and gender inequalities in day-to-day life “and in the programme “created challenging circumstances for these young women.	Despite these obstacles, the young women used the programme as an opportunity to resist and challenge perceptions about their bodies, sporting abilities, lifestyles and Aboriginal stereotypes

		Programs (Multi-Sport)							
6.	Rossi	NA	This paper argues that sport can be robust development tool capable of delivering social outcomes to marginalized communities.	Qualitative (Conceptual/Theoretical)	LR, Case Study		The results of this study indicate that the evidence supporting sport as a development tool in the context of Indigenous Australia is mixed. However, there are promising signs that sport can contribute to the Close the Gap (CTG) effort and Indigenous well-being. A more secure sense of place and a greater sense of belonging were observed in some of the individual sites where sport-based programs were implemented.	This paper makes the case that sport can be a robust developmental tool capable of delivering social outcomes to marginalized communities.	
7.	Gartner-Manzon & Giles	NA	In this article, we explore if/how working for Alberta's Future Leaders Program (AFL) in Alberta, Canada, has had a lasting impact on former employees.	QL (Interviews)	Interviews	Thematic Analyses	The results of the study identified four main themes related to the long-term impacts of involvement in the AFL (Alberta's Future Leaders) program on former youth workers and arts mentor: 1. Awareness of colonialism's impacts: Participants gained awareness of the effects of colonialism on Aboriginal peoples and the challenges	In conclusion, the AFL program had significant long-term impacts on the former youth workers and arts mentor who participated in the study. While the primary goal of AFL is to bring positive change to the lives of the youth participants, it is noteworthy that the program also had a profound impact on the youth workers and arts mentor themselves. This	

faced by these communities. They became more sensitive to their whiteness and privilege and recognized the need for a deeper understanding of Aboriginal culture.

2. Challenging stereotypes: Through their experiences in the AFL program, participants were able to challenge stereotypes about both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples. They learned not to judge communities based on preconceived notions and became advocates for Indigenous rights and issues.

3. Employment trajectory: The AFL program had a significant influence on the career paths of the youth workers and arts mentor. Many pursued careers related to Aboriginal issues, social work, or public health, with the program serving as a valuable kick-starter for their careers.

4. More significant impact on staff than beneficiaries: The participants believed that the AFL program had

impact was largely positive as it provided them with a deeper understanding of Aboriginal communities, cultures, and the effects of colonialism. It also allowed them to challenge stereotypes about both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples. The program served as an entry point for non-Aboriginal youth workers and arts mentors to learn more about Aboriginal peoples, recognize their own privilege, and engage with Aboriginal communities in respectful ways, while also fostering a sense of allyship among the Aboriginal workers. Overall, the AFL program proved to be a transformative and enlightening experience for all those involved.

							<p>a more significant impact on their lives than on the intended community beneficiaries. They felt that the program benefitted them personally and professionally more than it did the communities it aimed to serve.</p> <p>Overall, the study highlights the transformative effects of the AFL program on the participants, shaping their perspectives and career trajectories and fostering a deeper understanding of Aboriginal issues and culture.</p>	
8.	Halsall & Fornesis	Right to Play & Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) Program	This research evaluates the implementation of a SfD programme designed to enhance leadership skills for FNMI youth.	Program evaluation QL (Interviews)	Interviews	Thematic Analyses	<p>The analysis revealed two themes: "Strategies for Success" included designing youth empowerment strategies, being creative and adaptive, fostering a positive presence for the youth, using experiential learning, balancing culture with youth voice, and forming community partnerships. The "Challenges" theme encompassed community diversity, social issues, and staff burn-out. Successful</p>	<p>In conclusion, this qualitative research shed light on the challenges faced in implementing Sport for Development (SfD) leadership programs for youth in FNMI communities. Frontline staff have demonstrated resilience by employing creative strategies, adapting the program, forming community partnerships, and supporting youth empowerment. These valuable insights can inform the development of</p>

							implementation relied on creative and culturally sensitive approaches.	integrated and community-led SfD programs and offered useful lessons for researchers and evaluators in similar contexts.
9.	Hayhurst et al.	Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society's (VAFCS') recreation programme & Role Models and Leaders Australia (RMLA), Australia & Sport and Recreation Programs (Multi-Sport)	We examine how SDP programs that target urban Indigenous young women and girls reproduce the hegemony of neoliberalism by deploying biopedagogies of neoliberalism to teach Indigenous young women certain education and employment skills that are deemed necessary to participate in competitive capitalism.	Case study (2) QL transnational postcolonial feminist participatory action research	Photovoice, Sharing circles	Thematic Analyses; QSR Nvivo 10, a qualitative software	We found that activities in both programs were designed to equip the Indigenous girls and young women with individual attributes that would enhance their chances of future success in arenas valued by neoliberal capitalism: Eurocentric employment, post-secondary education and healthy active living.	The study examines how Sport for Development and Peace (SDP) programs for Indigenous young women can challenge systemic inequalities. It suggests SDP programs led by Indigenous people could disrupt colonial relations and promote self-determination. Future research is needed to address broader systemic exploitation faced by Indigenous communities
10.	Kope & Arellano	Right to Play & 4 Years-Long Aboriginal Youth PLAY Program (Multi-Sport)	The objective of this research is to explore how the experiences of Indigenous youth in the Youth Leadership Program (YLP) from the organization Right to Play can support what Indigenous scholars have termed "resurgence." Resurgence refers to a self-conscious	Qualitative	Interview; Observation	The analysis was guided by the CYE dimensions of the model with a special interest in local relationships to traditional knowledge,	The findings suggest that, to serve resurgence, culture and local knowledge need to be central in empowerment processes and youth programming	The study focused on exploring how Indigenous youth experiences within the Youth Leadership Program (YLP) from the organization Right To Play could contribute to the concept resurgence, as advocated by Indigenous scholars. Resurgence, characterized by a self-conscious traditionalism movement emphasizes critical self-

			<p>traditionalism movement that seeks to revitalize Indigenous culture, political thought, and critical self-reflection, ultimately leading to re-empowerment and self-determination.</p>			<p>culture, and resurgence</p>		<p>reflection, political thought and cultural revival as pathways to re-empowerment and self-determination for Indigenous communities.</p>
11.	MacIntosh et al.	NA	<p>The objective of this research is to explore and examine the community external-agency partnership in the context of a sport-for-development program using ice-hockey in the community of Moose Cree First Nation in the Province of Ontario, Canada.</p>	Qualitative	<p>Interview; Observation; Other: Document review</p>	NA	<p>Findings provide several insights regarding resource acquisition and flow. The study found that the choice of sport is critical to initiate desired community change. Findings also indicated several challenges in program funding, human resource management, and communication highlighting the importance of sustainable resource planning. Implications: The sport of ice-hockey acted as an initial hook to mobilize community members'™ interest and gain outside organizations'™ resources. The findings denote differences in partner objectives which can complicate the</p>	<p>In conclusion, this research highlights the significance of sport choice, sustainable resource planning, and effective communication sport-for-development partnerships. It stresses the need to consider resource availability and acquisition as well as differences in partner objectives, to ensure the success and long-term impact of such initiatives. Ultimately, this study calls for a thoughtful and inclusive approach to sport-for-development programming that fosters community engagement and aligns with the community's needs and objectives.</p>

delivery of programming. Sustaining the sport of ice-hockey within the community took on a more traditional sport development outcome. Ultimately, resource availability and acquisition (tangible and intangible) within a sport-for-development partnership must be considered before embarking on a program. Articulating a sustainable strategy where the external agency has a planned withdraw date and the community can independently continue programming if deemed desirable is important. Partnerships mutually benefit when there are clearly stated and communicated Objective.

