



THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

MARCH 18, 2018



Former Olympians address future **Olympians**

Messages from host, dignitaries



Profiles of Yamal, Sapmi, Greenland, Nunavik and **NWT** teams

Maps of AWG grounds in Fort Smith and Hay River

Sport and cultural event schedules





Hay River Mayor's Message

Our Recreation Centre has opened and just in time for the Arctic Winter Games!

We are very excited to showcase our new facility and share it with all of the athletes, coaches, families, and visitors. We know that you will be happy to be among the first people to use the Recreation Centre.

Our community has been working hard to make everything ready for the games, sharing the responsibility with our co-host community, Fort Smith and the K'atl'Odeeche First Nation, who will be hosting the Dene Games. The entire South Slave has pulled together and we are proud of all that has been accomplished. We are ready to make the 25th Arctic Winter Games a

memorable event for everyone involved.

We welcome the Circumpolar World to Hay River and we hope that you have the best week of sport, friendship and fun. Our community will be a hub of activity during the games and we have all hands on deck. Do not hesitate to ask for assistance or direction around our beautiful town. Many cultural events will be taking place throughout the week for all to enjoy. There will be the frenzy of collectable pin trading at the table that you will find at the Community Centre at the Recreation Complex.

A huge Hay River welcome to all our visitors for the games; I look forward to meeting as many as possible.

Be Fearless. Be Strong. Be True. Find Your Power!

Sincerely,

Mayor Brad Mapes



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World Curling Federation/Michael Burns photo

Kevin Koe calls the line during men's curling action at the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea last month. Koe's road to the Winter Olympics featured two appearances at the Arctic Winter Games in 1992 and 1994

The Games can create Olympians

Kevin Koe and Michael Gilday examples of AWG veterans among the best in the world

by James McCarthy

Northern News Services

For many athletes who compete at the Arctic Winter Games, this is the furthest they will go in terms of highlevel international competition.

There are others, though, that have gone on to greater heights, such as the professional ranks and the Winter Olympics.

Two of those who have worn the maple leaf at the Winter Olympics spoke with *Ulu News* to reflect on competing against the world's best in their respective sports: Kevin Koe, who competed at the 2018 Winter Olympics in men's curling, and Michael Gilday, a 2014 Winter Olympian in speedskating.

Koe has one of the premier curling resumes among anyone in the world with three Tim Hortons Brier titles – the Canadian men's curling championship – to go along with two World Men's Curling Championship crowns and his Olympic experience, which ended in a fourth-place finish.

His trajectory can be traced back to the Arctic Winter Games where he curled for the NWT in 1992 and 1994, and he said it was a great experience for him.

"Those were my first real events away from home against other territories and teams," he said. "I remember it being an awesome experience and a chance to play in an international competition for the first time against a team like Alaska."

For Gilday, he achieved his dream of competing at the Winter Olympics after the heartbreak of missing out on the 2010 Winter Olympics by mere hundredths of a second at the Canadian trials that year.

Please see page 5

Time to find your power!

On behalf of the 2018 Host Society, welcome to the 2018 South Slave Arctic Winter Games.

We are excited to be hosting the commemorative 25th edition of the Arctic Winter Games in the South Slave Region, and we are thrilled that you could be here to experience all that the region has to offer.

More than 40 volunteer committees and our staff have dedicated countless hours to planning the 2018 Games, and I know every volunteer is as excited as I am to witness the culmination of those efforts be realized this week. A special thank you to our corporate sponsors, our host communities, and



the many supporters that have assisted from around the region and across the circumpolar north

I hope you find the time to experience all the attractions of the South Slave region, to cheer on your favourite team or athlete, and to find your power!

Welcome to athletes and delegates from near and far

On behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories, I wish to welcome all of the athletes, cultural delegates, coaches, chaperones, mission Staff, sponsors, parents and spectators to the 2018 Arctic Winter Games.

The Arctic Winter Games is the largest and most important multi-sport cultural event held in the circumpolar North, bringing together young athletes and Games participants as they represent our respective nations.

The experiences our young people are about to embark upon will help develop their character to become confident, responsible leaders and contributors in their communities.

I would like to wish all the visiting coaches, supporters and family members of athletes who have come from outside of the Northwest Territories an enjoyable time at the Games and in our country. To our local athletes and to all the visiting athletes, I know that you will represent your respective teams with honour and pride. We are here to support you to do your very best.

I wish you all a successful and enjoyable Games.

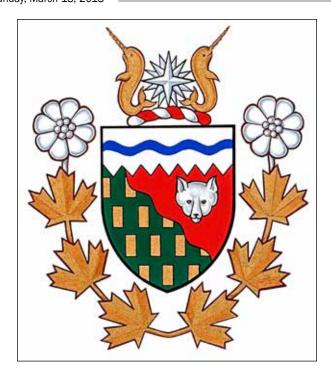
Welcome to the 2018 Arctic Winter Games!



PREMIER'S message

Bob McLeod is the Premier of the Northwest Territories.





Games represent tradition and culture

Welcome to the 2018 South Slave Arctic Winter Games.

I wish to acknowledge that the land on which we gather for these multi-community Arctic Winter Games encompasses Treaty 8 and Treaty 11 lands and is home to the Kátł'odeeche First Nation, West Point First Nation, Salt River First Nation, Smith's Landing First Nation, and NWT Metis Nation.

This is an exciting time as athletes, parents, cultural delegates, coaches, mission staff, chaperones, sponsors, and spectators come together to celebrate the hard work, dedication and commitment that has brought us here to the Arctic Winter Games.

As these Games bring our circumpolar



world closer together, it also promotes physical activity and sportsmanship. It is also an opportunity to highlight the sharing of traditional knowledge through traditional games to everyone involved.

I would like to wish participants the best of luck and congratulations to everyone that helped organize the South Slave Arctic Winter Games.

New name, same outlook

Seigna Hult-Griffin of Inuvik steadies herself at the start line during the Arctic Winter Games speedskating trials in Yellowknife this past January.



Team NT gets set for 2018 Arctic Winter Games

Northern News Services

Doug Rentmeister has been doing this for so long that it's become old hat.

But he still gets excited whenever the Arctic Winter Games approach.

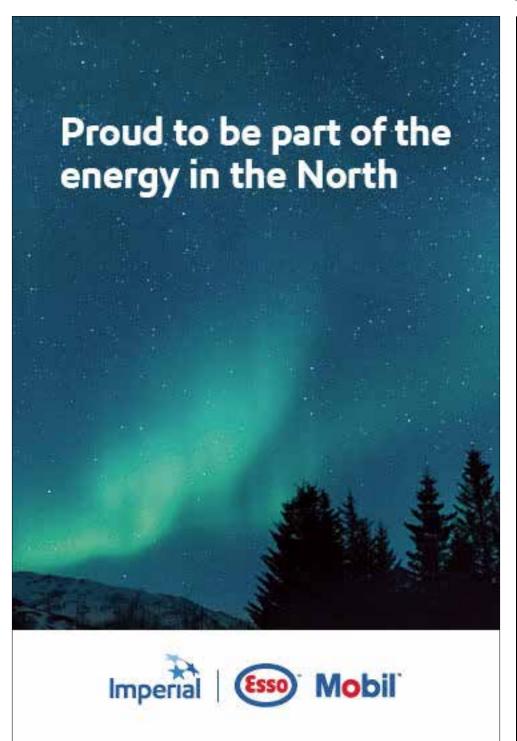
Team NT's long-time chef

by James McCarthy de mission was putting the finishing touches on this year's Arctic Winter Games team earlier this month ahead of the biggest show in the Arctic.

> "We're just moving along," said Rentmeister at the time.

Team NT's contingent will consist of 350 athletes, coaches, mission staff and cultural performers. The cultural delegation this time around will be the Tuktovaktuk Siglit Drummers and

Please see page 7







Michael Gilday (204) comes around the corner during speedskating action at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Gilday competed for Team NWT at four Arctic Winter Games between 1998 and 2004.

Get a good team, good coach, and train hard

Continued from page 3

He, too, had multiple Arctic Winter Games competitions – four to be exact – between 1998 and 2004.

He said stepping on the ice for the first time competitively isn't something he remembers all too well but he does recall the team's veterans in 1998 imparting on him the honour of wearing the uniform.

"I remember them stressing upon me how important it was to wear the gear we got with pride," he said. "There was a sort of gravitas about how representing the NWT was bigger than representing just your club and carrying on the tradition that the NWT has in short-track, which is a long and very successful one."

Gilday was a member of Canada's national men's shorttrack team for several years and

even broke the men's 1,000-metre world record at the age of 20 in 2007, when he was still a member of the national development team. He competed in several World Cup events and World Short Track Championships around the globe over the course of his career before retiring from competitive skating shortly after the 2014 Winter Olympics.

