



Press Release

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES 2012: Regional Trials **Team Nunavik–Québec: selection of the official team members**

Inukjuak, Québec, November 7, 2011 – From November 11 to 14, 79 young athletes will gather in the community of Inukjuak to take part in the third and last level of competition to secure a spot on Team Nunavik–Québec for the 2012 Arctic Winter Games. The first round of competitions started in 2010 at the community level and was followed by coastal trials in March and April 2011. The athletes will be competing in Arctic Sports, Dene Games, Badminton and Table Tennis. Due to a lack of good quality snow, the Snowshoeing regional trials will be held in mid-January 2012.

The trials will start with an opening ceremony on November 11 hosted by Jean Dupuis, Chef de Mission, and Tunu Napartuk, Head Coach. The regional trials are especially made possible by the Northern Village of Inukjuak, which accepted to host the event in cooperation with the Recreation Department of the Kativik Regional Government. Funding for the regional trials was received from the Ungaluk Program for safer communities. Air Inuit must be recognized for offering discounted flights for the athletes. A thank you is also extended to Hydro-Quebec for being a sponsor for this event.

The Arctic Winter Games are a high–profile, international sport competition held every other year for Northern athletes. The 2012 AWG will be held in Whitehorse, Yukon, from March 4 to 10. Team Nunavik–Québec will comprise 48 athletes, six cultural performers, 12 coaches and five mission staff. Québec sent athletes to the AWG in 1972, 1974, 1976 and 1986. Team Nunavik–Québec has carried on this participation every other year since 2000. Our athletes come from all around Nunavik and their selection is not solely based on their physical abilities but also on their behaviour and leadership qualities.

The Kativik Regional Government is a non-ethnic public organization created in 1978, under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. The organization has jurisdiction over nearly the entire territory of Québec north of the 55th parallel in areas such as municipal matters, transportation, the environment, policing, employment, labour training, income security, childcare services, renewable resources, land-use planning, civil security and economic development.

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