12.	Rynne	NA	This paper considers the pedagogical properties and subsequent impact of sport-for-development programs across a variety of sites in	Qualitative	Interviews	Transcription	The research explored the influence of an Aboriginal-controlled organization and its government-funded remote sports-based program on Aboriginal participants and non-	The conclusion of this research emphasizes the adoption of a socio-person account of learning to examine the contributions the social and physical worlds in surfing program
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Australia. Moreover, this research adopts a socio-personal account of learning in an attempt to examine the contributions of the social and physical worlds related to surfing programs as well as the individual role in construing and constructing meaning through participation in these worlds.

Aboriginal stakeholders in a remote community in Northern Territory, Australia. The qualitative research design involved gathering data through interviews and observations to characterize the overall situation. The study found that the sports-based program had positive impacts on participants' educational and social development, as well as their cultural health needs. Participants identified a variety of learning outcomes, including connections with and learning from the ocean, program providers, and peers. The program was viewed as a holistic approach that fostered a sense of belonging and community, and it served as an opportunity for Aboriginal individuals to reclaim lost connections to the ocean and traditional knowledge. The research highlighted the importance of cultural and community connections in promoting well-being and positive

The study identified significant learning outcomes related to spiritual reconnection with land and ocean, the development of cultural knowledge, and the reestablishment of family and community bonds. The research highlights the importance of the surf programs in redressing historical barriers to learning for Indigenous participants and fostering connection with the natural world. While the study is largely exploratory and requires further consideration of program variations and the learning framework used, it offers valuable insights into contemporary Indigenous learning and the transformative potential of sport-for-development programs. It also underscores the importance of acknowledging the role of researchers in this field and considering the 'cultural interface' in research processes.

							development among Indigenous youth.	
13.	Gardam et al.	NA	The purpose of this scoping review is therefore to identify themes within the available literature on SFD in Aboriginal communities.	LR (Scoping)	Research Databases	Thematic Analyses	<p>The literature review analyzed 14 articles and book chapters focusing on Sport for Development (SFD) programs in Aboriginal communities in Canada. The review identified three main themes:</p> <p>1. Cross-Cultural Mentorship: Aboriginal SFD programs often utilize cross-cultural mentorship between program mentors/staff and the targeted mentees. Some programs employ Aboriginal mentors to mentor diverse cultural backgrounds, while others use mostly non-Aboriginal mentors to mentor Aboriginal youth. The latter approach was criticized for its colonial power dynamics, hindering the program's objectives of creating positive Aboriginal youth leaders through sports.</p> <p>2. Community Engagement in Program Development and Implementation: The</p>	<p>The conclusion of this scoping review highlights the need for further research on Sport for Development (SFD) programs for Aboriginal communities in Canada. The review identified important contributions to the field but also noted the importance including reports from SFD organizations and communities in future research to gain multiple perspectives.</p> <p>The conclusion also emphasizes the importance of using restraint and realism when stating the socioeconomic goals of SFD programs. While these programs can promote positive change within Aboriginal communities they alone may not address broader social inequalities affecting these communities. Collective action and partnership between SFD organizations, government, private donors, Aboriginal youth, and other stakeholders are essential</p>

success of SFD programs in Aboriginal communities relies heavily on extensive collaboration with Aboriginal partners. Programs that involved local individuals and communities in the development and implementation process were more effective and culturally appropriate. In contrast, programs lacking community engagement faced criticism for not reflecting Indigenous values and knowledge.

3. Sport, Development, and Self-Determination: The role of SFD in furthering Aboriginal self-determination was questioned, with some studies arguing that SFD programs, though valuable, could only play a subsidiary role in addressing broader social and economic challenges faced by Aboriginal communities. Some programs were praised for promoting certain skills necessary for survival in a competitive capitalist society, but this was seen as potentially reinforcing

foster open and honest dialogues about the infrastructural, superstructural, and procedural barriers faced by Aboriginal SFD participants.

Sport for development scholars are encouraged to advocate for structural changes to address issues like youth education, which are often the targets of SFD initiatives. By critically examining these structural inequalities and barriers alongside SFD, a more complete and nuanced understanding of the role SFD may play in Aboriginal peoples' lives can be achieved. Ultimately, this research aims to inform future sport-related policy decisions and contribute to positive change within Aboriginal communities.

							colonial structures.	
							Overall, the review highlighted the importance of culturally appropriate community engagement and the need for programs to carefully consider power dynamics and self-determination when implementing SFD initiatives in Aboriginal communities.	
14.	Arellano et al.	Right to Play & Year-Long Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) program	This paper presents an evaluation of the Promoting Life Skills for Aboriginal Youth (PLAY) program which is operated by Right to Play (RTP).	Program evaluation	Interview	NA	The study evaluated the PLAY program, which aims to empower Indigenous youth through sport and play-based activities. The results highlighted several key themes: 1. Integrating program flexibility: Participants praised the program's flexibility, allowing each community to take ownership and tailor the program to their needs. This approach ensured community engagement and fostered youth empowerment. 2. Building capacity through skills training: The training sessions provided mentors with essential	This study conducted a utilization-focused evaluation of the PLAY program, focusing on the perspectives of middle- and upper-level program management staff regarding program implementation. The research emphasized the importance of maintaining program flexibility, increasing Indigenous organizational presence within the main program administration, and adopting a more community-centered approach. The authors highlighted the significance of building stronger relationships with communities, understanding their assets and interests, and fostering greater program

skills in facilitation, leadership, budgeting, communication, and grant applications. The mentors' capacity development positively influenced program outcomes.

3. Having a motivated staff and organizational learning: The PLAY program staff were highly motivated, passionate, and dedicated to the communities they served. The organization's adaptability and willingness to learn from experiences contributed to its success.

4. Balancing the integration of culture: The program faced challenges in integrating Indigenous culture and traditions, as communities varied in their interests and degrees of involvement. Cultural components were included as options, and the involvement of local Elders and community members played a crucial role.

5. Challenges related to adapting to multiple stakeholders and program pace: The program's

ownership. The study followed a utilization-focused approach, ensuring that the results were shared with program stakeholders and led to program alterations based on their feedback and needs.

growth and partnerships with various stakeholders led to coordination challenges and concerns about maintaining community interests. The fast pace of operations and high-stress levels were potential barriers to sustainable programming. Participants expressed the need to prioritize local issues and concerns, deepen their understanding of cultural matters, and engage more Indigenous staff to enhance inclusivity and cultural awareness. Despite the challenges, the study acknowledged the positive impact of the PLAY program in empowering Indigenous youth and promoting their well-being through sport and play.

