



Press Release

For immediate release

Arctic Winter Games: Team Nunavik-Québec performs well while demonstrating a positive attitude

Nunavik, Québec, March 24, 2014 – Members of Team Nunavik–Québec (TNQ) represented their region well both on and off the field during the Arctic Winter Games (AWG) in Fairbanks, Alaska March 16-22. They returned to their home communities yesterday with new friends and stories to share.

“Our team did our region proud,” said Maggie Emudluk, Chairperson of the Kativik Regional Government (KRG), who attended the games. “We’re a small, but strong team and everywhere I went people told me how impressed they were with our athletes and our cultural performers.”

The team competed in Arctic Sports, Dene Games, Badminton, Table Tennis, Snowshoe, as well as entering its first-ever female Cross-country ski team. TNQ won a total of 31 Ulus: 7 gold, 11 silver and 13 bronze. All but one of the team’s medals were awarded in Dene Games and Arctic Sports with full medal results available at awg2014.org. At least one TNQ athlete was awarded a Fair Play Pin in all of the team’s six sports categories. These pins recognize individuals who demonstrate exceptional respect for teammates and athletes from other contingents.

Specific notable mentions include:

- Naomi Sala, Juvenile Female – Four Ulus in Dene Games (silver in Snow Snake and All-around, bronze in Stick Pull and Hand Games) two Fair Play Pins, as well as a third-place finish at the AWG’s Got Talent contest
- Dylan Gordon, Junior Male – Three Ulus in Arctic Sports (gold in Kneel Jump and All-around, silver in Arm Pull)
- Deseray Cumberbatch, Open Female – Three Ulus in Arctic Sports (bronze in Sledge Jump, Triple Jump and Arm Pull) while showing great mentorship and leadership with her teammates
- The entire cross-country ski relay team being awarded a Fair Play Pin

KRG staff worked hard in the months leading up to the event, as well as making sure everything remained on track during the games. “I’m proud of the work our staff has done for these games.

But it's also very important to recognize our chaperones, coaches and mission staff who supported our athletes and looked after them throughout the week," said Isabelle Parizeau, the KRG's Director General, adding TNQ's participation in the 2014 Arctic Winter Games was made possible by the generous support of a number of organizations from the region.

More information about TNQ and the 2014 Arctic Winter Games is available at www.krg.ca. The team's communications staff also widely utilized social media including a Facebook page, YouTube channel and Instagram site, as well as providing regular regional radio reports and a TNQ Newsletter to keep the region informed of the team's progress during the games.

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About the Kativik Regional Government

The Kativik Regional Government (KRG) 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 dedicated to the delivery of recreational activities for all Nunavimmiut, promoting healthy and active living, as well as encouraging participation in many different sports and recreation opportunities.

About the Arctic Winter Games

The Arctic Winter Games (AWG) is a high profile circumpolar sport competition for northern and Arctic athletes – the world's largest northern multi-sport and cultural event. The AWG provides an opportunity to strengthen sport development in the participants' jurisdictions, to promote the benefits of sport, to build partnerships, and to promote culture and values.

There are nine (9) circumpolar regions that send teams to compete at the Games – Alaska, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Alberta North, Nunavut, Greenland, Yamal (Russia), Nunavik-Québec and Sapmi (Scandinavia). Special emphasis is given to the circumpolar sports from each region, such as Arctic Sports and Dene Games; these events make the AWG a unique gathering as this is the only international sporting forum that officially recognizes these heritage sports.

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