



The 20th Arctic Winter Games Back in the NWT

With 9 months to go the 20th Arctic Winter Games is moving into high gear! Volunteers are signing up, sponsors are jumping on board and the Games team is in full swing to make the 2008 Yellowknife Arctic Winter Games the best there's ever been!

The Games were officially launched in February, 2006 with a celebration parade, unveiling of the 2008 AWG logo and theme, volunteer sign up and the cutting of a very delicious cake!

Cutting a celebration cake l to r: volunteer Lona Collins, emcee Megan Munro, Yellowknife AWG President Cathie Bolstad, NWT Deputy Premier Floyd Roland, Yellowknife Mayor Gord Van Tighem and volunteer Gail Cyr



U LU NEWS

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ARCTIC WINTER GAMES
YELLOWKNIFE 2008

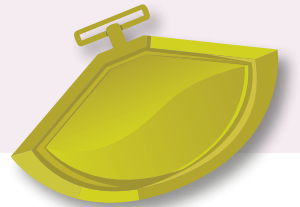
2008
Arctic Winter Games
March 9 - 15, 2008

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Board Directors Kathy Brown and Reanna Erasmus sign up volunteers

Sponsors' Reception & Mascot Launch

After the Games launch, the team organized a hugely successful sponsors' reception to say a big thank you to those already committed and invite new sponsors to come on board. Big news of the night??? The introduction of Foxy, our official mascot, designed by Fort Smith's own Chris Dewolf.



President Cathie Bolstad introduces Chris Dewolf, winning designer of our mascot, Foxy



International Committee President Gerry Thick with GNWT Minister Brendan Bell and 2008 AWG President Cathie Bolstad



AWG Marketing and PR Director Darlene Mandeville with NWT Commissioner Tony Whitford



Sponsors, Bob Davies, Ek'ati Services, and Peter Austin, Tundra Transfer, enjoying the evening. Bob surprised the Host Society with a cheque for \$6,000!

Get Your Games Gear Here!!!

A huge inventory available...

Games gear is here! A huge inventory in all shapes and sizes is available from the official Games Gear Store (look for us in the Panda II Mall at the end of June) but you can see a few samples right here!

Thanks heaps to our volunteer MLA models, Deputy Premier Floyd Roland,

Minister Brendan Bell and his super-sweet daughter Emily and MLA Robert Hawkins and his terrific son McKinley, and if they inspire you, you can order cool stuff for men, women and youth (kids line coming soon...) simply by phoning (867) 765-2955 or visiting our store.



Yellowknife Centre MLA Robert Hawkins models a blue denim shirt for both men and women, sizes S – XXXL while son McKinley is wearing a woolen/fleece toque, available in royal blue, yellow, pumpkin, light blue, red and grey.



Minister Brendan Bell models a camp ottoman shirt with white piping, while his daughter Emily looks cute in a pink military cap and pink tank top.



Deputy Premier and Inuvik Boot Lake MLA, Floyd Roland looking every bit the supermodel in an orange zip mock neck shirt, black down vest, and lightweight track pant with peek-a-boo blue zip at the ankle (also available in peek-a-boo red, and white pant with peek-a-boo red).



Emily shows off her pink military cap!



AWG Fashion Shows wow crowds at Spring Trade Show

At Yellowknife's Greatest Indoor Trade Show the AWG had a great presence, with volunteer booths, raffle booths, an archive display, and top class merchandise for sale.

Many thanks go out to First Air, who invited the AWG into the main lobby, Roy's Audiotronics, Clear Arctic Springs, the North Slave Métis Association, and the YK Dart Association and YK Gymnastics Club, plus all of our sponsors who contributed prizes – you made the event for us! The fashion shows were a highlight of the weekend, with local celebrity models in the AWG gear. On Mother's Day Sunday, the models distributed gifts for moms, courtesy of Merle Norman Spa and Flowers by Manuela.