15.	Giles et al.	NA	This volume analyses and critically discusses the central elements of and research issues within, the field of SDP and also provides a series of case studies (substantive and geographic) of key research	Conceptual	NA	NA	NA	NA
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16.	Arellano & Downey	Right to Play & Year-Long Aboriginal Youth PLAY Program (Multi-Sport)	The objective of this study is to critically examine and analyze the role of sport-for-development programs, particularly in Canada, focusing on initiatives like Right to Play, in relation to Indigenous youth. The study aims to investigate the extent to which these sport-based initiatives are aligned with the principles of positive social change and decolonization, as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (article 31).	Conceptual	NA	NA	NA	<p>This paper presents an example of a sport-based program using lacrosse for youth development, focusing on the Indigenous epistemological significance of the game and its appropriation into Canadian identity politics. The study emphasizes the potential for Indigenous communities to re-empower their nationhood through resurgence-based programming centered around lacrosse. The Right to Play program reaches Indigenous youth across Ontario and aims to expand into other Indigenous communities. The research stresses that empowerment lies not solely in the game of lacrosse but in its rightful context, acknowledging its traditionalism and significance to Indigenous nations. While acknowledging the short-term health benefits, the study raises concerns about exposing Indigenous youth to a game that has been appropriated, portrayed as apolitical, and commodified as 'Aboriginal.' The intention of this</p>
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							example is not to advocate for uniform replication of resurgence-based lacrosse programming but to demonstrate one potential approach grounded in the specificities of Indigenous nations. Resurgence programs should be diverse in practice and implementation, extending beyond sports and determined by the communities themselves. The author emphasizes that resurgence should emerge from within Indigenous communities and be driven by their actions and decisions.
17.	Henhawk & Norman	NA	Address the tensions and challenges surrounding Sport for Development (SFD) and environmental sustainability in the indigenous context.	Conceptual	NA	NA	The chapter explores the intersection of Indigenous perspectives, sport, and sustainability, highlighting the historical complexities and tensions within this context. It emphasizes the need to acknowledge and support Indigenous self-determination in Sport for Development (SFD) initiatives, particularly in ways that align with sustainable environmental relations. The analysis reveals opportunities for Indigenous approaches to sustainable sport recognition, sport as a means to promote cultural distinctiveness and bolster social development within Indigenous communities. By acknowledging the complicity of sport with colonialism and modern development, there is an opportunity to support Indigenous self-determination and reconcile historical injustices. Emphasizing Traditional

						<p>promoting Indigenous approaches to sport and sustainability, challenging Eurocentric notions of development and advocating for a more relational way of being in the world.</p>	<p>Ecological Knowledge and a relational way of being can foster better understanding of ecological processes and promote more sustainable relationships between people and nature. Moving forward there is a critical need to prioritize Indigenous perspectives in Sport for Development initiatives and shift towards a more holistic and healing approach to sustainability.</p>	
18.	Hapeta et al.	NA	They argue that sport for social change practices focused on Indigenous peoples would be greatly improved if informed by and Indigenous worldview, they offer a set of principles - perspective, privilege, policy, protection and people which could underpin SFD – sport for social changes practices in light of IP	Conceptual and Qualitative	Interview & focus group	Thematic Analyses	<p>The research focuses on two "plus-sport" approaches - the Feats' MPRA with a rugby-based Sport for Development program for Indigenous (Māori) youth and the ETTMRD (Elite Te Ranga Tahī Māori Rugby Development) for Māori youth. The results show that both programs implemented values and cultural identity affirmations effectively, leading to positive outcomes. The youth demonstrated resilience, improved well-being, and developed leadership qualities. The majority of participants had clear</p>	<p>The conclusion of the article highlights how Māori, and Pasifika youth have transformed their leadership journeys through the five waypoints. The research demonstrates the positive impact of rugby initiatives guiding youth towards positive pathways in education, employment, and self-determination. It emphasizes the importance of Indigenous perspectives in sport for social change (SFD) research and practice and calls for more Indigenous scholars and researchers to contribute to the field. The conclusion also acknowledges the challenges of translating</p>

						pathways, including rugby aspirations, education, and skilled trades.	Indigenous knowledge and the need to indigenize theories used in SFD. Overall, the article suggests adopting an "Indigenous plus" approach to deeper practices and create more meaningful connections. encourages including Indigenous voices in the development within SFD and proposes the possibility of a special issue on the subject.	
19.	McDonald et al.	NA	This study aims to examine the positive role of sport in building social cohesion and generating social and cultural capital for young Pasifika men. In addition, the research aims to critique the disciplinary discourse imposed on Pacific Island men in the context of post-colonial, neoliberal Australia.	LR	NA	Document Analyses	The paper presents findings that highlight the positive role of sport in fostering social cohesion and the accumulation of social and cultural capital among young Pasifika men. It sheds light on the disciplinary discourse prevalent in post-colonial, neoliberal Australia, which subjects Pacific Island men to bio-racism and commodification. As a consequence, there is a disproportionate representation of Pasifika men in sectors such as rugby codes, manual labor, the security industry, and the prison system. The study particularly focuses	The research underscores the significant impact of sport on social cohesion and the accumulation of social and cultural capital for young Pasifika men. However, it also highlights the insidious effects of disciplinary power, bio-racism, and commodification that marginalize Pasifika communities within the post-colonial, neoliberal Australian context. The paper emphasizes the need for critical examination of the naturalization of certain spaces within the sport domain and the necessity of challenging the neoliberal paradigms that perpetuate these dynamics.

							<p>on the naturalization of certain spaces and the ways in which Pasifika individuals come to occupy these spaces, thereby obscuring the regulatory and exploitative functions of sports. Instead, sports are often portrayed as platforms for individualism and self-governance, perpetuating neoliberal ideologies. The paper coins the term 'sportfare' to describe how these circumstances divert Pasifika individuals from conventional working-class opportunities.</p>	
20.	Millington et al.	NA	The purpose of this study is to explore the tensions and discourses surrounding the extractive industry's funding and implementation of sport for development (SFD) programs in Indigenous communities in Canada.	QL (Commentary and Interviews)	Interviews	Thematic Analyses	<p>From these interviews, three overarching discourses emerged in relation to the extractives industries role in promoting development through sport: SFD is a catalyst to positive relationships between industry and community, SFD is a contributor to social good in Indigenous communities, and extractives industry funding of SFD is socially responsible.</p>	<p>The paper explores discourses used by extractives industry executives funding sport for development (SFD) in Indigenous communities through CSR. Key findings show discourses of positive change, social good, and social responsibility. Conclusions: Acknowledged power relations in SFD partnerships, question sport's true impact, and critically assess program implementation. Urges ethical, equitable, and</p>

								sustainable approaches in SFD initiatives.
21.	Paraschak & Heine	NA	The point of this chapter is to investigate what advantages might accrue from this shift of perspective.	Conceptual	NA	NA	The chapter emphasizes that Indigenous traditional physical activities, particularly land-based cultural practices, hold significant potential for incorporation within Sport for Development (SDP) programs. These land-focused activities can foster a cooperative and land-centered logic that aligns with the physical activity practices of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. By encouraging time outdoors and promoting connections to the land, these activities directly address the issue of weakening bonds between mainstream Canadian youth and the natural environment. Moreover, they offer an alternative to the competition-based logic often associated with mainstream sports, validating a less mediated environment for physical activity, akin to nature's settings. The case study of Dene and Inuvialuit	In conclusion, this chapter highlights the potential transformative power of incorporating Indigenous traditional physical activities in SDP initiatives. By centering physical activity practices around the land, these programs can affirm and strengthen Indigenous cultural identities while fostering a connection to the environment. This approach offers a promising model for SDP initiatives seeking to promote ecological awareness and long-term commitment to addressing environmental degradation. Acknowledging the inherent strengths of Indigenous cultures and their attachment to the land is crucial in reclaiming and confirming cultural identities, particularly in contexts of marginalization and displacement. Moving away from a competitive framework and embracing land-centered activities not only benefits Indigenous peoples but also has broad implications for mainstream

