



ARCTIC WINTER GAMES  
WHITEHORSE 2012

# UWU

# news

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Alberta North's Kihei Parke competes in the Snowboarding Slopestyle Juvenile Male event at Mount Sima March 5.

Photo credit: **VINCE FEDOROFF**  
Whitehorse STAR



published by  
Illegitimus Non Carborundum  
**WHITEHORSE**  
**DAILY STAR**

**STAR**  
Established 1900 - Yukon Territory



The Daily Hype: Games News... **2**  
From The Podium: Results... **6**  
Games Cultural Beat... **10**





# THE DAILY HYPE

## AWG NEWS AND UP & COMINGS

### BY THE NUMBERS 23 DENE GAMES

Let's take a brief glance at some of the important numbers that make up the Dene Games at the 2012 Arctic Winter Games.

1990 – year Dene Games were introduced as an Arctic Winter Games sport

159.89 – the current male Snow Snake record in metres set by Sandy Annanack from Nunavik Quebec in the Junior Men category at the 2008 AWG

69.04 – the current female Snow Snake record in metres set by Rita Masty from Nunavik Quebec in the Juvenile Female category at the 2010 AWG

10 – number of seconds the offensive player has to straighten his opponent's arm in the Finger Pull Open Male category

6 – approximate length in metres of the pine pole used in the Pole Push Open and Junior Male categories

5 – number of events the Dene Games include (the Stick Pull, Finger Pull, Pole Push, Snow Snake and Hand Games)

4 – number of players on a Hand Game team

3 – in both Finger Pull and Stick Pull, the winner is declared following a "best of three" competition format

2 – sets of drummers recommended to accompany Dene Games. In particular the Hand Games are accompanied by drum beating



Photo credit: KAREN KEELEY

## THE FIVE RINGS' GLAMOUR SHINES OVER GREY MOUNTAIN

Two former Canadian Olympians coach and mentor Yukon's snowshoe biathletes

by THOMAS SCHOENEICH

When it comes to competitions like the Arctic Winter Games, for athletes hardly anything is as calming and self-assuring, as experience.

And even though the 2012 Arctic Winter Games is the first international event for some of Team Yukon's snowshoe biathletes, there is a lot of experience in their team that they can rely on when they hit the trails of the 2012 AWG biathlon venue Grey Mountain.

Jim Boyde is the team's coach. The 68-year-old was a member of the 1968 Canadian biathlon team at the Olympics in Grenoble, France, where he competed in the Men's individual 20 km race.

And just recently Jane Vincent joined the team as a chaperone. She competed for Canada in cross-country skiing at the 1992 Olympic Games in Albertville, France. In 1997 the

45-year-old was also inducted into Sport Yukon's Hall of Fame for her contribution as an athlete in the sport of cross-country skiing.

"Even though my background isn't biathlon, it's still sport and competition," Vincent says. "So (part of my role) is to share some of my experiences with the athletes. Again, not necessarily shooting tips, but maybe some visualization and some pre-race tips."

"It's a nice flashback for me to the times when I competed. It's nice to remember those little things," she adds. "A very nice flashback was going to get our team uniforms. I certainly haven't had that in a number of years. That was certainly exciting."

The team of five young snowshoe biathlon athletes started training for the 2012 Games last November. And

after a few months with Boyde as their coach they can tell that nothing beats his experience.

"He gives you the steps and you go along. He tells you what to do and it works out pretty well," says Francis Reid, who will compete in the Juvenile Male category.

"And when you're moving your sights, he knows exactly how much they need to move," Pelly Vincent-Braun says. Pelly is Jane Vincent's son and also a competitor in Juvenile Male category.

The two boys show some good confidence going into their first Arctic Winter Games. Even Boyde expects nothing but "a split gold" between his two young athletes – a notion not so unattainable, as Pelly and Francis already once tied in a race.

But Boyde says that with a smile on his face. What he really expects from his team, reminds the listener of a true Olympian's attitude.

"I have vivid memories of going to a Czechoslovakian-Russian hockey game in Grenoble on a day off," he says. "And I saw a big banner behind me in the Czechoslovakian rooting section. It read 'Do your best' and I think they beat the Russians that day."

2012 AWG competitions in snowshoe biathlon take place on Grey Mountain from Monday, March 5, to Friday, March 9, except Wednesday.

**Results Update:** Francis Reid won the Bronze Medal for the 3.0 km Individual Juvenile Male with a time of 28:37. Pelly Vincent-Braun came in a mere 26 seconds later with a time of 29:03.



## INUIT SCULPTURE CAPTURES GAMES SPIRIT

by GLENDA KOH

Fame is fleeting, and so is youth, but a 6-foot narwhal tusk is forever.