His dream of competing at the Olympics started to gain traction in 2001.

"I had good results at nationals that year and at the 2002 Arctic Winter Games in Iqaluit," he said. "I think that's when the Olympics started being a focal point of my life."

Koe also had dreams of competing at the Olympics but those came later as curling didn't become an official medal sport until 1998; it had been a demonstration sport prior to that at the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary.

Back in his Arctic Winter Games days, the Olympics never crossed his mind and it was all about the task at hand.

"I didn't put a lot of thought into (the Olympics) back then," Koe said. "I was just a kid and wanted to do well out on the ice and whatever event I was playing in. You always wanted to win and I definitely went with the intention of doing so. You're representing your home territory and you wanted to do well. I always took (the AWG) seriously."

Comparing the Arctic Winter Games to the Winter Olympics is a stretch, considering the size and grandeur of the Winter Olympics. But Gilday managed to quantify the

two events in one sense.

''You're repre-

senting your

home territory

and you wanted

to do well."

Kevin Koe

"There's more countries at the Olympics, there's more media and it's a much bigger profile but the numbers of athletes are comparable," he said. "If you take the number of Winter Olympic athletes and put is beside the Arctic Winter Games, it's not terribly dissimilar. You can't do a full comparison because they simply aren't the same but it's cool to look at it from that perspective."

Something else Gilday likes about the Arctic Winter Games set-up is the community feel

"You're in a dorm room-type setting for a week and you're rooming with athletes from Alaska, Alberta, Yukon," he said. "You get to know those people and learn about their lives and their culture and that's something I always enjoyed. The fact that it's in the South Slave this year will make it really feel like a community

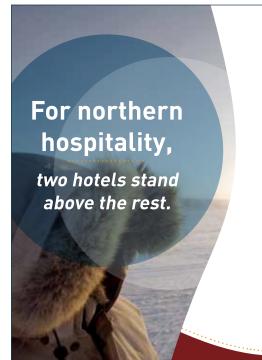
As for advice on what it would take to become an Olympian, Koe said it's about making sure you have the right mix.

"Try and get yourself good teammates, get

good coaching, practise on a regular basis and compete hard every time," he said. "Take every game seriously, no matter the level."

But most of all, enjoy the experience, like Gilday did.

"The AWG was far out for prep when it came to the Olympics but looking back, it provided me with an idea of what the Olympics would look like," he said. "I've always looked back fondly on it and there's no reason others can't either. Always enjoy the experience and cherish it."





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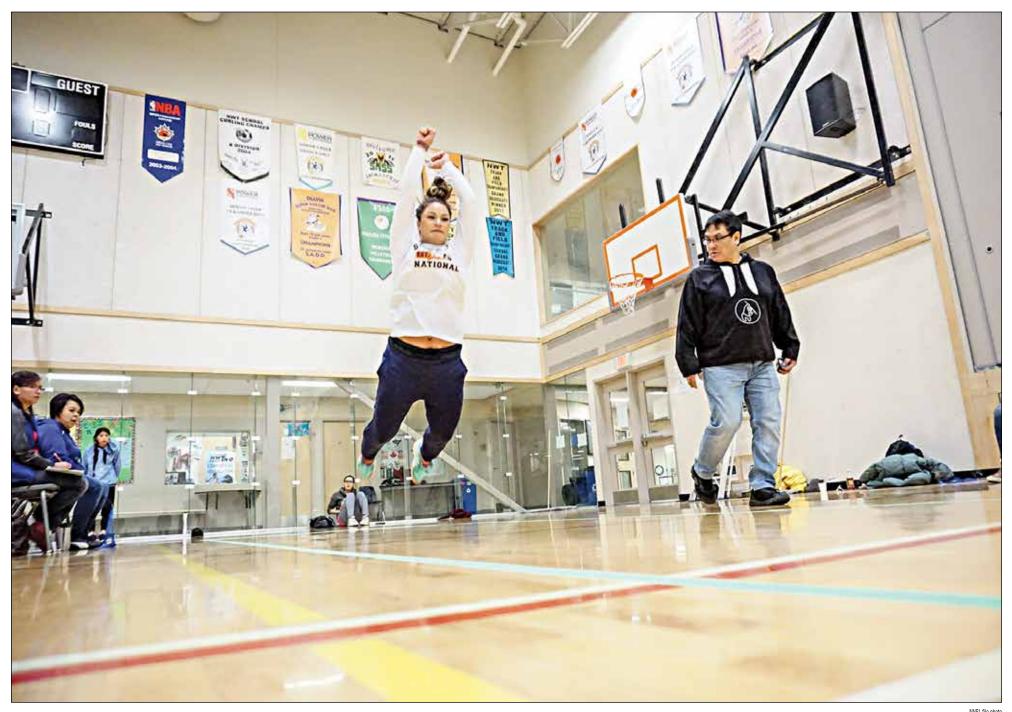
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Veronica McDonald leaps forward in the kneel jump as official Donald Kuptana, right, watches on during the Arctic Winter Games Arctic sports trials in Inuvik this past January.

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Many NWT officials

Continued from page 4

Dancers and their big show will be on March 23 at the cultural gala in Fort Smith.

Many of the athletes were spending time in Yellowknife the week before heading down to Hay River to work on whatever needed to be worked on, said Rentmeister.

"Everyone arrived early to get ready and you can sense the excitement," he said.

The one thing people will notice right away is the name change. Gone is the "W" with the delegation now known as Team NT from now on.

"We wanted to go in line with what's happening nationally," said Rentmeister. "When we go to the Canada Games, they use two-letter abbreviations and the AWG International Committee wants to fall in line with that so that's where the name change comes from."

Something else which should be noted is the number of officials from the NWT that will be part of the action.

"We'll have the largest amount of officials from any delegation and that just makes sense seeing as it's being held here in the NWT," said Rentmeister. "Some of the seats on our charter flights will be held for them so they can get down." Speaking of the charters, one will leave from Inuvik on March 17 with a stop in Norman Wells to pick up athletes from the Sahtu who made their way there. After that, they will pick up the athletes in Yellowknife and fly directly to Fort Smith to pick up those athletes before heading to the final destination of Hay River in time for the opening ceremonies.

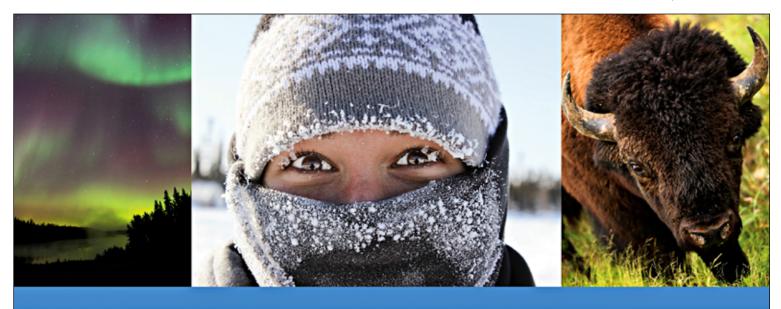
As for the hopes and dreams part of the proceedings, Rentmeister didn't want to put any sort of pressure on the athletes.

"I always hesitate to put any sort of expectations on our team," he said. "That just puts pressure on the athletes and coaches and they don't need that. All we're hoping is that they put their best foot forward and do the territory proud."

One important piece of the puzzle was figuring out who the flag bearer would be and that honour falls to TJ Kaskamin of Fort Good Hope, who will be on the boys basketball team.

Rentmeister said Kaskamin was chosen from several submissions that came from coaches around the territory.

"We had a lot of submissions from coaches and that shows just how much that means," he said.



Mayor of Fort Smith - Welcome!

It is my pleasure to extend greetings to everyone attending the 2018 Arctic Winter Games, hosted by the communities of Fort Smith and Hay River.

On behalf of the citizens of Fort Smith and my Town Council colleagues, we welcome you as our guests for this very special celebration. It is our honour to be your host for this exciting event.

I would like to commend the organizers for the hard work that goes into coordinating this terrific celebration of athletic and cultural skills. The Arctic Winter Games are filled with captivating and challenging sports and performances that require focus and discipline. I would like to recognize the talented athletes and performers for all their dedication and enthusiasm. Special thanks are also due to the countless volunteers, coaches, and parents for their unwavering support of our participants.

If you are visiting from out of town, I hope that you will enjoy our warm hospitality and visit some of our beautiful attractions:

- Wood Buffalo National Park
- Northern Life Museum & Cultural Centre
- Night Sky Observatory in the largest dark sky preserve on earth!
- Stunning trails along the Slave River

Fort Smith has a diverse cultural and arts community, as well as a number of unique shops and restaurants for you to enjoy.