						traditional cultures in the Canadian Territories illustrates how ecological embeddedness of Indigenous practices can shift the focus to ecological relations as a confirmation of cultural practices and identities.	Canadian youth, fostering deeper appreciation for nature and sustainable practices. Ultimately, the integration of Indigenous traditional physical activity in SDP programs holds potential for fostering meaningful partnerships a positive social change, promoting a more inclusive culturally sensitive, and ecologically conscious approach to sport and physical activity.	
22.	Whitau & Ockerby	Shooting Stars program & Weekly Netball Program	This paper presents the evaluation protocols for the Shooting Stars program, focusing on the yarning circles methods to provide a framework or model of Indigenous evaluation methods for others working within this space.	Qualitative	Yarning circles	Thematic Analyses	The results of the yarning circles were shared internally or with key stakeholders (schools, funding bodies, steering committees) under strict confidentiality agreements. In August 2018, a formal ethics approval was sought from, and granted by, the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, so that the results of the research could be publicly disseminated moving forward.	The conclusion highlights the methods used in the research, which are predominantly based on Indigenous principles and practices, while also incorporating non-Indigenous data collection and processing methods. The research process is flexible and open to negotiation with all stakeholders involved including Shooting Stars staff, steering committee and participants. Yarning circles are emphasized as a culturally responsive way to evaluate program success and tailor Sport for Development and Peace programs to local

contexts. These circles not only provide a platform for program evaluation but also give voice and self-determination to the participants. The ten steps presented in the research can be applied to any sport and delivered by any coach, but cultural competency training is required for non-Indigenous staff, and all staff members need support in applying the theoretical framework of relatedness. The conclusion encourages other organizations to adapt the methods to their specific circumstances and highlighting the importance of building strong relationships between facilitators and participants throughout the yarning process. Overall, the research promotes a collaborative and culturally sensitive approach to Sport for Development and Peace programs, especially when working with Indigenous communities.

23.	Koch et al.	Sport-for-development program & Weekly Floor Hockey Games	This urban ethnography explores how a group of men experiencing homelessness	QL (Discourse Analysis)	Interviews	Discourse Analysis	Our analysis revealed how these weekly sporting interludes served as convivial, safe, and consistent events that	This article explores the existence of socially beneficial networks among men experiencing homelessness in Edmonton
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			collectively produced an economy of moral worth and socially beneficial labor within and through a weekly sport-for-development program in the distinct settler-colonial context of Edmonton, Alberta.				nurtured the development of long-term meaningful relationships with other participants and social workers, as well as a genuine sense of community. The weekly floor hockey matches were, thus, powerful sites in the broader struggle for what David Snow and Leon Anderson (1993) have called salvaging the self for men who embodied a repertoire of trauma and who are regularly positioned as morally devalued subjects who lacked personal responsibility and self-governance.	through a floor hockey program. The program nurtures community, companionship, and solidarity among participants, offering support in the face of hardships and loneliness. However, the program faced challenges and changes due to government funding cuts resulting in the need for nonprofit operation and reduced security. Despite obstacles, the program continues to provide hope and an alternative to the neoliberal city's unforgiving terrain.
24.	Millinton et al.	NA	The objective of this study is to explore the intersection of sport for development (SFD), corporate social responsibility (CSR), and sustainable development within Indigenous communities in Canada, particularly in the context of extractive industry operations.	QL (Commentary)	Document Analyses	Document Analyses	<p>Results:</p> <p>The study identified three key sustainable development discourses mobilized by Rio Tinto in its online materials:</p> <p>Extractivism can contribute to sustainable development, including environmental protection and remediation.</p> <p>Sport-based CSR can contribute to sustainable development.</p>	The findings suggest that Rio Tinto actively employs sustainable development discourses in its online materials to portray itself as an environmentally responsible company. The company's commitment to environmental protection and remediation strategies aligns with broader sustainability efforts, which include promoting sustainable development within Indigenous communities

Community and economic development are key to sustainability.

Rio Tinto positioned itself as a leader in sustainable development, highlighting its commitment to addressing climate change and its effects. The company recognized that human activities largely contribute to climate change and pledged to adapt to its impacts. Rio Tinto aligned itself with the Paris Agreement's goals, aiming to limit the global temperature rise to below 2°C. The company committed to significant decarbonization of its business by 2050, asserting that it provides means and opportunities to tackle environmental and human development challenges, such as climate change and poverty. Rio Tinto argued that its actions contribute to the transition to sustainable development, emphasizing collaboration between companies, governments, and society to advocate for environmentally effective,

northern Canada through CSR initiatives. Rio Tinto use of these discourses aimed to position itself as a leader in sustainable development and align its actions with global environmental goals such as those outlined in the Paris Agreement. However, it is essential to critically assess the actual outcomes and impacts of the company's CSR commitments on Indigenous communities and the environment to ensure genuine progress toward sustainable development.

							economically efficient, and equitable policies.	
25.	Sugden et al.	Rugby union and Association football (soccer).	The authors explore intergroup relations in the context of Fiji, a country which in recent years has moved from a society characterized by the politics of coups to a democratic government and relatively peaceful social relations.	QL (Interviews)	Interviews	Process of induction	<p>The study's findings revealed that rugby in Fiji is perceived as a sport controlled and protected by indigenous Fijians, leading to separatism. Ethno-racial stereotypes and prejudice have resulted in barriers for Indo-Fijians to participate fully in rugby. The sport is considered an indigenous space, and even though there are some Indo-Fijians playing, they often face difficulties and discrimination.</p> <p>On the other hand, soccer in Fiji has historically been seen as an "Indian" sport, and the majority of staff and officials in the Fijian Football Association are Indo-Fijian. Soccer's governance issues, lack of government support, and alleged corruption have caused criticism. However, soccer has also provided a space for shared participation and inter-ethnic friendships. In some areas with a high Indo-Fijian population, soccer has fostered inter-ethnic</p>	In this paper, the authors introduced the Intergroup Relations Continuum (IRC) model to study intergroup relations in sports. The model allows sports to be positioned on a spectrum from conflict to harmony providing insights into how sports influence intergroup relations in different contexts. The study focuses on Fiji, a society with ethnic cultural divisions evident in rugby and soccer.