After all the Ulus have been handed out, pins traded, and sports drink bottles swept into the recycling bin, the Inuit sculpture known as the Hodgson Trophy is where spirit and memories of the Games lives on.

The honour is presented at the closing ceremony to the team that best demonstrates the ideals of fair play and team spirit. The Hodgson Trophy is the most coveted prize of the Games for many participants-athletes, coaches and organizers alike.

John Estle, long-time Chef de Mission for Team Alaska, says, "Winning the Hodgson Trophy is the greatest experience that a Chef de Mission can have at the Arctic Winter Games. It's the culmination of having a really good program, with excellent leadership from the Mission Staff and the Coaches, not to mention leadership from key athletes."

The trophy itself is composed of a narwhal tusk with a carved soapstone walrus at the base and a bear clambering up the tusk. The plaque on the trophy explains, "The soapstone bear located toward the top of the narwhal tusk symbolically represents 'reaching for the top' in athletics and sportsmanship."

The sculpture was donated to the Arctic Winter Games Corporation in 1978 by Stuart Hodgson, then-Commissioner of the Northwest Territories

and also one of the three founding members of the Games.

In its first few years, the Hodgson Trophy travelled to the winning contingent's homeland and was returned to the Games after two years, only to make the move immediately on to the next winning contingent's homeland.

Even a durable narwhal tusk is not fit for the rigours of modern travel. After being held up at the border in 1982 while making its journey to Alaska, the decision was made to provide the trophy a stable place to call home.

For approximately a decade, the trophy lived at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife. In the mid-1990s, it was moved to a more permanent display at the Sport Yukon Hall of Fame. The trophy can be viewed during business hours at the Hall of Fame located at Sport Yukon (4061-4th Avenue) in Whitehorse.

The winning contingent will receive a framed colour print of the trophy. Each member of the winning contingent will receive a Hodgson Trophy pin.

With all the activity that goes on during the Games, and the many moments of victory and defeat, determining the winner is not an easy task.

Votes are tallied from Mission Staff, coaches, major officials, AWG International Committee members, registered media, and the President, General Manager, and Sport Man-

ager for the Host Society.

Through these many perspectives, a winner emerges. In 2010, Team Alaska took the honour.

As Estle says, "When we won in 2006, on home turf, it was really a great feeling. If we'd never won again during my time as Chef, I'd have been perfectly happy. When we

“Winning the Hodgson Trophy is ... the culmination of having a really good program, with excellent leadership from the Mission Staff and the Coaches

– John Estle

won it a second time in 2010, it was over the top. Winning the Hodgson is a feeling that every AWG participant would love to experience.”

And for anyone who thinks the spirit of sport and fair play is just a consolation prize, think again; in 2010, Team Alaska took home nearly a third of the 811 Ulus awarded. Play on!

## WATCH YOURSELF IN ACTION!

AWG Daily on TV (cable channel 9) and a YouTube gadget near you. New episodes at 9pm daily during the Games.

- Day 2: Monday, March 5
- Opening Ceremonies
- Snowshoeing
- Cross Country Skiing
- Alpine Skiing, Giant Slalom
- Snowboarding, Slopestyle
- Indoor Soccer

AWG Daily captures the flavour and pizzazz of the Games. Yukoner Chris McNutt gives us a small sampling of the energy and excitement happening around town. Catch the faces of the kids, spot someone you know, see the action and feel the electrifying energy in the air.

## TOP TWEETS

@Reba\_Salty  
Wahoo cassidy taylor scored! Keep going ladies! #awg2012

@flyairnorth  
The Arctic Winter Games 2012 Song Relay video has now been officially released. Check it out! <http://youtube/Q7qW8qteJw4> #awg2012

@cbcRobynBurns  
#awg2012 team nunavut takes the first throw of snow snake <http://lockerz.com/s/189863681>

Re: Team Nunavut midget boys defeat Team Alaska 5-4

@leonaaglukkaq  
Nunavut midget boys win, 5-4! #awg2012

@YukonPremier  
@leonaaglukkaq  
What did you think of the awesome officiating in the hockey game? The game was great from ice level!

@rezboi39  
@leonaaglukkaq  
congrats Nunavut :) #awg2012 u must b proud!! #CanadaPride

@Jtootoo22  
@leonaaglukkaq if you follow me you can send me a private MSG. Thanks @leonaaglukkaq would it be possible to get me intouch with the coaching staff of both the midget and bantam team. I would like to send a MSG

**OFFICIAL AIRLINE OF THE GAMES**

**AIR NORTH**  
Yukon's Airline

# Welcome.

To the athletes, coaches and supporters from outside of the Yukon, welcome to our home.

