



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Canadian Sport Institute Ontario and Dancer Transition Resource Centre launch website and logo for collaborative project and appoint LEAP's new Managing Director.

TORONTO, ON October 5, 2015 - Dancer Transition Resource Centre (DTRC) and Canadian Sport Institute Ontario (CSIO) are excited to launch LEAP's website and logo for our collaborative project. We are also proud to announce the appointment of Managing Director, Michael Du Maresq.

LEAP's website contains comprehensive information about our pioneering project including; our three-year plan, our vision and objectives, members of our advisory council and executive, and the 2016 International Conference. The website is also a useful resource for research, articles and links to various organizations which serve in the areas of career and life transition. Everyone is encouraged to visit and peruse the site to learn more about our exciting initiative. LEAP welcomes those interested in our project to contact us and join our communications email list for updates. LEAP's website can be found at: www.leaptransition.ca

Executive members, Amanda Hancox (DTRC) and Rolf Wagschal (CSIO) have appointed Michael Du Maresq as **LEAP's** Managing Director. He will lead the project and facilitate the work of the Advisory Council. Michael was a professional dancer, choreographer and producer for nearly 20 years. In 2006 he founded *mDm Consulting* which offers strategic planning, research and many other organizational services in the non-profit sector. Michael is an active volunteer in the dance and sport sectors. He served as board chair of Dance Umbrella of Ontario and recently volunteered as Venue Operations Manager at Toronto Coliseum for the TO2015 Pan American Games.

"Michael has been involved with this project from the beginning, so he was a natural choice to take a formal leadership role within this project," says CSIO's Athlete Career Transition Advisor, Rolf Wagschal. *"In the short time since he came on board, he has had an overwhelmingly positive effect in driving forward the project's community outreach and in the branding of **LEAP**."*

Adds DTRC Executive Director, Amanda Hancox, *"Michael's combined passion for dance and sport, coupled with his strategic planning and management skills, have already created a wonderful synergy between our two organizations, our communities and our joint Advisory Council."*

"I am thrilled to be leading this pioneering venture," says Michael Du Maresq. *"**LEAP's** collaborative spirit and mandate to forge strategic partnerships and networks between sport and dance is visionary. I look forward to working with both sectors and helping to build stronger systems and structures that support our exceptional performers."*

Leading Edge After Performance, LEAP— is a collaborative project with principal partners Dancer Transition Resource Centre (DTRC) and Canadian Sport Institute Ontario (CSIO). **LEAP** is a unique, pioneering venture that brings together two distinct sectors, Dance and Sport with strikingly similar issues in the area of career and life transition for performers. This project enables both sectors to share knowledge, best practices, delivery models, outreach strategies and networks from their communities that foster healthy career and life transitions.

This three-year project will include nation-wide focus groups, research and outreach and culminate in an international conference in Toronto in 2016. **LEAP's** work will continue with outcomes and actions through to 2017 to support future cooperative initiatives between the sport and dance sectors.



About Canadian Sport Institute Ontario

Located at the new Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre, a legacy facility of the Toronto 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games, Canadian Sport Institute Ontario (CSIO) is committed to the pursuit of excellence by providing world-class programs, services, and leadership to high performance athletes and coaches to enhance their ability to achieve international podium performances. CSIO offers athletes a range of sport science and sport medicine services including nutrition, physiology, biomechanics, strength & conditioning, mental performance, sport therapy and life services. CSIO also delivers programming and services to National and Provincial Sport Organizations and coaches to work towards building a stronger sport system in Ontario and Canada.

CSIO services approximately 700 high performance athletes and 250 coaches, at its main facility at the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre, its satellite location at the Mattamy National Cycling Centre in Milton, and in daily training environments across Ontario. CSIO is part of a larger network of 4 institutes and 3 multi-sport centres across the country known as the Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Sport Institute Network, working in partnership with the Canadian Olympic Committee and Canadian Paralympic Committee. CSIO is further supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Sport Canada, Own the Podium, and the Coaching Association of Canada, along with the National and Provincial Sport Organizations within the sector. www.csiontario.ca



About Dancer Transition Resource Centre

Founded in 1985, the Dancer Transition Resource Centre (DTRC) is a national, charitable organization dedicated to helping dancers make necessary transitions into, within, and from professional performing careers. They also operate as a resource centre for the dance community and general public and support activities that improve the socioeconomic conditions of artists across the country. As a world leader in dancer transition, they are active participants in international conferences and research initiatives and help drive change within the dance community. www.dtrc.ca

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