						<p>camaraderie and language interchange, providing opportunities for indigenous players to learn Hindi and engage in Indian culture.</p> <p>In summary, rugby in Fiji has been associated with separatism and exclusion, while soccer has shown potential for integration and shared participation, despite its hierarchical nuances. Sport can have both positive and negative impacts on intergroup relations in Fiji, depending on the context and sport's governance and history. The Intergroup Relations Continuum (IRC) model can help visualize and understand the different dynamics of intergroup relations in sports.</p>		
26.	Lucas et al.	NA	The objective of this study is to critically examine Sport for Development (SFD) policies and programming targeting Indigenous Australians. The study aims to broaden the discussion surrounding the use of sport as a	Narrative literature review	NA	Narrative literature review	<p>The results of this literature review indicate that research on Sport for Development (SFD) initiatives targeting Indigenous Australians has primarily focused on evidencing the positive impact of sport, while lacking substantive critical analysis of its use in policy</p>	<p>The conclusion of the research note emphasizes the need for future research to privilege the voices of Indigenous Australians to capture their lived realities and better understand the potential role of sport in addressing levels of disadvantage. It calls for a shift away from merely</p>

			development tool in Australia's Indigenous communities by considering perspectives within SFD literature that have received limited attention in existing policy and research approaches.				and practice. The existing research has also largely overlooked broader issues associated with SFD in marginalized communities, and policy approaches in Australia tend to depoliticize and present SFD as a neutral administrative space.	producing evidence and towards a broader discussion on how SFD can be more inclusive and responsive to the needs and perspectives of Indigenous communities.
27.	Lucas & O'Connor	NA	The objective of this study is to critically examine Sport for Development (SFD) policies targeting Indigenous Australians. The research aims to investigate the specific policy approaches underpinning SFD programs that aim to achieve Closing the Gap (CTG) outcomes, which refer to the government's efforts to reduce disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in areas such as health, education, and employment.	QL (Ethnography)	Interviews	Thematic discourse analysis	The study presents its findings on the range of policy 'problems' associated with the use of sport to achieve CTG outcomes. It reveals a policy approach underpinned by the 'power of sport' narrative, with roots from the colonial era. The research also questions how sport may be understood for Indigenous Australians and whether certain policy 'problems' represent a new form of resistance.	The research concludes by calling for more Indigenous-led research to challenge potentially harmful narratives surrounding SFD for Indigenous Australians. This recommendation is aimed at promoting a more culturally sensitive and inclusive approach to SFD policy and practice.

28.	Sheppard et al.	NA	This article examines whether cultural offsetting using sport is feasible and/or desirable.	QT (Survey)	Survey	NA	The study revealed that despite efforts to use Sport for Development (SfD) programs as cultural offsets, they often perpetuated colonial methodologies, failing to address the needs and aspirations of Indigenous peoples. Instead, Indigenous communities adapted sports to their own cultural contexts, resisting assimilationist pressures and reclaiming agency over their identities.	This study delved into the concept of sport as a cultural offset against the impacts of colonization, particularly examining Indigenous perspectives in Australia. It questioned whether non-Indigenous sports perpetuated colonial agendas and explored how Indigenous resistance manifests within sports programs. Through a decolonizing lens and Indigenous Ways of Knowing, the research highlighted the nuanced experiences of injustice faced by Indigenous athletes and youth, emphasizing the role of sport in maintaining cultural resilience amidst ongoing colonization.
29.	Essa et al.	Right to Play & Week-Long Aboriginal Youth PLAY Program (Multi-Sport)	This article examines the field of sport for development (SFD) while considering Indigenous resurgence amidst Canada's neoliberal settler-colonial landscape. While sharing challenges encountered within their practice, program staff from the	QL (Commentary)	Interviews	Thematic Analyses	There are three emergent themes, the adoption of which appeared essential for transforming the sector in recognition of Indigenous resurgence: growth and pace; Indigenous agency and knowledge; and political engagement. Grounded in settler colonialism and resurgence, this paper also	The conclusion of this article focuses on three themes perceived as obstacles in Sport for Development (SFD) programs with Indigenous peoples. These themes include a culture of competitiveness and a funding mentality that prioritize growth and numbers, lack of community and youth-led programming resulting in the reproduction

			Promoting Life-skills in Aboriginal Youth program revealed high levels of constructive self-criticism and reflexivity.			reflects on the field of SFD and what it would mean to decolonize the practice.	of depoliticized and de-indigenized sport, and the need for a more politically engaged approach to address inequalities and social justice issues.
30.	Millington et al.	NA	The objective of this study is to explore the sponsorship of sport for development (SFD) programs in Indigenous communities in Canada by oil, gas, and mining companies, collectively referred to as the "extractives industry."	QL (Commentary)	Interviews	The study analyzed the corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability documents of Goldcorp, Rio Tinto, and Imperial Oil. These companies employed discourses that emphasized the positive social impact of sport, presenting it as a tool for empowering local youth and communities, and contributing to education and health outcomes. Through funding Sport for Development (SFD) programs, supporting sport development initiatives, and investing in sporting infrastructure, the companies aimed to portray themselves as beneficial members of the community. However, the analysis did not address the potential negative impacts of the companies' industrial activities. The	In conclusion, our analysis of the CSR and sustainability documents of Goldcorp, Rio Tinto, and Imperial Oil revealed a strategic use of sport to project a positive image of the companies and their contributions to the community. Sport was framed as a means to empower local youth and promote social development, creating a narrative of being socially responsible and engaged corporate citizens. However, the study raises important questions about the potential disconnect between these positive portrayals and the actual environmental and social impacts of the extractive industry.

							study further explores the implications of these discourses in the discussion section.	
31.	Fabian & Giles	NA	The study aimed to analyze how mainstream and Indigenous media in Canada portray traditional Indigenous games and their alignment with Sport for Development (SFD) ideologies.	QL Review of newspaper articles	NA	Critical discourse analysis	The study's findings underscore the prevalence of Western-centric ideologies within media representations of traditional Indigenous games, despite their divergence from mainstream sport logic. The discourse analysis illuminated a strong Sport for Development (SFD) ideology, emphasizing the need to appreciate the differences between traditional games and SFD practices for cultural and youth development. By shedding light on these discrepancies, the study calls for a reevaluation of how traditional Indigenous games are perceived and integrated into development initiatives, advocating for a more nuanced understanding that respects their cultural significance and uniqueness.	Indigenous games are often overlooked within the Sport for Development (SFD) discourse, with the focus predominantly on modern sports even in interventions aimed at Indigenous youth.

32.	Nelson et al.	NA	The objective of this study was to investigate how Otago Māori Rugby integrates Māori values to promote Māori identity and wellbeing.	QL (Editorial)	Interviews	Deductive and inductive analysis	<p>The study elucidated how Otago Māori Rugby integrates Māori values to bolster Māori identity and wellbeing within their organization. Themes derived from participant interviews highlighted the centrality of taonga tuku iho, encompassing fundamental Māori concepts such as whakapapa, language, tikanga, and identity. These themes underscored the significance of cultural values inherited from ancestors, emphasizing their transmission to future Māori athletes to nurture their identity and wellbeing alongside their sporting prowess.</p> <p>Additionally, the organization prioritized whānau and community involvement, fostering whanaungatanga and inclusivity to create a familial atmosphere where the wellbeing of athletes and community members is paramount. The remaining themes of engagement, connection to the land, mainstream cultural values, and</p>	<p>Otago Māori Rugby exemplifies an Indigenous sport organization dedicated to enhancing the wellbeing and strengthening the identity of its players in conjunction with honing their athletic skills a manifestation of a sport-for-development approach. The study underscores the vital role of Indigenous organizations like Otago Māori Rugby in the sport-for-development realm, where cultural values, identity, and wellbeing are central tenets. By prioritizing the transmission of cultural knowledge, fostering familial connections, and providing a supportive environment, such organizations offer invaluable contributions to the holistic development of Indigenous athletes and communities, showcasing the potential of Indigenous-led initiatives in fostering cultural resilience and wellbeing through sport.</p>
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							providing a safe avenue further underscored the importance of Māori cultural values for Indigenous players' identity and wellbeing in sport.	
33.	Norman et al.	NA	The objective of this study is to examine whether sport can serve as a decolonizing practice for Indigenous Peoples incarcerated in Canadian prisons.	Case studies of programmes (3) Participatory Action Research	Conceptual		The study critically examines the potential of sport as a decolonizing practice for Indigenous Peoples incarcerated in Canadian prisons. It identifies structural constraints within the settler colonial state and criminal justice system that hinder the decolonization process within these institutions. By integrating literature from various fields, the study sheds light on the complexities and limitations of utilizing sport for decolonization in an inherently colonial context.	In conclusion, while sport holds potential as a tool for decolonization within the context of Indigenous incarceration, the study highlights the significant structural barriers that impede its effectiveness.
34.	Panqueba & Carreon	NA	The objective of this study is to explore the modern rubber ballgames of Middle America, specifically focusing on the Maya	QL Interviews	Interviews	The analysis of the study focused on three main paths: contemplation,	The results of the study highlight the rediscovery and reclamation of ancestral rubber ballgames among Maya communities, shedding light on their historical and cultural	The conclusion emphasizes the enduring relevance of traditional games like the rubber ballgames among Maya communities, despite challenges such as cultural appropriation and