To all those with gold ulus in their sights, everyone at Air North, Yukon's Airline would like to wish you a safe and fun-filled competition.

flyairnorth.com

## Cell Phone Central would like to wish good luck to all of the Arctic Winter Games Athletes!

**The Blackberry 8530, CDMA SmartPhone is in stock now!**

The Power and Reliability of a Blackberry SmartPhone that will work throughout the communities of the Yukon! Full keyboard for easy messaging and expandable memory for all your multimedia needs. \$0 on a new 3 year agreement, \$399.95 full price

**Sign any 1, 2 or 3 year New Agreement and get a \$75.00 instant accessory credit during the AWG!**

*Mention this ad in store to get 10% off all accessories purchased during the AWG!*

# Cell Phone Central

**Communication, Entertainment and Connectivity Made Easy**

205 Black Street • 668-5555



# THE PLAYERS

## THE WHO'S WHO OF THE GAMES



### MUSIC ON MY SKIS

Team Yukon's Sam and Timmy Schirmer eye both a career in music and winter sports

by THOMAS SCHOENEICH

On Monday morning, when Sam (14) and Timmy Schirmer (13) hit the slopes at Mt Sima, the alpine ski and snowboard venue of the 2012 Arctic Winter Games, drumsticks and guitar riffs were a thing of the past. A mere twelve hours before that, it had been the exact opposite.

While all their Yukon teammates were getting ready to walk into the Canada Games Centre for the opening ceremony, the two brothers—Timmy competes for Yukon in snowboarding, Sam in alpine skiing – were getting ready backstage.

As part of the Whitehorse youth band *Zipline*, winner of the "Battle of the Bands" contest at Whitehorse's Frostbite Music Festival, they were asked to perform at the ceremony. The crowd of more than 3,000 athletes and spectators was the largest they had ever played in front of.

"It was great, it was a huge crowd. All the lights were shining on us. I was a bit nervous but it was just cool," guitarist Sam Schirmer said.

"It would have been fun down there but I liked playing a lot."

The next morning, Sam had swapped his guitar for some ski poles and was preparing for the Juvenile Male Giant Slalom, his very first Arctic Winter Games appearance.

"It's a great feeling representing the Yukon at the Arctic Winter Games. I'm just looking forward to skiing. It's my home ski resort, so there's definitely some home advantage."

Being asked whether he'd prefer to become a professional musician or a professional skier, he opted for the former. "First of all, as a musician it's not cold out there," he said with a huge smile on his face. "And with the audience, it's just a great feeling."

Timmy, one year younger than his brother, and nicknamed "Timmy Two Turns" for his astonishing 720s hasn't made that decision yet. He competed in the Juvenile Male Slopestyle on Monday and will also start in the banked slalom and the half pipe this Tuesday and Wednesday.



"I don't know (whether I would prefer to become a musician or a snowboarder). I like both the Half Pipe and the stage," *Zipline's* drummer said.

What he loves about snowboard-

ing is the adrenaline rush. He has been doing the sport since the age of three, but he has also been playing the guitar for seven years.

And even though he didn't mention it in plain words, there might

be a slide indication which direction he's leaning towards.

For a day or two he'd like to be Shaun White, the two-time snowboarding Olympic gold medalist, he said.

### KEEPING THINGS CLEAN & TIDY

by BRIGITTE PARKER

When thousands of community residents, fans and participants come together to enjoy an event such as the Arctic Winter Games (AWG), a tremendous amount of waste is generated.

Waste such as food scraps, plastic cups, food soiled paper such as plates, napkins and cups, beverage containers, paper, clothing and even blankets tend to accumulate at special sporting events.

In preparation for hosting the Games, the City of Whitehorse con-

ducted a waste audit of its Canada Games Centre (CGC) as the facility would act as the central hub for AWG events and activities. The City identified a need for increased bins along with proper signage to ensure the recycling, garbage and compost bins are used properly.

The City expected an increase in thousands of visitors, spectators, athletes along with the regular users of the Centre's facilities. As a result, the outdoor dumpster bins are being emptied twice a day by CGC staff as

they are filled; Spectator Services, AWG volunteers and janitorial contractors are regularly emptying the indoor bins every hour, and especially during lunch time.

During day one of the AWG, our volunteer cleaners report that the recycling bins for bottles and cans are being used properly but the compost bin is being contaminated with garbage.

So, we invite you to Play Your Part. Take a moment to sort your trash in the proper bins and help make these games as green as can be!



We are thankful for our great team of volunteers who are keeping on top of the waste cleanup!



Xerox Canada Ltd. salutes the athletes of The Arctic Winter Games



### BOREALIS: "I WILL BE EVERYWHERE"

by INDRA KLEY

Have you met Borealis already? The tall furry pal with the pink shoes and the custom hockey jersey? He is the 2012 Arctic Winter Games mascot – and without a doubt, its cuddliest participant. Ulu News reporter Indra Kley had a chance to talk to the busy Husky.