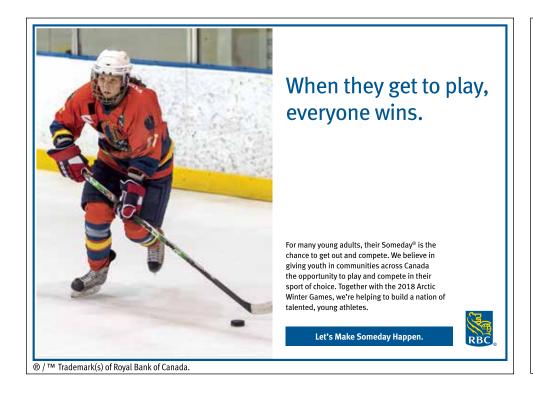
I would like to extend my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable event and I wish all those participating the best of luck. Let the games begin!

Sincerely,

Mayor Lynn Napier-Buckley

Town of Fort Smith







Discover diversity through the Games

Slave Arctic Winter Games!

These Games are a tremendous celebration of Northern sport and culture. They invite us to discover and appreciate the diverse peoples, traditions and heritage of the world's

Welcome to the 2018 South circumpolar regions. They exemplify the power of sport to improve health, well-being and community development.

Our government is proud to support the Arctic Winter Games, which help develop Northern and Indigenous sport and leadership, and inspire our youth to get active. They will also bring economic, social and cultural benefits for the entire South Slave region.

As Minister of Science and Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, I would like

to congratulate the host society and all volunteers, artists and performers involved in these Games.

Best of luck to all the athletes, and many thanks to the coaches and officials for helping them reach their dreams.





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SOUTH SLAVE 2018 #AWG2018 SPORT SCHEDULE

	DAY 1 SUNDAY, MARCH 18		DAY 2 MONDAY, MARCH 19		DAY 3 TUESDAY, MARCH 20		DAY 4 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21		DAY 5 THURSDAY, MARCH 22		DAY 6 FRIDAY, MARCH 23		DAY 7 SATURDAY, MARCH 24	
HAY RIVER	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH
BADMINTON			9:00	18:00	9:00	18:00	9:00	18:00	9:00	18:00	9:00	16:00	9:00	14:00*
BIATHLON SKI			13:30	15:30*	13:30	15:30*	WEATH	ER DAY	13:30	15:30*	13:30	15:30*	WEATHER DAY	
BIATHLON SNOWSHOE			9:30	11:30*	9:30	11:30*	WEATHER DAY		9:30	11:30*	9:30	9:30 11:30° WEATHER		IER DAY
DENE GAMES			10:00	17:00*	10:00	17:00*	10:00	17:00*	10:00	17:30*	10:00	17:00*	WEATH	IER DAY
DOG MUSHING			11:00	14:00*	11:00	14:00*	TRAIL MAINTENANCE		10:00	13:00*	WEATHER DAY		WEATHER DAY	
FUTSAL			8:00	21:00	8:00	21:00	8:00	21:00	8:00	20:00	8:00	21:00	8:00	13:00*
GYMNASTICS							11:00	15:00*			11:00	15:00°		
HOCKEY (MALE)			9:00	21:00	9:00	21:00	9:00	21:00	9:00	21:00	11:00	21:00*		
SNOWSHOE			8:30	11:30*	WEATH	ER DAY	8:30 14:00*		WEATHER DAY		8:30	11:30*	WEATHER DAY	
VOLLEYBALL			9:00	21:30	9:00	20:00	9:00	21:30	9:00	20:00	9:00	20:30	9:30	13:30*
WRESTLING			9:00	19:00*					16:00	20:00*			10:00	14:00*
FORT SMITH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH
ARCTIC SPORTS	ARCTIC SPORTS OPEN PRACTICE		10:00	19:30*	9:30	19:00*	9:30	19:00*	9:30	18:00	9:30	18:00*		
BASKETBALL			10:00	20:00	10:00	20:00	10:00	20:00	10:00	20:00	10:00	21:00*		
CROSS COUNTRY			14:00	17:00*	10:00	13:00*	WEATHER DAY		10:00	13:00*	10:00 14:00* WEATI		IER DAY	
CURLING			8:30	21:30	8:30	21:30	8:30	21:30	8:30	22:30	8:00	22:30*		
FIGURE SKATING			18:30	22:30*			9:30	14:30*	14:30	15:30*	SHO	ows		
HOCKEY (FEMALE)			12:00	17:30	8:00	16:00	15:00	21:00	16:00	20:00	16:00	20:00*		
SNOWBOARDING			10:30	15:30*	10:30	15:30*	10:30	15:30*	10:00	15:30*	WEATH	IER DAY	WEATH	IER DAY
SPEEDSKATING	8:00	11:00*	8:30	11:30*	16:30	22:30*			8:00	14:00*	8:00	14:00*		
TABLE TENNIS					9:00	19:00	9:00	19:00	9:00	19:00	9:00	16:30*		

This Schedule is subject to change. Please check www.awg2018.org for up to date information.

Detailed sport specific schedules can be found at awg2018.gems.pro

Bienvenue aux Jeux d'hiver de l'Arctique

d'hiver de l'Arctique 2018 à South Slave.

Les Jeux sont une formidable célébration du sport et de la culture nordiques. Ils nous invitent à découvrir et à apprécier les peuples, les traditions et le patrimoine des régions circumpolaires du monde. De plus, ils nous montrent les effets bénéfiques du sport sur la santé, le bien-

Bienvenue aux Jeux être et le développement communautaire.

Notre gouvernement est fier d'appuyer les Jeux d'hiver de l'Arctique, qui contribuent au développement du sport et du leadership nordiques et autochtones, en plus d'inciter nos jeunes à mener une vie plus active. Qui plus est, ils entraîneront des avantages économiques, sociaux et culturels pour toute la

région de South Slave.

À titre de ministre des Sciences et ministre des Sports et des Personnes handicapées, je félicite la Société hôte ainsi que tous les bénévoles, les artistes et les interprètes qui se sont investis dans les Jeux. Bonne chance à tous les athlètes, et merci aux entraîneurs et officiels qui les aident à réaliser leurs rêves.



MESSAGE Du Ministre

L'honorable Kirsty Duncan, Ministre des Science et Ministre des Sports et des Personnes handica-



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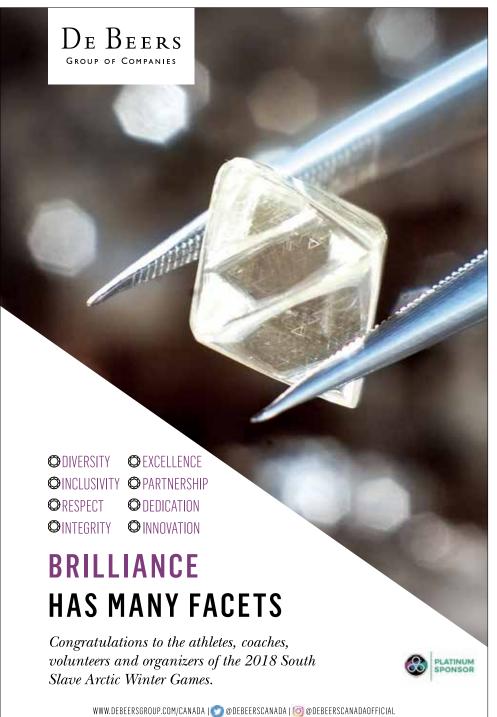


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2016 Arctic Winter Games photo

Andy Moorhouse of Team Nunavik shares a laugh as he competes in the open men's finger pull during the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.





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Two years of training for success



Nunavik's Joanasi Arnaituq returns a shot during table tennis action during the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.

Angunnguaq Sethsen/Arctic Winter Games phot

Team Nunavik ready for action at 2018 Arctic Winter Games

" They've been

training hard

leading up to

the start."

Karin Kettler

by James McCarthy

They're one of the long-est-serving members of the Arctic Winter Games family, and Team Nunavik is back for another biennial battle.

This year's contingent from northern Quebec will comprise 52 athletes, 11 coaches, eight mission staff and three cultural performers, who will be performing throat singing.

The cultural delegation hails from the community of Puvirnituq and the throat-

singing trio also performed as part of a larger group at the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.

Karin Kettler, the team's chef de mission this year, said Nunavik will be competing in five sports.

"We have teams in Arctic sports, Dene games, badminton, snowshoeing and table tennis," she said.

"We did have cross-country skiers last time but not this year."

The team did well in Arctic sports and Dene games in Greenland, collecting several

ulus. Kettler thinks the snowshoeing team has a good shot this time around.

"They've been training hard leading up to the start and I know they're hoping to medal this year," she said.