			region of Mexico and Guatemala.			description, and comprehension	significance. Through analyses of historical data and contemporary practices, the study elucidates how these games have been incorporated into everyday life, moving beyond stereotypes and colonial biases.	marginalization. It underscores the importance of recognizing and promoting the cultural and educational value of these games, both within indigenous communities and in broader societal contexts. Additionally, the conclusion calls for further research to better understand the complexities surrounding contemporary play and the preservation of ancestral games in the modern world.
35.	Philips & Jackson	NA	The objective of this study is to explore how waka, traditional Indigenous canoes, can serve as a culturally relevant and effective approach to water safety education, particularly within the context of Māori communities in Aotearoa, New Zealand.	Quantitative	Survey	Thematic Analyses	The results of the study highlight the significance of waka and whanaungatanga in teaching and learning Māori water safety. Participants identified that waka facilitated a whanaungatanga connection to water, emphasizing five key aspects: (a) strengthening connection to the environment, (b) building connection to people, (c) encouraging knowing and understanding of the water, (d) eliciting a sense of respect for water, and (e)	In this paper, we argued that waka as an Indigenous-play approach to SFD provides a vehicle for teaching key aspects of Māori water safety that can provide more meaningful drowning prevention for all New Zealanders Volume 11, Issue 1, May 2023 www.jsfd.org Journal of Sport for Development Phillips & Jackson whilst contributing important Indigenous scholarship to the SFD field. From a Hauteruruku perspective

promoting water confidence.

waka and whanaungatanga are vital to Māori water safety and life. The multiple iterations of whanaungatanga provide a medium for students to learn about Māori views on the water and water safety. For Hauteruruku, waka is the kaupapa, a collective vision for bringing people together and bringing people closer to Tangaroa and the water. Waka expresses their Indigenous-plus approach for Māori water safety and drowning prevention in Aotearoa, New Zealand. The findings of this paper demonstrated the “plus” aspect, whereby the kaupapa of Hauteruruku and their worldview comes first, and the outcome of Māori water safety teachings and learnings second. The premise of kaupapa, holding to the core and center of who you are, is embraced in the closing proverb,

36	Sheppard	NA	This paper reflects my experiences as a Black researcher in a dominant White 'sports' conference setting.	Conceptual	Personal Reflection based on Observations	NA	Through exploring these experiences, I ask practitioners and researchers in sport to embrace and listen to mob's knowledge and concerns about SfD programs in Australia so that we might genuinely progress towards a time where Indigenous knowledges are honoured in research and practice. Writing this paper and reflecting upon my experiences as a Black researcher raising Black voices and concerns about sports for development at a sports-focused conference predominantly attended by White delegates in Australia was necessary. Listening to non-Indigenous researchers spruiking the benefits of sport and SfD programs; not critically	Challenging the research status quo resulted in non-Indigenous researchers, practitioners and experts in sport, sports for development, and physical education closing their ears to Indigenous Ways of Knowing. Therefore, I urge non-Indigenous researchers, practitioners, and experts in sport, SfD, and PE to reflect and contemplate upon their lifeworld experiences, and question the pervading belief in the power of sport and purported ability to solve issues in our communities—by listening and learning reciprocally to the concerns of mob surrounding SfD as presented by Black researchers—particularly when it involves interventions that impact real people (Donnelly et al 2011) so that we might genuinely progress towards a time where
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							engaging with the needs, wants, and concerns of mob; and rejecting the concerns of	Indigenous knowledges a honoured in research and practice.
							the local justice group who outlined a possible solution showed White bias—where the concept of truth continues to be constructed via White discourses to reinforce colonial hegemonies, centre ‘Western knowledges and reinforce these cultural norms within knowledge production’ (Shay et al., 2022, p. 3).	
37.	Sheppard et al.	NA	The objective of this study is to explore how Indigenous peoples in Australia utilize sport as a means of cultural resistance and empowerment in the face of colonization.	Conceptual	NA	NA	The study revealed that despite efforts to use Sport for Development (SfD) programs as cultural offsets, they often perpetuated colonial methodologies, failing to address the needs and aspirations of Indigenous peoples. Instead, Indigenous communities adapted sports to their own cultural contexts, resisting assimilationist pressures and reclaiming agency over their identities.	This study delved into the concept of sport as a cultural offset against the impacts of colonization, particularly examining Indigenous perspectives in Australia. It questioned whether non-Indigenous sports perpetuated colonial agendas and explored how Indigenous resistance manifests within sports programs. Through a decolonizing lens and Indigenous Ways of Knowing, the research highlighted the nuanced experiences of injustice faced by Indigenous athletes.

and youth, emphasizing the
role of sport in maintaining
cultural resilience amidst
ongoing colonization.

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Table 4. Journal publications and domains

Domain	Journal title	Frequency
Sport Management (15)	<i>Journal of Sport for Development</i>	8
	<i>International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics</i>	3
	<i>Journal of Sport Management</i>	2
	<i>European Sport Management Quarterly</i>	1
	<i>Sport Management Review</i>	1
Sociology (7)	<i>Sport in Society</i>	2
	<i>Sport, Education and Society</i>	2
	<i>Sociology of Sport Journal</i>	1
	<i>Journal of Sport and Social Issues</i>	1
	<i>International Review for the Sociology of Sport</i>	1
Leisure (3)	<i>Leisure/Loisir</i>	1
	<i>Leisure Studies</i>	1
	<i>Annals of Leisure Research</i>	1
Physical education (2)	<i>South African journal for research in sport, physical education and recreation</i>	1
	<i>Curriculum Studies in Health and Physical Education</i>	1
Indigenous scope journals (2)	<i>Settler Colonial Studies</i>	1
	<i>Journal of ethnic and migration studies</i>	1
Other (3)	<i>Evaluation and program planning</i>	1
	<i>Journal of Disability & Religion</i>	1
	<i>Journal of Contemporary Ethnography</i>	1
Books		
Sport for/and development (5)	<i>Sport, development, and environmental sustainability</i>	2
	<i>Global sport-for-development: Critical perspectives</i>	1
	<i>Beyond Sport for Development and Peace</i>	1
	<i>Routledge handbook of sport for development and peace</i>	1
TOTAL		37

1002 **Appendix A (PRISMA Step 1 – Identification) – Search equations for databases**
1003 **consulted.**