**Borealis – that sounds pretty cool. Where are you from?**

Well, during those last few moments of the 2007 Canada Winter Games here in Whitehorse, when the cauldron was extinguished, the children of the north lit lanterns from the embers and sent them into the northern sky. And I was born! It is in me that the friendship and excellence in sport live on.

**You look like a sporty guy. What's your favourite sport?**

I have a lot of hockey gear, but I'm not very good on skates yet. I just have to continue practicing, I guess. And maybe one day I'll win a medal myself...

**What are your tasks as the Official Mascot?**

I have the best job of all! I am visiting all the sporting events and I take pictures with the winners. I also visit all my friends at their schools, which is a lot of fun! I take strolls in the city and meet so many nice people. And I am invited to all the gala events! I just hope I won't stumble when I walk the red carpet...

**If people want to meet you, where can they find you during the Games?**

I will be everywhere! Just watch out for me, it's difficult to miss me. And if anyone has an exciting event they want me to attend, they can email me at awgmascot@awg2012.org.

**If you take a look around the merchandise store there seem to be quite a few copies of you floating around. But you are unique, aren't you?**

Look at me, sure I am unique! Unfortunately, I won't be able to visit all the new friends I make during the



Photo credit: VINCE FEDOROFF, Whitehorse STAR

Games in their homes back in Greenland, Alaska, Northern Alberta, Nunavut, Nunavik, NWT, Northern Russia, Sápmi and, of course, the Yukon. So I am happy about the fact that every participant and spectator can take one of my little brothers instead as a souvenir of this fantastic week. Just imagine there will be little Borealis' running around in Greenland! Or in Russia! Or in Nunavik! Isn't that amazing?!

**What are your plans for after the Games? Will you get into dog sledding?**

First, I will rest and sleep for a week, I guess. And then I might continue working on my hockey career... just because I am a Husky, it doesn't mean I have to go into dog sledding. We can all be anything we want to be, as long as we believe!



Paxton Bruce (2nd from right) links pinkies with co-members of Team Alberta North's cultural contingent. ULU News gets to know Paxton in the Q&A sidebar to the right.

### Q?A

ULU GETS TO KNOW YOU by Brigitte Parker

Dancer Paxton Bruce of Fort McMurray, part of Northern Alberta's cultural contingent, took some time to speak to the Ulu News.

**What's on your iPod?**

My favourite song right now is "Marilyn" by G-Eazy.

**What is your goal for the AWG?**

I want people to get excited about our performance and our type of culture. We are presenting a mix of jazz, hip-hop and contemporary dance. It is very exciting!

**What do you do in your down time to relax?**

We shop! I relax at home and drink David's tea. (David's tea is a Canadian brand.)

**What are you currently reading?**

*The Bean Trees*, about a girl who grew up in a poor family. She leaves her family to go to school and on the way she stops at a gas station. When she comes out of the gas station she finds a baby in her car.

**Do you have any rituals or superstitions?**

As a group, we always hold pinkies and buzz-in. (Check out the video on AWG 2012 Facebook page.)

**What do you think of the AWG?**

This is our first time here and it has been great meeting people from different nations. I lived in NWT and moved away 10 years ago. Today, we walked with participants from NWT and I recognized some old friends from school!

# yukon energy keeping tradition in play

ARCTIC AND DENE SPORTS presented by YUKON ENERGY

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES WHITEHORSE 2012



# THE VIEW FROM UP HERE

## NEWS FROM THE PODIUM

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Apparently, Greenland is the team to watch in soccer."

Overheard between two police officers



## RECAP: SNOWSHOE, CROSS COUNTRY & BIATHLON

by HEATHER LEDUC & KAREN KEELEY

### Snowshoeing – Cross Country

The American, Canadian and Russian anthems were played in Shipyards Park Monday as Ulus were awarded to the 2.5 km and 5 km cross country medal winners.

Yukon came out on top in the 2.5 Juvenile Female category with Kate Londero winning gold, Carolyn Sam of Alaska receiving the silver Ulu, and Celina Wapachee of Nunavik Quebec taking the bronze. Yukon's second gold Ulu went to Logan Roots in the 5 km Junior Male race. Yukon's Aidan Bradley earned the bronze, while Yamal's Dimtrii Vasilev took bronze.

Alaska's Riley Moser won the 2.5 Juvenile Male gold Ulu, followed by Yukon's Samuel Joseph Bonar and third place Oleg Mamaev of Yamal. Mamaev's teammate Eugeniia Shiliaeva won gold for Yamal in the 5 km Junior Female category, with Sara Burke-Forsyth of Yukon taking silver, and Rachel Zafren of Alaska taking bronze.

