



Press Release

For immediate release

2014 Team Nunavik–Québec: Hudson Coastal Trials

Salluit, Québec, July 16, 2013 – From July 12 to the 15th, 77 young athletes from the Hudson coast were invited to gather in Salluit to take part in the Hudson coastal trials for Team Nunavik–Québec (TNQ), hoping to eventually secure one of the coveted spots for the 2014 Arctic Winter Games.

Beginning with an opening ceremony on Friday night, the Hudson coastal trials saw the athletes compete throughout the week-end in Arctic Sports, Dene Games, Snowshoe, Badminton and Table Tennis. In the absence of snow, various sets of outside foot-races, short and long distance were planned for the snowshoe trials. Exterior Dene Games activities took place with a twist of improvisation such as using grass instead of snow for the snowsnake trials. The event ended on Sunday night with a closing ceremony. Paulusie Saviadjuk, mayor of the Northern Village of Salluit stated, “It was a real privilege for Salluit to host the Hudson Coastal Trials and to witness first hand all the hard work these young athletes put into their discipline. We wish them all good luck for the rest of the process.”

Community tryouts began in 2012. The Hudson coastal trials represent a third round of competition for TNQ and regional trials are planned from November 8 to the 11th, in a community that has yet to be determined. Evaluation criteria for the selection of athletes participating in the regional trials will include performance, time devoted to training, as well as overall behaviour and attitude. Athlete selection will take place later on this summer and their participation in the regional trials is conditional upon the completion of the passport application process.

The Hudson coastal trials were made possible by the Northern Village of Salluit, which hosted the event in cooperation with the Kativik Regional Government Recreation Department. A thank you is also extended to the Community Centre, Ikusik School, the community of Salluit and volunteers for their important contribution to making this event a success.

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The Arctic Winter Games is a biennial, international sports competition for athletes from Nunavik, Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Yukon, northern Alberta, Alaska, Greenland, Yamal (Russia) and Sapmi (Scandinavia). The next Arctic Winter Games will be held in Fairbanks, Alaska, from March 15 to 22, 2014. Team Nunavik–Québec for the 2014 Arctic Winter Games will comprise 64 athletes, six cultural performers, 13 coaches and six mission staff. Québec sent athletes to the AWG in 1972, 1974, 1976 and 1986, and Team Nunavik–Québec has continued this participation every other year since 2000.

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. The KRG Recreation Department is responsible for coordinating the preparations of Team Nunavik–Québec for the Arctic Winter Games and its participation at the event.