1004

1005 **SCOPUS**

1006 ("sport for development" AND ("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1007 indigeneity OR autochthon*)) OR (("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1008 indigeneity OR autochthon*) AND ((sportswoman OR sportswomen OR sport* OR athlete
1009 OR "physical activity") OR ("Development through" PRE/2 (football OR soccer OR
1010 basketball OR rugby OR "Martial arts" OR cycling OR cricket OR dance OR hockey OR
1011 golf OR handball OR lacrosse OR swimming OR tennis OR frisbee OR volleyball OR
1012 "Water polo" OR boxing OR "physical activity" OR multisport* OR athletic* OR netball
1013 OR running OR baseball OR surfing)) OR "sport for gender" OR "sport-based program*"
1014 OR "physical activity program*" OR "sport program*" OR "sport for social") AND ("role
1015 model" OR colonial* OR coloniz* OR colonis* OR decoloni* OR postcoloni* OR "social
1016 control" OR "social change" OR "social affordance" OR "social development" OR "social
1017 justice" OR "social good" OR "social outcomes" OR "social policy" OR "community
1018 outcomes" OR peace OR justice OR "indigenous self-determination" OR "aborigin* self-
1019 determination" OR "gender equality" OR "gender inequality" OR "community
1020 development" OR racism OR racist OR stereotypes OR neoliberal* OR sexism OR sexist
1021 OR "nation-building" OR nationhood OR "youth development" OR "life skills" OR "crime
1022 reduction" OR "Closing the Gap" OR "right to play" OR "cultural maintenance" OR
1023 psychosocial OR settler OR "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" OR "Youth Hockey
1024 Development" OR reconciliation OR "social work" OR "at-risk youth" OR "social
1025 integration" OR "social inclusion" OR "social exclusion" OR "gender equity" OR "gender
1026 inequity" OR "equity policy" OR citizenship OR marginalized OR "social connection"))

1027 Searched in TI, AB, KW

1028 **593 results + 80 secondary documents (2000-)**

1029 **TOTAL: 664 results** (after removed intern duplicates) (2000- july 1st 2024)

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1031 **SPORTDISCUS (EBSCO)**

1032 ("sport for development" AND ("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1033 indigeneity OR autochthon*)) OR (("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1034 indigeneity OR autochthon*) AND ((sportswoman OR sportswomen OR sport* OR athlete
1035 OR "physical activit*") OR ("Development through" W2 (football OR soccer OR
1036 basketball OR rugby OR "Martial arts" OR cycling OR cricket OR dance OR hockey OR
1037 golf OR handball OR lacrosse OR swimming OR tennis OR frisbee OR volleyball OR
1038 "Water polo" OR boxing OR "physical activit*" OR multisport* OR athletic* OR netball
1039 OR running OR baseball OR surfing)) OR "sport for gender" OR "sport-based program*"

1040 OR "physical activity program*" OR "sport program*" OR "sport for social") AND ("role
1041 model" OR "role models" OR colonial* OR coloniz* OR colonis* OR decoloni* OR
1042 postcoloni* OR "social control" OR "social chang*" OR "social affordance" OR "social
1043 development" OR "social justice" OR "social good" OR "social outcome" OR "social
1044 outcomes" OR "social policy" OR "social policies" OR "community outcomes" OR
1045 "community outcome" OR peace OR justice OR "indigenous self-determination" OR
1046 "aborigin* self-determination" OR "gender equalit*" OR "gender inequalit*" OR
1047 "community development*" OR racism OR racist OR stereotypes OR neoliberal* OR
1048 sexism OR sexist OR "nation-building" OR nationhood OR "youth development" OR "life
1049 skill" OR "life skills" OR "crime reduction" OR "Closing the Gap" OR "right to play" OR
1050 "cultural maintenance" OR psychosocial OR settler OR "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" OR
1051 "Youth Hockey Development" OR reconciliation OR "social work*" OR "at-risk youth"
1052 OR "social integration" OR "social inclusion" OR "social exclusion" OR "gender equity"
1053 OR "gender inequity" OR "equity policy" OR "equity policies" OR citizenship OR
1054 marginalized OR "social connection*"))

1055 Searched in TI, AB, KW et SU

1056 **270 results**

1057 **236 (academic reviews, reports, books, thesis)**

1058 **TOTAL: 208 results** (2000- july 1st 2024)

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1060 **ERIC**

1061 subject:((sport* OR football OR soccer OR basketball OR rugby OR "Martial arts" OR
1062 cycling OR cricket OR dance OR hockey OR golf OR handball OR lacrosse OR swimming
1063 OR tennis OR volleyball OR "Water polo" OR boxing OR multisport* OR athletic* OR
1064 netball OR jogging OR baseball OR surfing) AND ("first nations" OR aborigin* OR
1065 indigenous OR indigeneity OR autochthon* OR colonial* OR coloniz* OR colonis* OR
1066 decoloni* OR postcoloni*))

1067 183 results

1068 **TOTAL: 181 results** (2000- july 1st 2024)

1069 -----

1070 **SocINDEX (EBSCO)**

1071 ("sport for development" AND ("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1072 indigeneity OR autochthon*)) OR (("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1073 indigeneity OR autochthon*) AND ((sportswoman OR sportswomen OR sport* OR athlete
1074 OR "physical activit*")) OR ("Development through" W2(football OR soccer OR
1075 basketball OR rugby OR "Martial arts" OR cycling OR cricket OR dance OR hockey OR
1076 golf OR handball OR lacrosse OR swimming OR tennis OR frisbee OR volleyball OR

1077 "Water polo" OR boxing OR "physical activit*" OR multisport* OR athletic* OR netball
1078 OR running OR baseball OR surfing)) OR "sport for gender" OR "sport-based program*"
1079 OR "physical activity program*" OR "sport program*" OR "sport for social") AND ("role
1080 model" OR "role models" OR colonial* OR coloniz* OR colonis* OR decoloni* OR
1081 postcoloni* OR "social control" OR "social chang*" OR "social affordance" OR "social
1082 development" OR "social justice" OR "social good" OR "social outcome" OR "social
1083 outcomes" OR "social policy" OR "social policies" OR "community outcomes" OR
1084 "community outcome" OR peace OR justice OR "indigenous self-determination" OR
1085 "aborigin* self-determination" OR "gender equalit*" OR "gender inequalit*" OR
1086 "community development*" OR racism OR racist OR stereotypes OR neoliberal* OR
1087 sexism OR sexist OR "nation-building" OR nationhood OR "youth development" OR "life
1088 skill" OR "life skills" OR "crime reduction" OR "Closing the Gap" OR "right to play" OR
1089 "cultural maintenance" OR psychosocial OR settler OR "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" OR
1090 "Youth Hockey Development" OR reconciliation OR "social work*" OR "at-risk youth"
1091 OR "social integration" OR "social inclusion" OR "social exclusion" OR "gender equity"
1092 OR "gender inequity" OR "equity policy" OR "equity policies" OR citizenship OR
1093 marginalized OR "social connection*"))

1094 Searched in TI, AB, KW et SU

1095

1096 **143 rés.**

1097 **138 (academic review, books, critics)**

1098 **TOTAL : 135 results** (2000- july 1st 2024)