### Biathlon – Snowshoe

The drive up Grey Mountain Road was spectacular under a bright sunny sky. Vehicles parked along the road showed the strength of spectators that had come for the Biathlon – Snowshoe event. At Monday's event, spectators shouted, "Go, Alaska!" followed by the rigorous ringing of a cow bell.

The final results for Monday, March 5th are:

#### Biathlon – Snowshoe 3 km Individual Juvenile Female

- 1st – Erin Hoehn, Yukon (28:42)
- 2nd – Michaela Crook, Northwest Territories
- 3rd – Mariya Gilliland, Alaska
- Placing 4th and 5th were Cassandra Francis, NWT and Hannah Romberg, AK

#### Biathlon – Snowshoe 3 km Individual Juvenile Male

- 1st – Alex Kilby, Alaska (23:58)
- 2nd – Kjel Crook, Northwest Territories
- 3rd – Francis Reid, Yukon
- Placing 4th, 5th and 6th were Pelly Vincent-Braun, YT, Taylen Drybones, NWT, and Dyland Jones, AK

#### Biathlon – Snowshoe 5 km Individual Junior Female

- 1st – Zoey Grenier, Alaska (39:49)
- 2nd – Destiny Robert, Northwest Territories
- 3rd – Jay Wright, Northwest Territories
- Placing 4th was Caitlin Tozier, AK

#### Biathlon – Snowshoe 5 km Individual Junior Male

- 1st – Kieran Halliday, Yukon (33:17)
- 2nd – Clell Crook, Northwest Territories
- 3rd – Brennan Firth, Northwest Territories
- Placing 4th, 5th and 6th were Lucas Hepler, AK, Vincent Tomalonis, AK, and Sam Rees, YT



## 2012 Arctic Winter Games MEDAL COUNT

As of 7:00pm Monday, March 5

CONTINGENT	G	S	B	TOTAL
Alaska	8	11	7	26
Yukon	6	7	5	18
NWT	2	5	5	12
Alberta North	6	2	2	10
Yamal	5	2	2	9
Nunavut	1	1	2	4
Nunavik Quebec	1	0	3	4
Greenland	1	0	2	3
Sàmpi	0	0	0	0

# CLOSE-UPS & SNAPSHOTS

## YOUR PHOTOS

More photos available on the AWG Flickr website: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/awg2012/>



- 1 Cross-country skier competes in the 5km race. (Photo by **Omaar Reyna**)
- 2 Alaska and Greenland face off at indoor soccer. (Photo by **Vince Fedoroff**, Whitehorse Star)
- 3 Team Yukon's junior male volleyball team gets a pep talk (Photo by **Ruth Borgfjord**)
- 4 Team Sápmi gets some audience support (Photo by **Ruth Borgfjord**)
- 5 Arctic Sports takes place at Vanier Catholic Secondary School

**G-P Distributing Inc.**  
Food Service Wholesaler  
"Your One Stop Shop"

**Proud sponsors of the 2012 Arctic Winter Games**

For any and all the Food Service supplies or equipment you need!

**Think Green!**  
Shop from our ever expanding Compostable & Degradable Product Line.

29 MacDonald Road Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 4L1 • Phone: (867) 667-4500 • Fax (867) 667-4501 • Toll Free: 888-211-5368 • Email: [orders.foodservice@northwestel.net](mailto:orders.foodservice@northwestel.net)

Presenting Sponsor of the

# Cultural Festival

Visit the ATCO Stage at the Canada Games Centre for daily performances from 12 -2 PM. Watch for ATCO volunteers for your limited edition collector pin!

(quantities limited)

[WWW.ATCO.COM](http://www.atco.com)

UTILITIES | ENERGY | STRUCTURES & LOGISTICS | TECHNOLOGIES

Yukon Electrical | Northland Utilities | ATCO Gas | ATCO Pipelines | ATCO Electric | ATCO Power | ATCO Midstream  
ATCO Energy Solutions | ATCO Structures & Logistics | ATCO I-Tek | ATCO Australia



# TALENT & SKILL

## DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?



“The common factor among the best athletes in the world is that they are able to compete like it doesn't matter.”  
— Tracey Bilsky  
Yukon Sports Psychologist

### THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOOD AND GOLD

by BRIGITTE PARKER

Why is it that some athletes perform perfectly prior to a competition but fall apart at the competition? According to Yukon Sports Psychologist Tracey Bilsky a little mental training gives athletes the edge they need to be champions.

She offers three tips for AWG athletes:

- 1 Stay present and in the moment.
- 2 Focus on what is relevant.
- 3 Compete like it doesn't matter.

Why should you take her advice? Because it works.

Current cross-country ski junior world championship competitor and Yukoner Dahrria Beatty owes her

current success to sports psychology. According to Bilsky, the young athlete wanted to rank so badly that her thoughts began playing tricks on her. She began feeling intimidated by opponents and doubting whether she would rank at the trials.