A truly big thanks to our models Premier Joe Handley; Jan Stirling; June Van Dine Arden; Declan Robinson Spence; Brad Enge; Minister Floyd Roland; Rachel MacNeill; Cheryl Robinson; Minister Brendan Bell and Emily; Mayor Gord Van Tighem; MLA Robert Hawkins and McKinley and

Hudson; Minister Charles Dent; Siku Allooloo; Brad Poulter; Janet Pacey and Winnie; Dave Grundy; Jessie, Michelle and Isabelle Normandin; Gila Somers; MLA Sandy Lee; Duff Spence; Maud Robinson Spence and her pals Andrea Neilsen and Amy Guile. Thanks to all – you were fantastic! And a round of applause to the brains behind the operation Katherine Robinson, Corinne Krause, Heather Bibby and Gail Cyr – you guys rock! And, of course, a huge thank you to our fabulous partners; First Air's Mike Olson, Kim Poulter and emcee extraordinaire, Matthew Mossman.

And if you REALLY want to be cutting edge, do like our super sponsors, Tlicho Landtran, Henry's Barbershop, PSAV Architects, and the Nunasi Corporation and order some Games Gear for your staff – be ready for Gameswear Fridays!

(Picture Credits: Maud Robinson Spence and Stacy Ogilvie)



Premier Joe Handley



Foxy



Michelle and Isabelle Normandin from Quality Furniture



Declan Robinson Spence



AWG Sport Director Dave Grundy



Siku Allooloo



Jan Stirling



Rachel MacNeill



June Van Dine Arden



Brad Poulter



June Van Dine Arden, Siku Allooloo, Jan Stirling and Range Lake MLA Sandy Lee with Foxy



Brad Enge gives a Mother's Day flower and gift bag to mom Sheila MacPherson



Janet Pacey and the only NWT canine model we know, the lovely Winnie!



Duff Spence with gifts for a lucky mom

Do you know your AWG Sports?

In Yellowknife next March 9 – 15th, the Arctic Winter Games makes its 20th appearance in the circumpolar world, and is the 5th time that Yellowknife has acted as host. Over the course of the past 19 Games, 27 sports have made competitive debuts. The 2008 AWG will host 18 sports, including Arctic Sports, Badminton, Basketball, Cross-Country Skiing, Curling, Dene Games, Dog Mushing, Figure Skating, Gymnastics, Hockey, Indoor Soccer, Biathlon (Ski & Snowshoe), Snowboarding, Snowshoeing, Speed Skating, Table Tennis, Volleyball, and Wrestling.

The AWG was created to provide an event where Northern athletes could develop new skills and achieve personal goals in an international environment. Eight of the ten sports selected for the inaugural Games are still played today, as well as many others including dog mushing and snowboarding.

But it's the Inuit and Dene Games that really set the AWG apart. While

other sports in the Games now focus exclusively on youth, the Inuit and Dene Games have retained adult competition so young people can receive coaching from experienced athletes and learn the traditions that accompany the sports. Did you know an athlete is expected to offer technical assistance and advice to his or her rival during competition? While winning is important, the most important thing is to help an athlete achieve their best possible result.

AWG sports include:

The **Inuit Games (Arctic Sports)** (1974) include 11 events: the one-foot, two-foot, and Alaska high kicks; arm pull; kneel jump; airplane; one-hand reach; head pull; knuckle hop; sledge jump; and triple jump. Collectively, each of these sports requires some combination of strength, conditioning, technique, and a high tolerance for pain.



The **Dene Games** (1990; female participation-2004) include five events: the finger pull, pole push, stick pull, snow snake, and hand games. The first three events are tests of strength and strategy. The snow snake consists of throwing a spear underhanded along a snow field, with the longest throw winning. Within the hand games, two teams of four face each other and take turns trying to deceive the other about the location of a token in one team member's hand. This is accompanied by drum beating and bodily gyrations.

Badminton (1970) – we expect to see players from Alaska, Northern Alberta, Yukon, Nunavut, NWT, and Greenland.

Basketball (1970) – we expect teams from Alaska, Yukon, Nunavut, NWT, and for the first time ever, a woman's team from Yamal.

Snowshoe Biathlon (1974) – combines competitive snowshoeing and small-bore rifle marksmanship. We expect teams from Alaska, Yukon, NWT, and Nunavik.

