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**ADVOCATES FOR NATIONAL RECREATION
SERVICES IN THE 1930'S WELL-BEING?
WORK? WAR?**

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This paper documents the efforts and impact of influential groups and individuals on the provision of recreation (including physical activity) services at the federal government level in Canada in the 1930's. The most evident efforts were the unsuccessful bid to establish a National Ministry of Sports (including recreation) in 1937 and the successful work to include recreation services as part of the Youth Training programs of the late 1930's. Groups which were studied include the National Council of Women, The Canadian National Parks Association, the Canadian Council on Child Welfare, the Canadian Physical Education Association, and others whose efforts focused on the Canadian political scene and the practitioners' domain. Also influential, although indirectly, was the US based Playgrounds and Recreation Association of America. Individuals in the study include J.J. Kelso, Charlotte Whitton, W. Bowie, Ian Eisenhardt, and others who occasionally worked within the structure of organized groups. The visible endeavors of these groups and individuals were preceded by almost a decade of work which has been the subject of little past research - this paper documents and analyzes the materials that fill that gap.