Preparing for the Games is a two-year process in Nuna-

Kettler said the process usually begins in the fall

in the year of the previous Games with local tryouts in the 14 communities that

> make up the Nunavik region. "We have local tryouts

which are run by the local recreation coordinators," she said.

"If there's no

recreation coordinator, then we ask the school teachers to

help out."
From there, athletes are

based on where they reside – seven communities take part in the Ungava Bay regionals while the other seven go to the Hudson Bay region. After that, the strongest athletes are invited to the final

invited to regional tryouts

As with many other teams, the only expectations are that the athletes represent the region well.

tryouts, where the teams are

selected.

"We're all about fair play," said Kettler.

said Kettler.

"It's a great chance for our athletes to see others com-

peting in their sports and see the other cultures that make up the Games.

"It's exciting for them and it's a great opportunity for our young people to meet new people."

The team arrived in Kuujjuaq, Que., on March 15 to get their uniforms and hop on a charter to fly to Yellowknife.

Nunavik's flag bearer this year will be Paulusie Nuktie from Kangiqsujuaq, a badminton player who will be competing in his second Arctic Winter Games.





Games represent best examples of sportsmanship

I would like to welcome all of the athletes, cultural delegates, coaches, chaperones, mission staff, sponsors, parents and spectators who are here at the 2018 Arctic Winter Games in the South Slave.

The Arctic Winter Games represent the best examples of community, friendship,

sportsmanship and unity that and sport leaders who played define the Northern spirit. a key role in the development

I hope you find the Games to be rewarding and I encourage you to extend the warmest hospitality to all who have joined together for these Games.

My sincere thanks to the volunteers, coaches, parents, job well done!

and sport leaders who played a key role in the development of our athletes. Your contributions encourage our youth to lead healthy, active lifestyles, which improves the physical and mental well-being of our youth.

Congratulations to all on a job well done!





Cheer on the Games.

Share the spirit of the Arctic Winter Games. Northwestel is proud and excited to support our many athletes and organizers, building a lasting legacy for the people and the communities of the North.



CELEBRATE | COMMEMORATE | PARTICIPATE

Visit nwtel.ca/AWG2018 for more information.

A small but determined bunch



Sapmi's Maila Dikkanen crosses the finish line after completing the junior girls 10-km freestyle cross-country skiing race at the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.

Team Sapmi competing in cross-country skiing and futsal at 2018 Arctic Winter Games

"I'm excited

to see our

athletes

do well."

Inga Eira

Northern News Services Team Sapmi usually

brings athletes in just two sports for the Arctic Winter Games, and they're usually at do well and I'm excited for

or near the top of those events every time.

The Northernmost team of the event is bringing a delegation of 45 athletes, coaches and mission staff for this year's show along with three

cultural representatives, comprising two traditional Sapmi dancers and a traditional Sapmi singer.

Inga Eira is chef de mission for Team Sapmi for the

by James McCarthy first time, having been named as the team leader last June.

"I'm very excited," she said about her role. "I'm excited to see our athletes

> everything to begin."

The two sports Sapmi will compete in are cross-country skiing and futsal. Eira said coaches and athletes in both disciplines were getting ready

well in advance of the Games.

"The cross-country skiers had a competition followed by two training camps," she

Please see page 21

Hay River



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Denis Longortov of Russia's team Yamal is all business as he fights his way through the open men's airplane at the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.



Team Yamal's Sergei Khudi leaps over the barrier during the open men's sledge jump at the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.

Bo Kristensen/Arctic Winter Games photo

Big Russian presence in the **South Slave** for Games

Team Yamal sends 100-strong contingent to the Northwest Territories for the 2018 AWG

by James McCarthy

Northern News Services Team Yamal logs a lot of air miles.

Despite the vast distance to travel from Russia, Yamal will march into the 2018 Arctic Winter Games with a contingent of 100 athletes, coaches, mission staff, chaperones and cultural delegates.

Jana Wrublevska, assistant to Yamal chef de mission Aleksandr Mazharov, said the team is ready to go.

"Very excited and very enthusiastic," she said via

This year's Team Yamal is drastically different from the one that showed

up in Green-"All our athland two years ago. The first thing people will notice is they're competing in more than just Arctic sports; all eight of Yamal's ulus in 2016 were won in that

sport. This time around, they've brought athletes in Arctic sports, ski and snowshoe biathlon, futsal, figure skating, cross-country skiing and table tennis.

Wrublevska said ting the team together happened at regional trials in the months leading up to the start of the Games.

"Athletes were chosen at the regional competitions according to the (sport's) principles," she said. "The winners of that trials were included in the team's final roster."

There's no denying that Arctic sports will be one event where Yamal will have plenty of strong ulu hopefuls but they've also been successful in the past in crosscountry skiing and biathlon.

Wreblevska, though, was hesitant about predicting how the team would do in the long run.

'Time and the 2018 AWG competitions will show," she said. "The only thing we are sure of is that all our athletes have strong feelings to do their best.

"We do not talk about expectations," she said. "We

know our team are happy to be the part of the AWG family, meet new friends and learn more about sport and Northern cultures. The only thing we expect is that

Jana Wrublevska

their best."

letes have

strong feel-

ings to do

our young athletes will have a positive international competition experience, try their sport skills in a new environment and have a lot of good memories to inspire them."

Yamal is one of two jurisdictions that has yet to host the Arctic Winter Games, Sapmi, in northern Europe, being the other location.

But Wrublevska is hopeful that could change in the future.

"We hope it will happen one year," she said.





TEAM NT

ARCTIC SPORTS

Junior male

Anthony Kay, Inuvik Jarvis Mitchell, Inuvik Kobe Keevik, Inuvik Jacob Lennie- Blake, Inuvik Robin Raddi, Tuktoyaktuk Colten Alexie, Fort McPherson*

Junior female

Agnes Kregnektak, Tuktoyaktuk Mikayla Jacobson, Tuktoyaktuk Michelle Conley, Inuvik Cassandra Collison, Inuvik Jasmine Gruben, Tuktoyaktuk

Open male

Noel Cockney, Tuktoyaktuk Underwood Day, Inuvik Matthew Anikina, Tuktoyaktuk Kieren Ritias, Inuvik Chris Stipdonk, Fort Simpson* Open female

Veronica McDonald, Yellowknife Jemra Gruben, Tuktoyaktuk Kendall Archie, Aklavik Amy Stipdonk, Fort Simpson* Source: Sport North

BADMINTON

Juvenile girls

India Edwards-Loewen, Yellowknife Hillary Huynh, Yellowknife Elaine Cronk, Yellowknife*

Juvenile boys

Junji Tai, Paulatuk Alexander McMahon, Fort Smith Jason Jones, Fort Smith*

Junior girls

Agnes Cockney, Fort Smith Riella Bordey, Hay River Lisa Boutilier, Hay River*

Junior boys Casey Tai, Paulatuk

Stephen Messier, Yellowknife Xavier Bilodeau, Yellowknife* Source: Badminton NT

BASKETBALL

Boys

Jordan Balsillie, Yellowknife Patrick Yatco, Yellowknife Liam Larocque, Inuvik TJ Kaskamin, Fort Good Hope Shanon Gurindwa, Yellowknife Chance Brien, Yellowknife

Keenan Wolki-Jacobson, Inuvik Blake Cook, Fort Good Hope Shadrach Agbar, Yellowknife* Paul O'Connor, Inuvik* Chase Yakeleya, Yellowknife* Aaron Wells, head coach, Yellowknife

Janet Enge, Yellowknife Meadow Munroe, Yellowknife Sierra Nesbitt, Yellowknife Emma Willoughby, Yellowknife Annabel Flamand, Yellowknife Hayley Tait, Yellowknife Mali Straker, Yellowknife Mia McInnis, Yellowknife Naomi Yukon, Deline Britney Kenny, Tulita Hannah Beyonnie, Deline Lili Casaway, Yellowknife Elle Mitchener, Yellowknife* Shaun Doherty, head coach, Yellow-

Source: Basketball NWT

BIATHLON SKI Paul Green, coach, Yellowknife Tracey Hutton, coach, Fort Smith

Junior girls Danika Burke, Fort Smith

Ruby Pigott, Yellowknife Junior boys

Spencer Littlefair, Yellowknife

Amelie Aubrey-Smith, Fort Smith Claire Macmillan, Fort Smith Juvenile boys

Gaius Crook, Hay River Tyrone Lennie, Fort Simpson

BIATHLON SNOWSHOE Thomas Lafferty, coach, Lutsel K'e Lorraine McDonald, coach, Hay River

Junior girls Julienne Chipesia, Inuvik

Michaela Crook, Hay River Junior boys Jacob Klengenberg, Ulukhaktok

Juvenile girls Effie Lockhart, Yellowknife

Finnlay Rutherford-Simon, Fort Smith

Kyran Alikamik, Ulukhaktok Sage Head, Lutsel K'e

Kieron Sidney, Inuvik Source: Sport North CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Stephen Dunbar, head coach, Yellow-