So Beatty did a little mental training and learned to focus on her race instead of the event. She also disciplined herself to remain composed and focus on her feelings and breathing rather than irrelevant external factors like spectators or other competitors.

The result: Beatty came in first place in her first race at the trials and

earned her spot to compete at the junior world championships!

Bilsky explains that sports psychology is a mental training which complements the physical training undergone by athletes.

“The common factor among the best athletes in the world is that they are able to compete like it doesn't matter,” says Bilsky who is also AWG Yukon Chef de Mission. “The key for competitors is not to focus on the end result. Instead, the brain needs to be focused on the starting point of the competition so it can tell the body what to do during the competition.”

“Athletes realize that they can only think of one thing at a time, so it is best to concentrate on what is going on internally and avoid being distracted by external elements. Then you are present and can compete successfully.”

The use of sports psychology tools and exercising is increasing in popularity and giving athletes the edge needed to succeed. Training athletes to focus on what they are doing in the moment; on staying composed, thinking positively; and not taking themselves too seriously can make the difference between a good performance and winning gold!

### GUINEA PIG: THE NEED FOR SPEED

by THOMAS SCHOENEICH

Speed skating is one of the fastest sports at the Arctic Winter Games. One more reason for our fearless reporter to get himself on the ice.

Just nice and slow, I keep telling myself, just nice and slow. I don't want to embarrass myself two minutes into my speed skating career by going down nose-first.

So I keep close to the rink's boards, ready to grab them any second. I try to kneel down a bit, keep my weight a little further than the middle of my foot and push the skates' blades out to my left and to my right. Just as Phil Hoffman told me a minute ago.

However, in a slight alternation of Shakespeare's famous line in his play MacBeth, my style is not “bubble, bubble, toil and trouble” but looks more like “wobble, wobble” and still a lot of trouble.

Hoffman coaches the Whitehorse

Rapids Speed Skating Club. As Team Yukon's speed skating coach he will also lead a team of ten young athletes into the Whitehorse 2012 Arctic Winter Games.

“For speed skating, one needs a good aerobic base and also some strength,” he had explained to me earlier. “Once you get to a certain speed, you gotta have the strength to hold those corners because there's quite a bit of force involved.”

It doesn't take long for me to realize what that means. Hoffman's fastest skaters only need between ten and eleven seconds for one lap. Some world class athletes could get below nine seconds, Hoffman says.

When the Team Yukon speed skaters reach a corner, they cross over and hardly seem to lose speed – if they do at all. When I reach a corner, I stop skating, bend my ankles and let

the blades carry me around it. Thus I probably take some good 30 seconds or even more for one lap, but twenty minutes into my speed skating career that seems way safer to me.

Also my blades make a not-so-nice screeching noise almost every time they touch the ice. Compared to that, the boys and girls around me seem to glide.

What calms me down a bit is that Hoffman said it would take three or four years to really become proficient at the sport. So maybe there's still some hope, maybe not. But despite being wobbly on my first attempt as a speed skater I had fun and would try it again.

If you want to catch some speed skating at the Arctic Winter Games, make your way to the Canada Games Centre. Competition takes place Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.



ULU reporter Thomas Schoeneich tests his skills and wits at speed skating. Looks easy, right?



Northern Cross (Yukon) Limited is a proud sponsor of the Arctic Winter Games and welcomes the athletes and their supporters to Whitehorse.

**Northern Cross wishes everyone a memorable and successful competition.**

Northern Cross (Yukon) Limited is an exploration company evaluating petroleum and natural gas resource opportunities at Eagle Plain. The first phase of exploration drilling is expected to get underway in the next several months and continue until the Spring of 2013.

Please visit us at our booth at the Arctic Winter Games Mining and Resource Youth Expo which is located in the Yukon College Gymnasium on March 9 between 1 pm and 6 pm and on March 10 between 10 am and 4 pm

## Fuelling Yukon's Future



# Thank You

to the Finance Team, for keeping it all straight!

Northwestel thanks everyone who played their part in the Whitehorse 2012 Arctic Winter Games!

*From all of us at Northwestel*

nwtel.ca

LEGACY SPONSOR

Northwestel  
Bringing us together.