Ski Biathlon (1986) – combines competitive, free-technique cross-country skiing and small-bore rifle marksmanship. We expect competitors from Alaska, Alberta North, Yukon, NWT, Sami, and Yamal.

Cross-Country Skiing (1970) – we estimate more than 150 participants from 7 different contingents including Alaska, Alberta North, Yukon, NWT, Greenland, Sami, and Yamal.

Curling (1970) – a familiar sport to Canadians, and we expect teams from Alaska, Alberta North, Yukon, Nunavut, and NWT.

Dog Mushing (1990) – sprint type, with four-dog teams. We expect dog mushers to join us from Alaska, Yukon, NWT, Northern Alberta, and Nunavik.

Figure Skating (1970) – along with Gymnastics, contingencies now only send female competitors. We expect athletes from Alaska, Alberta North, Yukon, NWT, and Yamal.

Gymnastics (1982) – we expect athletes from Alaska, Alberta North, Yukon, and NWT.

Hockey (1970) – we expect over 260 hockey players at the 2008 AWG, with teams coming from Alaska, Northern Alberta, Yukon, Nunavut, and NWT.

Indoor Soccer (1980) – we anticipate over 250 soccer players next March, with teams from Alaska, Alberta North, Yukon, Nunavut, NWT, Greenland, and Yamal.

Snowboarding (1988) - had its first participation at the 2002 Games held in Nuuk, Greenland. For the 2008 Games, the snowboarding competition has been modified to suit available venues.

Snowshoeing (1974) – we expect athletes from Alaska, Yukon, NWT, and Yamal.

Speed Skating (1984) – we expect athletes from Alaska, Alberta North, Yukon, Nunavut, and NWT.

Table Tennis (1970) - competition has risen markedly since the entrance of the Greenlandic players in 1990. We expect competitors from Alaska, Yukon, Nunavut, Greenland, and Yamal.

Volleyball (1970) – we expect both male and female teams from Alaska, Northern Alberta, Yukon, Nunavut, NWT and Greenland.

Wrestling (1972) – includes both free and Inuit styles, with the latter restricted to upper-body wrestling. We expect both male and female athletes from Alaska, Northern Alberta, Yukon, Nunavut, NWT and Yamal.



... and we have Culture!

The NWT is home to a dynamic indigenous culture as well as a global community, offering a wealth of resources from which to provide a fitting tribute to the North as a vibrant, exciting and culturally-rich host. The cultural program of the 2008 Games will highlight 2008 as the 20th Games milestone, focusing upon the Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Film Arts and Photographic Arts.

Each of these artistic forms holds three goals: To provide quality public performance and display, quality culture and sport sharing, and quality

artist-to-artist development. From the commissioning of 20 murals celebrating the 20th Games to five young filmmakers and photographers documenting the journey of an athlete and event throughout the Games week to the Cultural Galas hosted at the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre, there is something for everyone to enjoy and celebrate.

(Picture Credits: With permission – Arctic Winter Games International Committee)



Help us put on the Games!

By the time March 9th, 2008 rolls around, we will need about 2500 volunteers. The AWG depends heavily on its volunteers, we have 45 volunteer

committees, a volunteer board, and people signing up daily! There are lots of opportunities to volunteer and be part of the AWG team before and during the

Games, so make sure you go on-line at www.awg2008.ca and register!

Our Volunteers of the Month

January 2007

**Gail
Cyr**



Gail is the Chair of the 2008 Arctic Winter Games Merchandising Committee, dedicating many volunteer hours to successfully create and launch the official Games merchandise and store, as well as a committed member of the Marketing and Public Relations Committee.

Gail currently works with the Department of MACA, GNWT, and is an active community member, having acted as master of ceremonies for many community events, assisting in patient care through her St. John's Ambulance training, and participating in theatrical productions.

February 2007

**Gail
Daniels**



Gail Daniels is the Awards Chair in the Ceremonies & Culture division. She has held this position for the past three Yellowknife Arctic Winter Games.