Kevin Durkee, assistant coach, Yellowknife

Miriam Green, manager, Yellowknife

Nicolas Bennett, Yellowknife Donny Boake, Yellowknife Jack Panayi, Yellowknife Junior girls

Jayla Louison-Edgi, Yellowknife

Niva Stephenson, Yellowknife

Tyson Green, Yellowknife

Jack Kotaska, Yellowknife Juvenile girls

Emily Carroll, Yellowknife Kea Furniss, Yellowknife Ella Kokelj, Yellowknife Rae Panayi, Yellowknife

Midget boys

Leif Aubrey-Smith, Fort Smith Joseph Curran, Yellowknife Makoa Kokelj, Yellowknife Morgan Young, Yellowknife

Midget girls

Anais Aubrey-Smith, Fort Smith Moira Green, Yellowknife Shannon Mercer, Yellowknife Sara Porter, Fort Smith Kira Young, Yellowknife*

Source: NWT Ski

Boys (Fort Smith Curling Club) Garret Minute Joe Sturgeon Tristan MacPherson Sawer Kaeser Nick Kaeser, coach

Girls (Hay River Curling Club)

Zoey Walsh Julie Squires-Rowe Nicole Griffiths Katherine Lenior Trudie Walsh, coach Source: NWT Curling

DENE GAMES Juvenile female

Annie Erigaktoak, Aklavik Hunter Villeneuve, Fort Smith Monica Arey, Aklavik Zhanayii Drygeese, Dettah Taylor McLeod, Aklavik* Jennifer Meeyok, Aklavik*

Junior female

Shea-Lin MacPherson, Fort Smith Kayleigh Hunter-McKay, Fort Resolu-

Izzy Heron, Fort Smith Bayleigh Chapman, Fort Resolution Elaine Elanik, Aklavik* Jasmine Keogak, Sachs Harbour*

Logan Arey, Aklavik Maurice Blake, Fort McPherson Keegan Arey, Aklavik Brendan takazo, Deline Dalen Powder, Fort Smith Philip Elanik, Aklavik*

Open male

Frank Elanik, Aklavik Ryan Tourangeau, Fort Smith Patrick Pennycook, Fort Smith Jacob Boucher, Fort Resolution Jesse Shaefer, Fort Smith* Alexander Robichaud-Vogt, Fort

Source: Peter Daniels

DOG MUSHING

John Beck, coach, Yellowknife Rodney Beck, coach, Hay River Therese Fordy, coach, Hay River Juvenile

Kale Beck, Hay River Anna Cassidy, Hay River Tyson Clarke, Yellowknife*

Trey Beck, Hay River Taylor Beck, Hay River Taren Beck, Hay River*

Source: Sport North FIGURE SKATING

Emily Hazenberg, Yellowknife* Teresa Martin, Yellowknife*

Ella Anstey, Yellowknife Jairah Silverio, Yellowknife

Level 2

Allana Pellerin, Yellowknife Lily Brennan, Yellowknife Level 3

Victoria Hann, Yellowknife Hannah Courtoreille, Yellowknife Sarah Campbell, Yellowknife

Level 4

Nura Jalil Aga, Yellowknife Source: Brenda Dalton

FUTSAL

Juvenile boys, Yellowknife Alexander Fast, Yellowknife Braden Brenton, Yellowknife Cole Clinton, Yellowknife Jack Nevitt, Yellowknife Lucas Wood, Yellowknife Luke Kotaska, Yellowknife Michael Sadler, Yellowknife Sage Acorn, Yellowknife

Trey Granter, Yellowknife

Alexandre Hubert, Hay River*

Chase Berreault, Fort Liard* Everett Fox, Yellowknife* Justin Doyle, head coach, Yellowknife Juvenile girls

Danica Taylor, Yellowknife Brianna Brenton, Yellowknife Allison Anstey, Yellowknife Niobe Darku, Yellowknife Gillian Furniss, Yellowknife Brianna Goodwin, Hay River Tanisha Steinwand, Behchoko Taya Straker, Yellowknife Marie Carpenter, Yellowknife Keira Coakwell, Hay River* Madyson Schwartz, Hay River* Katherine Smallwood, Yellowknife* Gina Michel, head coach, Yellowknife

Junior boys

Austin Sleno, Yellowknife Channel Lafferty, Yellowknife Ahri Ekendia, Behchoko Arjun Budgell, Yellowknife Allan Camsell, Behchoko Emmanuel Sumagaysay, Yellowknife Mazen Daher, Yellowknife Emmanuel Lamvu, Yellowknife Yuki Kabuya, Yellowknife Janik'oh Camsell, Behchoko* Jolan Kotchea, Fort Liard* Greg Villeneuve, Fort Resolution* Marc Miehm, Behchoko, head coach Junior girls

Aurora Fraser, Yellowknife Bronwyn Rutherford-Simon, Fort Smith Charlene Sobrepena, Yellowknife Olga Duru, Yellowknife Destiny Hobbs-Stewart, Yellowknife Jenaya Hanninen, Yellowknife Katie Hart, Yellowknife

Molly Gillard, Yellowknife Wren Acorn, Yellowknife Hannah Porter, Fort Smith* Akesha Hardisty-Norwegian, Fort Simpson

Mira Mercer, Yellowknife* Tonya Huck, head coach, Yellowknife

Intermediate girls Meegwun Makletzoff-Cazon, Yellow-

Elizabeth Kikoak, Fort Smith Camryn Soucy, Fort Smith Kristal Gambler, Fort Smith Alexandra Hillier, Yellowknife Krissy Stuparyk, Yellowknife Fiona Huang, Hay River Dora Faye Hansen, Fort Smith Leona Berreault, Fort Liard Chris-Lin Hvatum, Inuvik* Elaine Elanik, Aklavik* Lilliana Erasmus, Behchoko* Judon Gregory, head coach, Yellow-

Source: NWT Soccer

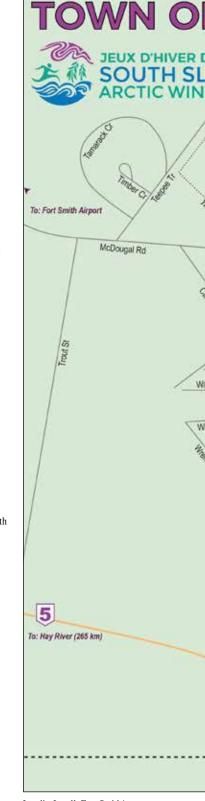
GYMNASTICS

Sofia Barichello, Yellowknife Megan Rogers, Yellowknife Anna Lalonde, Yellowknife Iman Livingstone, Yellowknife Mackenzie Chiasson, Yellowknife* Ken Wang, head coach, Yellowknife Jessica Gravel, manager, Yellowknife Source: NWT Gymnastics

HOCKEY

Bantam boys

Etienne Marcoux, Yellowknife Devin Vogel, Yellowknife Kaden Beck, Hay River Logan Cunningham, Yellowknife Tristian Cunningham, Fort Smith Alex Cordero, Yellowknife Tyler Caines, Yellowknife McKinley Talbot, Yellowknife Carter McLeod, Yellowknife Declan Munro, Hay River Ethan Aumond, Yellowknife Tysen Almond, Yellowknife Andrew Carr, Yellowknife James MacCara, Yellowknife Ayden Harvey, Yellowknife Sam Skinner, Inuvik Liam Carroll, Yellowknife Jack Willoughby, Yellowknife* Gavyn Lamoureux, Yellowknife*



Landin Jewell, Fort Smith* Kole Laviolette, Fort Smith* Trenton Coe, Yellowknife* Shawn Talbot, head coach, Yellowknife Midget boys