1099 -----

1100 **SOCIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS (PROQUEST)**

1101 Remplacer W2 par PRE/2. Prend troncature dans les guillemets.

1102 ("sport for development" AND ("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1103 indigeneity OR autochthon*)) OR (("first nations" OR aborigin* OR indigenous OR
1104 indigeneity OR autochthon*) AND ((sportswoman OR sportswomen OR sport* OR athlete
1105 OR "physical activit*")) OR ("Development through" PRE/2 (football OR soccer OR
1106 basketball OR rugby OR "Martial arts" OR cycling OR cricket OR dance OR hockey OR
1107 golf OR handball OR lacrosse OR swimming OR tennis OR frisbee OR volleyball OR
1108 "Water polo" OR boxing OR "physical activit*" OR multisport* OR athletic* OR netball
1109 OR running OR baseball OR surfing)) OR "sport for gender" OR "sport-based program*"
1110 OR "physical activity program*" OR "sport program*" OR "sport for social") AND ("role
1111 model" OR "role models" OR colonial* OR coloniz* OR colonis* OR decoloni* OR
1112 postcoloni* OR "social control" OR "social chang*" OR "social affordance" OR "social
1113 development" OR "social justice" OR "social good" OR "social outcome" OR "social
1114 outcomes" OR "social policy" OR "social policies" OR "community outcomes" OR

1115 "community outcome" OR peace OR justice OR "indigenous self-determination" OR
1116 "aborigin* self-determination" OR "gender equalit*" OR "gender inequalit*" OR
1117 "community development*" OR racism OR racist OR stereotypes OR neoliberal* OR
1118 sexism OR sexist OR "nation-building" OR nationhood OR "youth development" OR "life
1119 skill" OR "life skills" OR "crime reduction" OR "Closing the Gap" OR "right to play" OR
1120 "cultural maintenance" OR psychosocial OR settler OR "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" OR
1121 "Youth Hockey Development" OR reconciliation OR "social work*" OR "at-risk youth"
1122 OR "social integration" OR "social inclusion" OR "social exclusion" OR "gender equity"
1123 OR "gender inequity" OR "equity policy" OR "equity policies" OR citizenship OR
1124 marginalized OR "social connection*"))

1125 Searched everywhere (except integral text (NOFT))

1126 **248 results (academic reviews, thesis, books, conferences)**

1127 **TOTAL: 231 results** (2000- july 1st 2024)

1128 =====

1129 =====

1130 **FINAL TOTAL = 1422**

1131 **After duplicate removed from EndNote: 995**

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**Appendix B (PRISMA Step 4 – Extraction) – List of final references extracted
(N=37).**

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STUDIES REJECTED (n=5)

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EDITORIAL, COMMENTARY, REPORTS

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(WITHOUT EMPIRICAL OUTCOMES)

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STUDIES REJECTED (n=33)

**ABOUT SPORT-PHYSICAL ACTIVITY-TRADITIONAL GAMES
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(WITHOUT SDP or SFD MENTIONED)**

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STUDIES REJECTED (n=9)
(WITHOUT INDIGEOUS PEOPLE OR SFD-SDP SCOPE)

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STUDIES REJECTED (n=4)
(OUT OF THE SCOPE or NO ONLINE ACCESS)

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1451 **Appendix C (PRISMA Step 2 – Screening) – Coding index per databases**
1452 **according to the 7 inclusion criteria**

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Step 2 – Screening

- 1455 • Total No. of references analyzed (All databases combined + additional references):
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- 1457 • No. of duplicates removed: 424
- 1458 • No. of records screened at title/abstract level: 1028
- 1459 • No. of irrelevant records excluded by applying criteria: 936
- 1460 • No. of full-text articles assessed for eligibility: 92
- 1461 • No. of additional references excluded: 4
- 1462 • No. of references selected: 88

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Step 3 – Eligibility

- 1464 • No. of references analyzed: 88
- 1465 • No. of references selected: 37
- 1466 • No. of references rejected: 51

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Step 4 – Extraction

- 1468 • Number of references for eligibility analysis: 37
- 1469 • Number of references rejected: 0
- 1470 • Number of references for inclusion and extraction: 37

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Appendix D - Assessment of the quality of the studies

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1. Qualitative studies (CASP checklist for Qualitative studies¹⁰)

Reference	Research Design				Results			Results Ethics & Analysis		
	Clear aim of research	Is a qualitative methodology appropriate?	Was the research design appropriate to address the aims of the research?	Was the recruitment strategy appropriate to the aims of the research?	Was the data collected in a way that addressed the research issue?	Is there a clear statement of findings?	How valuable is the research ?	Has the relationship between the researcher and participants been adequately considered?	Have ethical issues been taken into consideration ?	Was the data analysis sufficiently rigorous?
1. Burnett	+	+	+	NA	+	=	=	NA	NA	=
2. Lindsey & Grattan	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	=	+
3. Mwaanga & Banda	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NA	=	+
4. Mwaanga & Mwansa	+	+	+	=	+	+	+	NA	NA	NA
5. Hayhurst et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
6. Rossi	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
7. Gartner-Manzon & Giles	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
8. Halsall & Fornesis	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
9. Hayhurst et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
10. Kope & Arellano	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

¹⁰ <https://casp-uk.net/checklists/casp-qualitative-studies-checklist-fillable.pdf>

11.	MacIntosh et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
12.	Rynne	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
14.	Arellano et al. (2018)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
16.	Arellano et al. (2019)	+	+	+	=	-	+	+	+	+	+	=
17.	Henhawk & Norman	+	+	+	NA	+	=	=	NA	NA	NA	NA
18.	Hapeta et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
19.	McDonald et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
20.	Millington et al.	+	+	+	NA	+	+	+	NA	NA	+	+
21.	Paraschak & Heine	+	=	+	=	+	=	=	NA	NA	NA	NA
22.	Whitau & Ockerby	+	+	+	+	+	=	=	+	+	+	+
23.	Koch et al.	+	+	+	+	+	=	=	+	=	-	-
24.	Millington et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
25.	Sugden et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	=	+	+
27.	Lucas & O'Connor	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	NA	NA	+	+
28.	Sheppard et al.	+	+	+	=	+	=	=	NA	NA	+	+
29.	Essa et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	=	+	+
30.	Millington et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	=	=

31.	Fabian & Giles	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	=	NA	+
32.	Nelson et al.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+
33.	Norman et al.	+	+	+	+	+	=	=	+	NA	=
34.	Panqueba & Carreon	+	+	+	=	+	+	+	+	-	-
35.	Phillips & Jackson	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
36.	Sheppard	=	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	+	NA	NA
37.	Sheppard et al.	+	+	+	-	+	=	=	-	-	-

1475 Legend: + Yes, = Can't tell, - No, NA not applicable

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2. Reviews studies (CASP checklist for Systematic review studies¹¹)

Reference	Results of review valid	Validity of results			Assess quality of included studies	Results combined	Results		Results help locally		
		Look for the right papers	Worth continuing	Overall results of the review			How precise	Application on local population	Important outcomes	Benefits worth harms and costs	
13. Gardam et al.	+	+	+	-	+	+	NA	+	+	+	
15. Giles et al.	+	=	-	-	=	=	NA	+	=	+	
26. Lucas et al.	+	+	+	-	-	-	NA	+	-	+	

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Legend: + Yes, = Can't tell, - No, NA not applicable

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¹¹ <https://casp-uk.net/checklists/casp-systematic-review-checklist-fillable.pdf>

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