February 12, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find attached an electronic copy of the manuscript “Activity preferences and demographic factors associated with screen time sedentary behaviour among grade 1 to 4 students: An examination of Play-On study data.” The authors of the manuscript are Rebecca Bassett-Gunter (York University) and Scott Leatherdale (University of Waterloo). Both authors have seen and approved the manuscript for submission. The manuscript has not been previously published and is not currently submitted for publication elsewhere. We would like our paper to be reviewed for publication in *The Health and Fitness Journal of Canada.*

The manuscript describes the risk factors associated with exceeding Canadian guidelines for screen time sedentary behaviour among 2331 children in grades 1-4. Specifically, we examined between-school variability, demographic characteristics, children’s activity preferences, and parents’ perceptions of children’s activity preferences as potential factors related to screen time sedentary behaviour. It is important that we understand children’s screen time sedentary behaviour as it is a modifiable factor which contributes to overweight and obesity among Canadian children. In this large population study, we identified that between-school variation was not related to risk for high screen time sedentary behaviour. Rather, demographic factors (e.g., sex, age, weight status) and parents’ perceptions of children’s activity preferences were associated with risk for high sedentary behaviour. Knowledge of demographic factors related to sedentary behaviour can inform targeted behaviour change initiatives to promote health and fitness among Canadian children. Further, understanding parents’ role in children’s sedentary behaviour has important public health implications. We feel that the manuscript advances knowledge regarding Canadian children’s screen time sedentary behaviour, and would be of great interest to *The Health and Fitness Journal of Canada* audience.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the corresponding author.

Thank you for your consideration,

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