Jean-Luc Amirault, Yellowknife

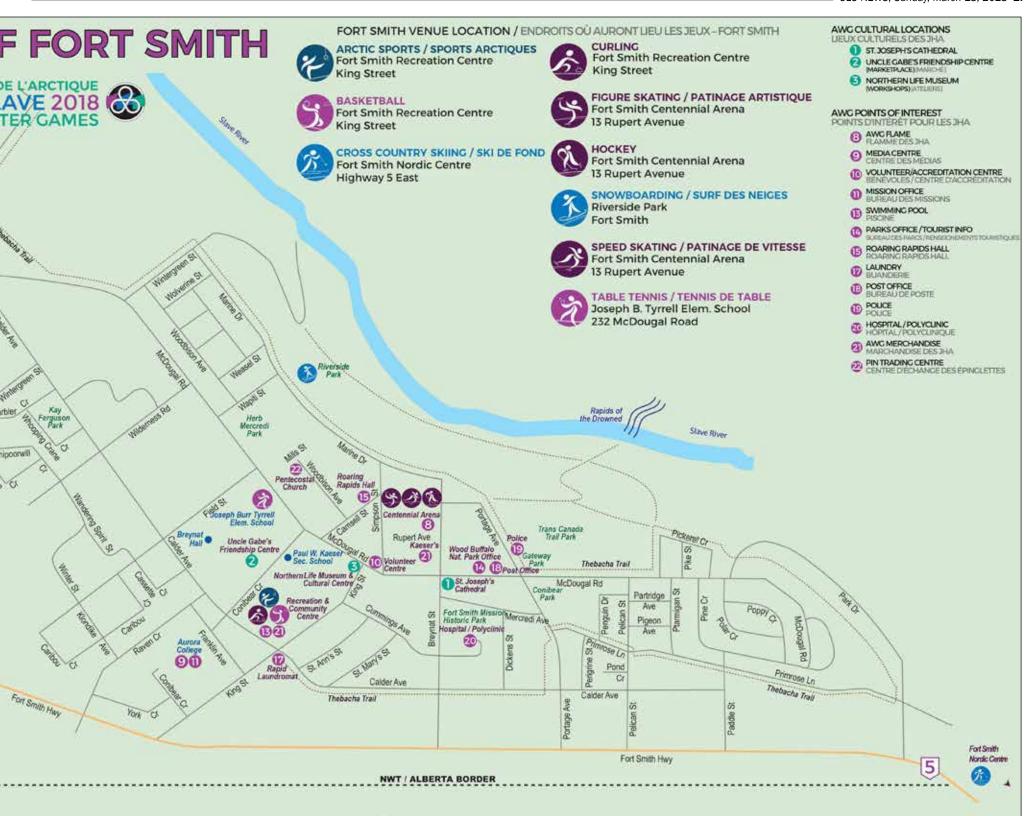
Liam Tereposky, Yellowknife Connor Steed, Fort Smith Justin Powder, Yellowknife Liam Wong, Yellowknife Nathan Cluff, Yellowknife Thomas Matesic, Yellowknife Andrew Charlie, Aklavik Flynn Perry, Inuvik Austin Daniels, Yellowknife Ben Carson, Yellowknife Tyrrell Wilgosh, Hay River Zack Horton, Hay River Ethan Anstey, Yellowknife Keelin Kobaissi, Yellowknife Logan Debogorski, Yellowknife Matthew Hayward, Yellowknife Hurelier Deranger, Lutsel K'e* Nathan Kuptana, Tuktoyaktuk* Trey Beck, Hay River* Logan Shupe, Yellowknife* Paul St. Cyr, Yellowknife* Junior girls Jamie Cluff, Yellowknife

Reagan Bulger, Yellowknife Layne Leonard, Yellowknife Darcie Setzer, Inuvik Leesha Setzer, Inuvik Nina Verbonac, Inuvik Dakota Earle, Yellowknife Bryn Hill, Hay River Sarah Fleming, Yellowknife Martina Daniels, Fort Smith Sahara Lafferty, Yellowknife Kyra McDonald, Inuvik Anna MacCara, Yellowknife

Abby Webster, Yellowknife



We hope that all of the athletes and volunteers have a safe and enjoyable experience at the games!



Emma Wicks, Yellowknife Source: Hockey NWT

SPEEDSKATING

Shane Clark, coach, Yellowknife Jeanne Yurris, coach, Yellowknife

Juvenile girls

Kali Skauge, Yellowknife Seigna Hult-Griffin, Inuvik Ava Erasmus, Fort Simpson Mikayla Lafferty, Fort Simpson Georgia Pellissey, Yellowknife* Jennifer Simle, Yellowknife*

Juvenile boys

Luke Dizon, Yellowknife Caleb Picek, Inuvik Rudi Slagter, Yellowknife Junior girls

Grace Clark, Yellowknife Sophie Clark, Yellowknife

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Alanna Bowerman, Yellowknife Daphne Cloutier, Yellowknife

Junior boys

Stryden Hult-Griffin, Inuvik Braeden Picek, Inuvik Dalton McLeod, Inuvik Jack Coombs, Yellowknife Sylvain Rourke, Yellowknife* Source: NWT Speed Skating

SNOWBOARDING Juvenile girls

Mina Lockhart, Yellowknife Keanna McLeod, Fort Smith

Juvenile boys

River McQueen, Yellowknife Mackynnen MacDonald-Taylor, Fort

Junior girls

Tegan Konge, Yellowknife

Junior boys

Milo Martin, Yellowknife Ben Toner, Yellowknife Source: NWT Snowboard

SNOWSHOEING

Jeff Amos, coach, Inuvik

Ruth Hanthorn, coach, Fort McPherson

Junior female

Darby Robert, Fort McPherson Paris Wainman, Inuvik

Junior male

Jesse Hanthorn, Fort McPherson Dylan Ross-Kendi, Inuvik

Juvenile female

Madison McLeod, Aklavik Jazelle Pokiak, Inuvik

Juvenile male

Joel Arey, Tsiigehtchic Jed Mitchell, Fort Smith

Kira Young, Yellowknife* Source: Jeff Amos

TABLE TENNIS

Steve Rowe, coach, Fort Providence Beth Hudson, coach, Fort Smith

Juvenile female Gracie Brennan, Yellowknife

Tamara Mathison, Yellowknife Juvenile male Zachary Mathison, Yellowknife

Lennox Mutford, Yellowknife

Nikhilesh Gohil, Yellowknife* Junior female

Shannan Bonnetrouge, Fort Providence Ariah Thomas, Fort Simpson

Junior male Anthony Wood, Yellowknife Louis-Phillipe Cloutier, Hay River Treven Cli, Fort Simpson*

Source: Table Tennis North

VOLLEYBALL Boys

Dane Dupuis, Hay River Dawson Elias, Inuvik Felix Flamand, Yellowknife Cody Greenland, Inuvik Daniel Ives, Yellowknife Braden Johnston, Yellowknife Christopher Mathison, Yellowknife Taltson McQueen, Yellowknife Mitchell Porter, Fort Smith Isaac Simon, Fort Resolution Darren Horn, head coach, Yellowknife Girls

Eureka Embodo, Yellowknife Nyree Hacala, Yellowknife Mia Landry, Yellowknife Denae Lafferty, Yellowknife

Valadee Lockhart, Yellowknife Allana Nakashook-Zettler, Yellowknife Natalie Shafer, Yellowknife Jacqueline Lockhart, Hay River Caitlin Zorn, Yellowknife Hayly Soares, Yellowknife

Brandon Thompson, head coach, Fort

Source: NWT Volleyball

WRESTLING

Jacob Bailey (55-kg), Yellowknife Cameron Courtoreille (96-kg), Yellow-Paul Reid (65-kg), Yellowknife

Evan Round (60-kg), Yellowknife Don Reid, coach, Yellowknife Diane Marin, coach, Yellowknife Source: NWT Wrestling *-denotes alternate





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TEAM **GREENLAND**

FUTSAL

Akkajuk Angutinnguaq Jerimiassen Angutinnguaq Hans Henrik Abelsen Aputsiag Kenneth Hother Andersen Bror Paavo Janussen Aiko Mathias Marius Finn Nielsen Malik Weiss Nemo Thomsen Nick Jakunguak Johansen Niklas Karl Gronvold Kleist Niklas Thustrup Johansen Qillaq Kresten Jensen Inusugtok Rass Julius Palle Abelsen Rene Niels Lynge Thomsen Romeo Salik Olsen Blidorf Rune Svend Hother Andersen Broberg Knud Olsen Egede Ole-Albrecht Aron Martinsen Brian Jens-Pavia Gaaba Bernhardsen William Lasse Egede Gantzhorn

Henning Bajare Bjarne Arpaarti Andersen Freja Nielsen Frederiksen Marie Larsine Carla Broberg Stine Kongspetak Pedersen Mona Karen Margrethe Jensen Lis Anja Marie Christensen Eriksen Laakki Molgaard Emma Kristina Thomsen Navarana Uthilie Berthe Marie Svendsen Ungaaq Bolethe Johansen Amondsen Inunnguaq Nielsen Ivaana Lund Molgaard Sara Telling Molgaard Juliet Ungaaq Eugenius Egede Aili Henrich Platou Arnannguaq Rosa Sandgreen Olsen Karla Arene Martine Jorgine Do Morch Iluuna Ina Jensen Asii Arnarulunnguaq Kleist Berthelsen Niviaq Pernille Sara Chemnitz Berthelsen BADMINTON Per La Cour Vahl Carsten Osteril Nitter Sorensen

