

# Inspire, Motivate, Move.

# Why FitSpirit ?

Did you know that 9 out of 10 girls fail to meet Canadian exercise guidelines by the time they graduate high school\*.



\* Physical activity of Canadian children and youth: Accelerometer results from the 2007 to 2009 Canadian Health Measures Survey



# FitSpirit is reversing the trend

FitSpirit is helping teenage girls to be physically active throughout their lives by creating unforgettable experiences for them and by building a community of inspirational, committed individuals around them.



# Believing in yourself

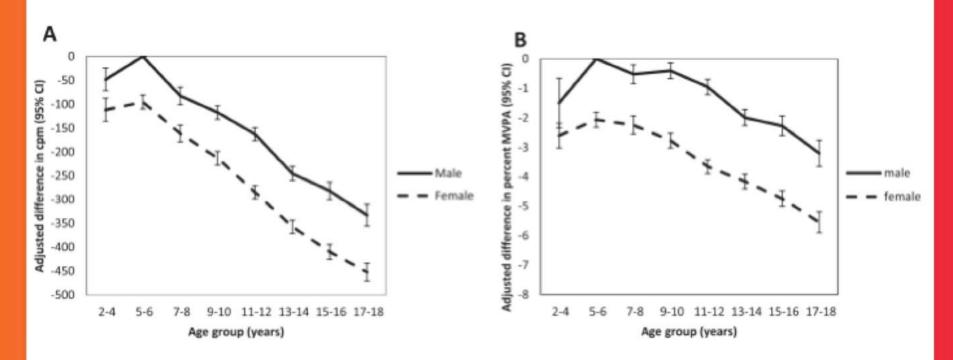
Supporting one another

Surpassing your limits

Having fun



## How are girls doing?



Total Physical Activity

#### Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity



Cooper et al. IJBNPA (2015)

# **Same but different?**





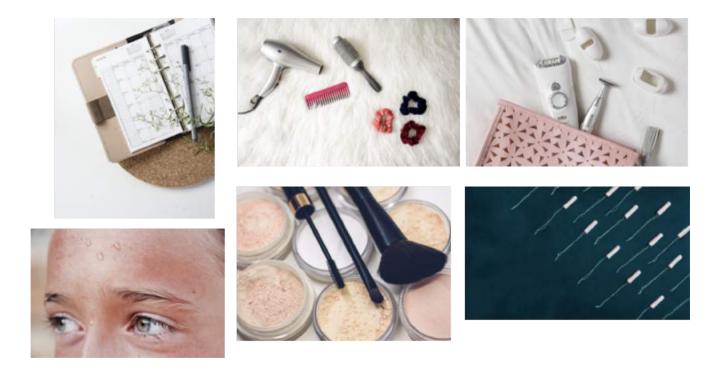
# **Barriers specific to Teenage Girls**

# **Barriers - Self-efficacy**

- Sense of competence (real or perceived)
- Lack of physical or motor skills
- Activities that are difficult to master
- Stress related
  performance
- Being forced to perform in front of their peers



#### **Barriers – Everyday Life**





### Media message



**FITSPIRIT** 

Photo by Clem Onojeghuo on Unsplash

# **Other Barriers**

- Presence of boys
- Discrimination from teachers / coaches
- Bad experiences
- Intimidation
- Limitations from parents













### **Favorable factors**

#### **Favorable factors – Friendships**

- Opportunities to socialize, consolidate social network
- Between girl friends
- Sense of community





#### **Favorable factors – Role models**

- Feeling that they belong with their peers
- Female role models
- Organized by girls, for girls





## **Favorable factors - The activities**

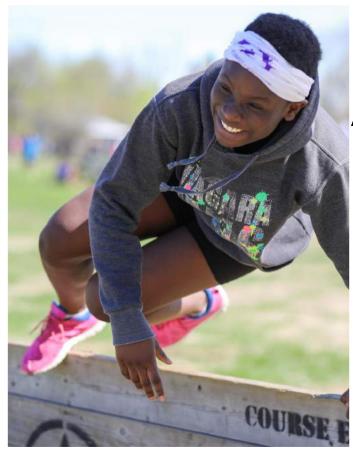
- Mandatory vs voluntary/optional
- Participation vs competition
- FUN activity
- Various offer
- Receive approval from parents / important adult
- Act as soon as possible to develop girls' motor skills through active and free play, outdoor play



# Context of FitSpirit Activities and Events



## **Non-competitive activities**



#### Success Accomplishment Performance

#### = PLEASURE

We forget the stop watch!

# **Inclusion and acceptance**

Every girl should feel welcome to a FitSpirit activity, regardless of:

- How they dress
- Their look and style
- Their skill level
- Culture and religion
- Performance level, and physical condition
- Their body weight





# **FitSpirit Celebrations**





# **FitSpirit in the Schools**

#### Partner schools have access to a variety of services and privileges\*, including:

- A discounted rate on events organized by FitSpirit (the FitSpirit Celebrations and the FitSpirit Rendezvous);
- Promotional items and authorization to use the FitSpirit brand to promote "by girls and for girls" activities;
- The possibility of three visits per year from FitSpirit Ambassadors, depending on availability;
- Ongoing support from a FitSpirit Coordinator;
- A Web portal to help manage the school's FitSpirit activities;
- Free access to FitSpirit Program Leaders and Student Leaders training activities;



# **FitSpirit training sessions**



- Sudbury, November 14
- Toronto East, November 25, 2019
- Toronto West, November 28, 2019
- Windsor, December 5, 2019
- Webinar, January 21, 2020 (French)
- Webinar, January 23, 2020 (English)
- Ottawa, January 2019 date TBD

The goal is to raise awareness, provide tools and motivate all the people involved in supporting girls on their path to a healthy, active lifestyle.

# **Key numbers**

- Partner Schools: 109
- Girls registered: 4139
- Ambassadors : 85
- Ambassador Visits: **168**



FITSPI

- Non-partner schools registered for the Celebration Event: 24
- Extra girls: 639++



# **FitSpirit brings girls together**





Find out more by visting FitSpirit.ca

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