With Gail's leadership, her team takes on each assignment with enthusiasm and determination to get the job done. She has completed countless tasks with her team, including a strong presentation to the AWG International Committee.

In her spare time, Gail is an avid curler. Her curling team recently won the Yellowknife Curling Club and NWT Seniors play downs which earned them a spot at the NWT/Yukon Championships. The winner will move on to represent the NWT/YT at the Seniors Nationals.

March 2007

**Ciaran
Coates**



**Andre
Thibodeau**



Andre Thibodeau and Ciaran Coates are co-chair of systems and programs respectively for the IT and Communications Division. Andre and Ciaran were primary volunteers tasked with setting up the IT support for our AWG office.

They have spent countless hours researching and implementing computer technologies for use by the AWG to help ensure the success of the games in 2008.

All this is on top of the fact that Andre and Ciaran were also key contributors in the City of Yellowknife bid for the 2008 AWG! So we owe them both hearty congratulations for being great members of the AWG 2008 host society.

**Upcoming
Issue!
(September
- October 2007)**

- Sponsors
- New Product Lines
- Recent & Upcoming Events
- Volunteer of the Month
- Contests
- And More!

People behind the Games:

The Arctic Winter Games International Committee:

Gerry Thick – President (Whitehorse, Yukon)

Karen Thomson – Treasurer (Whitehorse, Yukon)

Wendell Shiffler – Vice President (Fairbanks, Alaska)

John Rodda – Director (Anchorage, Alaska)

Lloyd Bentz – Secretary (Edmonton, Alberta)

Sharon Clarkson – Director (Fort McMurray, Alberta)

Ian Legaree – Technical Director (Yellowknife, Northwest Territories)

Jens Brinch – Director (Nuuk, Greenland)

Marilyn Neily – Director (Iqaluit, Nunavut)

The 2008 Arctic Winter Games Board:

Cathie Bolstad – President

Wendy Bisaro – Vice President & Director, Care & Comfort

Dave Grundy – 2nd Vice President & Director, Sport Technical

Chuck Parker – Secretary & Director, Special Projects

Max Hall – Treasurer & Director, Administration

John-Eric Petersson – Director, IT & Communications

Reanna Erasmus – Director, Ceremonies & Culture

David Gilday – Director, Fundraising

Darlene Mandeville – Director, Marketing & Public Relations

Grant White – Director, Sport Facilities

Kathy Brown – Director, Volunteer & Protocol

Ex-Officio Members:

Gordon Van Tighem – Mayor, City of Yellowknife

Robert Hawkins – MLA, Yellowknife Centre

Doug Rentmeister – Director, Sport North Federation

Ian Legaree – Technical Director, AWG International Committee

Lydia Bardak – Councillor, City of Yellowknife

Staff Members:

Dave Hurley – General Manager

Nadine Koe – Executive Assistant / Volunteer Coordinator

Sharni Bruce – Manager, Sport

Holly Angus – Manager, Fundraising

Jacqueline McKinnon – Manager, Marketing

Picture Credits:

Except where identified, all pictures courtesy of Julia Mott.



April 2007

**Dennis
Willacy**



Dennis has been volunteering extensively from planning meetings, packing/ unloading of equipment, assisting with on-line volunteer registrations to unloading of the athletes' beds (mattresses and frames).

He attended his first Arctic Winter Games in 2006 in Kenai, Alaska as a volunteer parent for the NWT boys soccer team. Since his 2006 AWG experience he has been interested in helping us out wherever he can.

Way to go Dennis!

May 2007

**Roland
Gagnon**



Roland has been involved in the Host Society fundraising initiatives since the formation of the 2008 AWG Host Society. He has also served as the Chair of the Raffle Committee, with a goal of raising \$100,000. He worked tirelessly to solicit donations to bring the NWT the Chance of a Lifetime raffle.

Prior to working on the raffle, Roland was instrumental in securing numerous sponsors, including the Yellowknife Elks Lodge and Yellowknife Royal Purple Lodge.

Roland has volunteered for the Arctic Winter Games since 1970 in various capacities (Chief Referee, Mission Staff, Transportation and Fundraising) and brings a wealth of experience to the Games.