Angutivik Olsen Berthelsen

Karoline Dina Hanne Josefsen

Kjeld Klaus Charles Svendsen Ostermann Rune Svenningsen Anja Christa Skov Kjeldsen Pilunnguaq Betty Andersen Hegelund Nukaaka Ida Andersen Hegelund TABLE TENNIS Arnannguak Birgithe Nielsen Bruno Simonsen Pike Oscar Angutinnguaq Peter Hammeken Kunuunnguaq Morch Niels Rafael Hans Kristian Nielsen Arnakkuluk Agathe Nielsen Pavia Soren Frederik Jerimiassen Tiinannguaq Petersen Juliane Inge Eva-Katrine Muller Aviana Marienne Brinch Rodgaard ARCTIC SPORTS Andreas Samuel Jokum Johansen

Tina Amassen Rafaelsen

Nukaaraq Aron Evaldsen Berthelsen Benediktus Johan Albrecht Jakobsen Bibi Magdaline Anna Abelsen Mikaelsen Brita Kathrine Emilie Lydie Tobiassen Jens Kristian Flemming Malakiassen Heidi Thala Jorgensen Kim Rosing

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TO HAY RIVER

& FORT SMITH

Lea Levisen Jensen Ane Louise Lone Birthe Qvist Hansen Naasunnguaq Karo Aka Kleist Najannguaq Grunvold Mick Skarias Albrecht Josefsen Niels Arkaluk Samuelsen Heilmann Peter Frederik Jakob Pavia Jonathansen Petra Jakobine Pauline Petria Amossen Steffen Nikolaj Knulst Tonny John Fisker

DENE GAMES

Alfred Peter Lindenhann Aqqa Hans Lars Nielsen Dida Geisler Heilmann Edvard Niels Svend Ole Kruse Holga-Dina Nielsen Thorning Steven Amossen Aqqaluartaaq-Abraham Arne Amossen Katja Nielsen Mina Marie Kristine Paninnguaq Kristiansen Benjamin Niels Benjaminsen Suulut Reimer Geisler

Winnie Magdalene Helene Lyberth Henning Kalerak Lund Nielsen **CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING** Martha Anne Mette Hansen Noasen

Bjarne Herbert Hansen Merete Karoline Clasen Naala Linda Sofie Olsen Rasmussen Nukarleq Ivalo Olsen Jeremiassen Oystein Slettemark **BIATHLON**

Helge Daniel Larsen Henrik-Vilhelm Jens Rafael Martinsen

Nick Johan Poulsen Hans Paulus Jens-Peter Ole Jensen Nina Maja Bech Markussen Navarana Didriksen Naleraq Olsen Eugenius

GREENLAND SPORTS CONFEDERATION

Aviaaja Fonager Uhre Geisler Bolethe Hansine Muko Stenskov Jorgen Jonas Jensen Nuka Peter Aron Willy Kleemann Kenneth Stage Christensen Navarana Elisabeth Ravn Davidsen Muusaarannguaq Ostermann-Soholm MISSION STAFF

Flemming Lars Skifte Nielsen Marie Louise Chemnitz Egede Nive Julie Elisabeth Heilmann Svend Ole Sv'rd Jasmine Hansen Flemming Bent Enequist Angutitsiaq Hy Poulsen

Najaraq Egede **OFFICIALS** Jens Peter Leif Imanuelsen

Daniel Joel Jakobsen

Malene Vahl Rasmussen

Claus Erik Nielsen Jens Jakob Kleist Ostergaard Bent Jacob Kristian Degn Hugo Geisler Svensson Magssannguaq Qujaukitsoq



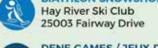


Hay River Ski Club & Golf Course (15 km)

HAY RIVER VENUE LOCATION









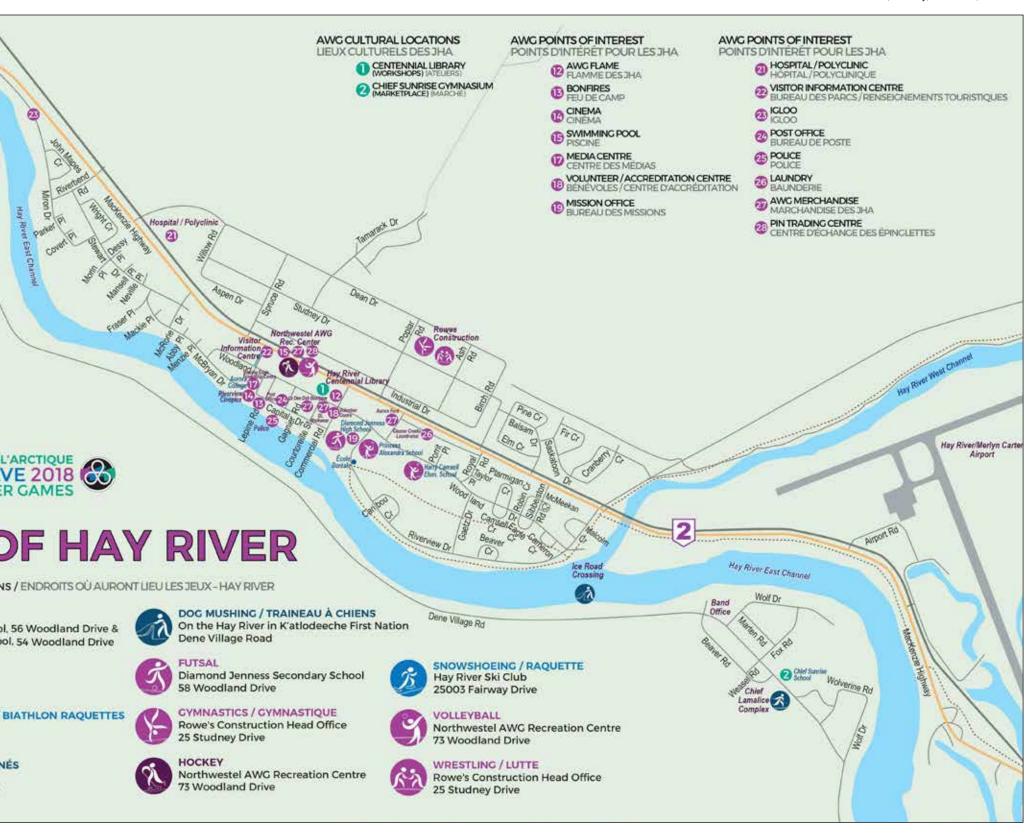


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Greenland's Nivi Mathiassen pumps her fist in the air after scoring a goal against Sapmi during futsal action at the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.



TEAM YAMAL

ARCTIC SPORTS

Denis Longortov - coach Olena Hlazkova - translator Ivan Vanuito Daria Vokueva Margarita Chernilevskaia Iuliia Iudina

SNOWSHOE BIATHLON

Aleksandr Dakhno - coach Dimitrii Fedorov - coach Yusup Hodzhanepesov translator Mariia Vershinina Evgenii Groza Daniil Zakharin Mikhail Kozhevnikov Danil Koltakov Diana Krupskaia Kristina Rudenko Milena Tsaranenko

SKI BIATHLON

Antonina Nesterova - coach Merdan Hodzhanepesov translator Anastasiia Bakirova Valerii Groza Anna Kruchinkina Arina Semeniuk

Igor Khrenov Aleksandr Chucklin Alina Shevchuk Sergei Shershnev **SNOWSHOEING** Grigorii Khangeldiev -

Andrei Aroutiounov - translator

Anna Doroftei Gennadii Koblov Evgenii Kolmakov Daria Menshchikova Vladislav Moiseev Polina Fedorova Ainur Sharipov

Veronika Valter

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI-ING

Liubov Zarko - coach Rinat Muflikhunov - coach Pavel Khaliavin - coach Osman Hodzhanepesov translator Valeriia Astashkina Dmitrii Bilyk Dmitrii Gomlia Egor Dedukh Daria Demina Mariia Zarko Daria Iziumova Vladislav Kopchenov Arina Matiushkova

Iurii Melnichnikov

Danil Rozna Elizaveta Romanova Olga Sadova Iuliia Semenova Danil Tomchuk Ilia Shabalin Aleksandra Elifkhanova **TABLE TENNIS** Nadezhda Marchenko coach Aleksandr Yartsev - transla-Pavel Avramenko Irada Baiangulova Stanislava Dushniuk

Ivan Okolodko

Mariia Makarevich Maksim Maliakin Nikita Salnikov FIGURE SKATING Alfiia Babenko - coach Iuliia Orlova - translator Kristina Bundina Nadezhda Eremina Anastasiia Zbiranik Elizaveta Kobylkina Iana Korotkova Olga Medvedeva Valeriia Nesterova