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES  
WHITEHORSE 2012



# CULTURAL BEAT

## YOUR DAILY DOSE OF AWG CULTURE

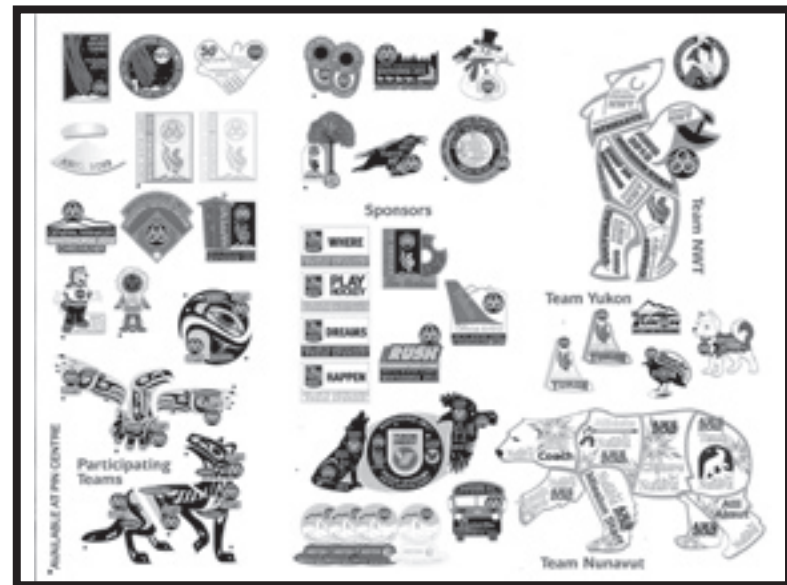


### GET PINNED PIN OF THE DAY

One of the pins thought to cause a stir at the Games is the **Theme Song Relay pin**. It was a hot item at the Pin Centre all day on Monday, and with its rotating centre and unique design, the early speculation is proving to be bang on. The pin commemorates a journey through the circumpolar north through song, sound and images, raising awareness of the Games and its international heritage while sharing the message of circumpolar friendship with the world.



Check out this pin and many more at the Pin Centre at the Canada Games Centre.



### PINSANITY

A pin trading primer for the 2012 Games  
by **JESSE DEVOST**

The race is on to be the most decorated participant at the Games, and for many people, that means pins, not Ulus.

Small, inexpensive, and unable to transmit text messages or control video games (as of yet), these simple, often beautifully designed items serve as an unofficial currency, international conversation starter, and for some, an obsession.

Athletes, sponsors, staff and volunteers have arrived en masse with their own pins and pin collectors have started to get a little wild. It is estimated that about 100,000 pins will come into circulation at the Games and this will create a frenzy – the friendly type.

“People get the pin fever because they know the Games are only so long,” said Chris Pasterfield of Laurie Artiss Ltd – a company with 30 years in the pin business and major supplier at the Games. “They’ll hear of a pin that’s really hard to get and they’ll make that their quest to get it, and if they haven’t gotten it by the end of the second or third day, they’ll go crazy. It happens all the time.”

Veteran pin collectors are already

in their element at the Games, but what about people who have never done it before? Where does one start?

“The best way to start collecting is to concentrate on a theme you like,” said Pasterfield. “Collect countries, sports or sponsors for example. Also remember to treat it as a business deal, because that’s what it is. Be polite, and, most of all, enjoy the social activity of pin trading because that’s what it’s all about.”

At almost every Games, there are a few pins, or perhaps one in particular that stand out as the ultimate prize for collectors. It’s often tough to predict beforehand which pins will become the most popular. Pasterfield explains that it’s an organic function of democracy and supply/demand economics that dictates which pins become the most coveted.

But when pressed for his predictions on what will generate the most hype, he had a couple of thoughts: the Theme Song Relay pins, which features a rotating centre and the Team Yukon pin which features a bobble-headed Husky.



### GAMES GEAR

In the Dene Games Snow Snake event, the essential piece of equipment is a stick approximately four feet long and an inch in diameter with a sharpened tip.

Snow Snake consists of throwing the stick underhand as far as you can along the surface of the snow. Traditionally, this technique was used for hunting caribou and animals lying on the ground. The stick travels approximately 10-50 metres along a trough in the snow.

Snow Snake sticks vary between regions. Although the competition sticks are generally hardwood, traditional sticks can be made of any type of tree, and are not necessarily straight as an arrow.

As Chris Martin of Kuujuaapik, QC, coach of Nunavik’s Dene Games team explains, “It just depends on what type and size of trees grow in your region. A lot of ours are made of pine.”

Competitors each bring their own sticks to the Games. Although there is no standardization among the sticks, an even playing field is ensured as immediately prior to each event, competitors vote on which stick will be used. The same stick is used by every athlete in that particular event.

According to Martin, Snow Snake athletes tend to prefer a traditional stick over a store-bought one because it is wider at the front and tapered to the back, giving more weight at the front end. The sticks are typically sanded and varnished to make them slide along the snow.

Other equipment essential to the Snow Snake event? Well, on a sunny day on the banks of the Yukon River, a warm parka and a decent pair of sunglasses.

Design is a big part of what makes a pin popular. Designed by talented artists who only have a small piece of metal to work with, it takes a special skill to make something meaningful.

