**Carl Curry on Pillar 6 - ‘Policy’**

Policy’s important because it gives government agencies clear direction and guidelines. It helps in designing strategy, and more importantly, it helps organizations in setting goals to achieve particular outcomes. While policy is developed and/or designed by government agencies, it is governments that embed those policies, and it gives governments at all levels a means of setting an agenda, and once that agenda is set, it is important for government agencies to follow that agenda and ensure their programs, and their procedures, and their initiatives are then achieving those policy agenda outcomes. From a policy point of view, local clubs need policy so that they can create some protections, and guidelines, and means of ensuring that people that are participating in their club feel like they are being supported. Without policies, without guidelines, at times you run the risk that things can occur. Example, if you have individuals with a disability, and your club doesn’t have an inclusion policy, it doesn’t actually provide the basis for inclusive participation. And whether that’s people with disability, indigenous, females, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, it’s important to have those policies to ensure that you have an inclusive approach to why you want people to participate in your sport.