Kristina Potianikhina

Ekaterina Karzova

Anton Kishkin

FUTSAL Viacheslav Teriukhov -

Danil Azizi

Andrei Birulin - translator

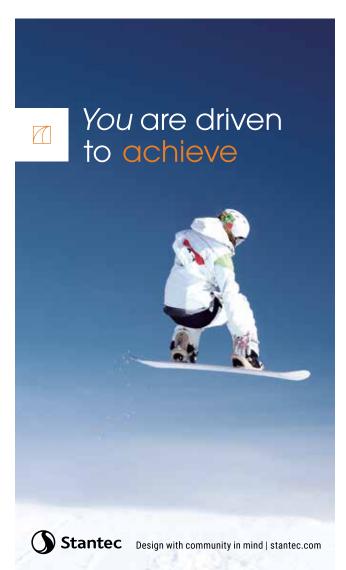
Vladislav Kuznetsov

Viacheslav Lazarev,

Iaroslav Nagurnia

coach

Shamil Nasyrov Aleksandr Palamarchuk Denis Sukhovei Aleksei Ugrinov **CULTURAL GROUP** Liudmila Dibikova - leader Kseniia Makarova - transla-Anzhela Baiazitova Olga Kargacheva Anastasiia Tylikova MISSION STAFF Aleksandr Mazharov - chef de mission Jana Wrublewska - assistant to chef de mission Liudmila Kholokholova chief coach Elena Kulikova - assistant to chief coach Marina Kovaleva - mass media liaison Liudmila Streltcova - medical liaison Source: Team Yamal



Greenland aims to meet or exceed 2016 results

Past host looks to capitalize on strong showing from last AWG

by James McCarthy Northern News Services

Greenland hosted the Arctic Winter Games on its own for the first time in 2016 and put on a strong showing by earning 81 ulus.

The team's chef de mission is hopeful that level of success can continue this time around.

Team Greenland has come to the 2018 Arctic Winter Games with a 155-strong team of athletes, coaches, mission staff and cultural

delegates. They'll be competing in nine sports and there's every chance they'll be right in the mix when it comes to handing out ulus.

"Our sport federations met in Nuuk (Greenland's capital) a few months ago to talk about how the athletes will do," said Jonas Jensen, Greenland's chef de mission. "They're hoping to have the same number of medals as we did in 2016. There's no set number of medals but we hope to do as good as we did

two years ago."

put their entries together late in 2017, Greenland has been in preparation mode for the past two years, gearing again almost immediately after the 2016

AWG came to an end.

While most of the teams

" I hope all of our sports will have success." Jonas Jensen

to give the sport organizations a chance to prepare.

> choose their athletes that train with them, a lot of them are young athletes who have a lot of talent," he said. "They then sorted through the athletes and reduced those

numbers over the past year." Greenland is a legitimate threat in several sports with badminton, table tennis and futsal being three sports where the team always does well. Arctic sports and Dene games are also events where

"I hope all of our sports will have success," said Jensen. "Our cross-country ski team has been working hard also and they're well-pre-

Greenland will be challeng-

ing for the podium.

The team headed to the community of Kangerlus-

pared because of 2016."

suaq, Greenland on March 12 to have a training session before leaving for the NWT and Jensen said the excitement was building.

"We handed out the uniforms in Kangerlussuaq and everyone is excited," he said.

"It's been a busy last few weeks for all of us to get ready and we're all hoping to have a great time. For our young athletes who are going for the first time, I hope they have a great experience."





SOUTH SLAVE 2018 #AWG2018 CULTURAL SCHEDULE

HAY RIVER	DAY 1 SUNDAY, MARCH 18	DAY 2 MONDAY, MARCH 19	DAY 3 TUESDAY, MARCH 20	DAY 4 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21	DAY 5 THURSDAY, MARCH 22	DAY 6 FRIDAY, MARCH 23	DAY 7 SATURDAY, MARCH 24
OPENING CEREMONIES	18:00-19:00 (Northwestel AWG Recreation Centre)						
CLOSING CEREMONIES							16:00 - 17:00 (Northwestel AWG Recretaion Centre)
EXHIBITS (Centennial Library)		10:00 - 17:00 & 19:00 - 22:00	10:00 - 17:00 & 19:00 - 22:00	10:00 - 17:00 & 19:00 - 22:00	10:00 - 17:00 & 19:00 - 22:00	10:00 - 17:00 & 19:00 - 22:00	
WORKSHOPS (Centennial Library)		1:30 - 3:30 Traditional Bracelet		10:30 - 12:00 Fishscale Art		10:30 - 12:00 Fishscale Art	
PERFORMANCES	10:00 Kole Crook Fiddlers (Arena Foyer	13:00 Lyca Capulso (Whispering Willows) 15:00 Jessica Latour & Bailey Mackie (Whispering Willows)	10:00 Moses Butt (Arena Foyer)	11:00 Mark Lyon (Whispering Willows) 20:00 - 23:00 Brother Inlaw Band (Legion Club Room)	19:00 - 21:00 KFN Drummers, Katlodeeche Family, Linda Duford (KFN Arbor)	20:00 - 23:00 Mark Lyon, Old Skool, Linda Durford and The Sociables, 5/3 Mad (Back Eddy)	11:00 Maxence w/ French Artists (Arena Foyer)
FORT SMITH					1		
CULTURAL GALA						18:00-20:00 (St. Josephs Cathedral)	
EXHIBITS (Northern Life Museum & Cultural Centre)		10:00 - 20:00	10:00 - 20:00	10:00 - 20:00	10:00 - 20:00	10:00 - 20:00	
WORKSHOPS (Northern Life Museum & Cultural Centre)		15:30 - 17:00 Sealskin Oopik	15:30 - 17:00 Dene Pin Dene Game	15:30 - 17:00 Acrylic Painting	15:30 - 17:00 Beading Basics	15:30 - 17:00 Polymer Clay Pendant/Keychain	
		18:30 - 20:00 Acrylic Painting	18:30 - 20:00 Beading Basics	18:30 - 20:00 Sealskin Oopik	18:30 - 20:00 Polymer Clay Pendant/Keychain	18:30 - 20:00 Dene Pin Dene Games	
PERFORMANCES		15:00 Matt Coyle 19:00 Teams: Sapmi, NT, Nunavut, Alberata (Roaring Rapids Hall)	19:00 Teams: Yamal, Greenland, Nunavut, Yukon (Roaring Rapids Hall)	17:00 Matt Coyle (Rusty Raven)	19:00 Teams: Yukon, Alaska, Alberta, Krook the Kid (Roaring Rapids Hall)	18:00 - 22:00 Fort Smith Snow Bash (Riverside Park)	



Sofie Sorenson, left, celebrates with Pernille Remman after scoring a goal during futsal action at the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.

2016 Arctic Winter Games photo

'We're used to

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said. "Those who had the best times were selected for the team. For futsal, the team leader of our football association picked who made the team from the players who tried out."

There wasn't an official Sapmi AWG team meeting held before leaving for the Games, but they did have a small get together in Denmark, before taking off on March 15.

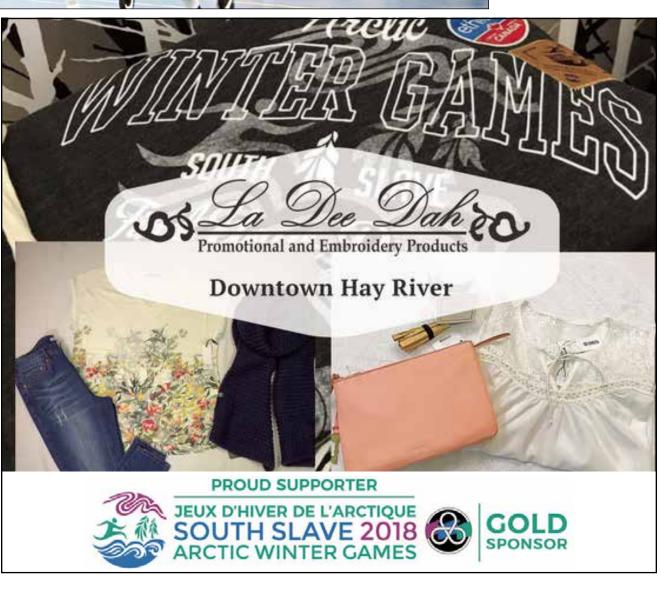
"There wasn't a lot of talk," said Eira. "I did go to one of the training camps to see how things were going.

We didn't really talk about what we are expecting. Of course, we want to win but we want everyone to enjoy themselves and do their very

Once the team arrived in Yellowknife, they were set to take the highway for the five-hour journey into Hay

They would have company on that road trip as the Greenlandic delegation was to share their transportation.

"We're used to long trips so the long bus ride is no big deal," said Eira. "Our communities are far away from each other."



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