Chris Pasterfield puts it best. “Everybody’s got pins – they’re everywhere. They serve as a memento, a gift and as a way to create new

friendships.” Which is why pin trading is such a popular activity to accompany the Games.

The epicenter of pin activity is at the Pin Trading Centre next to the Official Merchandise Store in the Canada Games Centre. It is open each day from 10 am to 8 pm.

**AWG MINING & RESOURCE YOUTH EXPO**  
March 9 & 10

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES WHITEHORSE 2012

### THE 2012 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES HOST SOCIETY INVITES YOU TO THE FIRST-EVER:

AWG Mining & Resource Youth Expo

Friday, March 9 – 1 to 6 pm  
Saturday, March 10 – 10 am to 4 pm  
Yukon College Gym – Whitehorse

Part trade show – part career fair – don’t miss this exciting event highlighting the Yukon’s modern face of mining and resource development.

Enjoy hands on interactive displays, music, contests, prizes and more.

Admission is free and everyone is welcome. For details, please visit [www.awg2012.org](http://www.awg2012.org)



# THANK-YOU

The 2012 Arctic Winter Games would not be possible without the following sponsors!



<b>Funding/Community Partners</b>	Yukon Government	Canada	Whitehorse THE WILDERNESS CITY	LOTTERIES OF YUKON	Yukon College start here. go anywhere.		
<b>Legacy</b>	Northwestel Bringing us together.	ATCO GROUP	<b>Presenting Partners</b>	xerox	YUKON ENERGY	Clondike	GENSpro by KIMIK IT
<b>Arctic</b>	Whitehorse Daily Star	AIR NORTH Yukon's Airline	RBC	DRIVING FORCE Vehicle Rentals   Sales   Leasing	Gwich'in Tribal Council	GDC Gwich'in Development Corporation	
<b>Boreal</b>	Deloitte.	Home Hardware building centre	Pelly Construction Ltd.	SUBWAY	Standard BUS CONTRACTING LTD. YUKON	YukonZinc CORP.	
<b>Official Suppliers</b>	THE RUSH CKRW 96.1 FM	HARPER EST. PUBLISHING INC. 1955	KBS KLONDIKE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	LATITUDE WIRELESS	MARCO TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS	NORTHERN VISION DEVELOPMENT LP	
	Whitehorse BEVERAGES AND FOODS	sportslife The Hougou Centre, Whitehorse, Yukon	OUTSIDEtheCUBE outsidehecube.ca	Pizza Hut	Westmark WHITEHORSE HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER A Holland America Line Company	Subvert	
<b>Polar</b>	AlkanAir SERVING THE YUKON	CK KILBACH INDUSTRIES LTD.	NORTH 60° PETRO	outcrop YUKON	stuart olson dominion People Building Programs	AON	
	Tim Hortons	YUKON YAMAHA	FIRST AIR The Airline of the North	Fraserway RV Your Vehicle to Adventure!	PR SERVICES LTD.		
	GOLDEN PREDATOR	The BRICK.com	ALEXCO	Discovery Air	NORTHERN CROSS	Lackowicz & Hoffman	
<b>Games Supporters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business Development</li> <li>Bank of Canada</li> <li>Bank of Montreal</li> <li>Northern</li> <li>Vandelay Systems</li> <li>Integraphics</li> <li>Yukon-Nevada Gold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yukon Chamber of Mines</li> <li>Yukon Gold Mining Alliance</li> <li>Yukon Government Department of Education</li> <li>Yukon Government Economic Development</li> <li>Yukon Federation of Labour</li> </ul>	<b>Friends of the Games</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staples</li> <li>Kiwi Contracting</li> <li>Acme Analytical Labs</li> <li>Victoria Gold</li> <li>Medicine Chest Pharmacy</li> <li>Easy Home</li> <li>Northern Tales</li> <li>Jacob's Industries Ltd.</li> <li>Walmart</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildland Fire Management</li> <li>Physio Plus</li> <li>Challenge Community Vocational Alternatives</li> <li>Northern Trailer</li> <li>Manitoulin Transport</li> <li>Centennial Motors</li> <li>MacKay LLP</li> <li>G-P Distributing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Super Save Propane</li> <li>Yukon Geological Survey</li> <li>ALS Minerals</li> <li>Kluane Drilling</li> <li>First Nations Bank</li> <li>Arctic Construction</li> <li>Yukon Government Highways and Public Works</li> <li>Meadia Solutions</li> </ul>	



Proud to support the 2012 Arctic Winter Games – an international celebration of northern sport, culture and friendship.



We are honoured to be a part of the Arctic Winter Games in supporting our athletes as they seek to achieve their dreams and in celebrating the uniqueness and values of the north

[www.deloitte.ca](http://www.deloitte.ca)

**Deloitte.**