



ULU News

The Wood Buffalo 2023 Arctic Winter Games

Wood Buffalo Edition | ISSUE 5 - FEB. 1, 2023 • The Official Newspaper of the Arctic Winter Games



Follow at www.awg2023.org • LinkedIn • Facebook • Twitter • Instagram
@woodbuffalo2023 #AWG2023



GRAHAM WHATMOUGH
ON THE COVER —
 Fireworks fill the night sky to end the two-day Shine on the Snye event presented by the Athabasca Tribal Council.

Treaty & Land Acknowledgement

The Arctic Winter Games Host Society acknowledges Treaty 8 Territory, ancestral and traditional land of the Cree, Dene and Métis people.

We are thankful for these borrowed lands along with the traditional teachings and lessons of resilience they offer us in the spirit of maintaining good relations with others for future generations.

As long as the sun shines, the river flows and the grass grows, we will honour these lands.

Nih Beghonoł't'a ʔą T'e (Dene)

The Arctic Winter Games Host Society, S̱anáts'dé betłas̱ hoʔą. Yanisoł'ine dene, Dene, Ena, Begahg̱ze benéné, tẖi bechaniye hotiye ẖotł'thé beghonoł'ta, Treaty #8 keyaghé.

Hotiye marci nederi nih beghé s̱anáts'ede ha noẖo nat'a, beg̱ẖłthene Yanisoł'ine bechaniye beta honowetł'no łat'e. T'a t'o Yanisoł'ine dene bahorenihele hodel kolo, bechaniyé kas̱ ẖotł'thé S̱anáts'dé ha tẖi eyita eḻcẖtan nowej̱iye neẕo heḻcẖi yonatẖi thá seḵw̱i daniyáh cho ha ʔat'e.

Nederi Sa gheatho, Des heḻho, T'ogh neseho, hotiye ẖotlethe nederi nih beghodi ẖą t'a.

Nitaskinan (Cree)

Arctic Pipon Metawiw̱in Society Emamiskotakwaw Treaty 8 Nehiyo, Ochiponiw, Métis Asḵiy.

Nanaskomananak Otaskiwaw Entatamoyahk Ahkamemotwaw Opimachihonowaw Epimatisakwaw Miyoti Ototemkoyakwaw.

Esko Pisim Pimoteti Esko Sip̱iy Pimichowaki Esko Maskosiya Opikikwawe

Treaty 8 Adhesion 1899 Signed by Chiefs of RMWB.

*Land Acknowledgement Developed by Allison Flett and Elder Alice Martin
 Translated by Elder Rita Marten*

The ULU News Team

Publications Chair & ULU News Editor in Chief Dawn Booth

Programs Manager of Marketing & Communications Elizabeth Priest

ULU News Writers

Greg Bennett, Stephen Harris, Curtis J. Phillips and Becki Storie

Games Record Chair

Robert Murray

ULU News Headquarters

1 MacDonald Dr., Fort McMurray, Shell Place Ballroom

Direct Line:
780-838-1972

Have a news tip or story to share?
Email: ulunews@awg2023.org

Stay connected with the Wood Buffalo 2023 Arctic Winter Games. Scan the barcode to download the AWG 2023 mobile app and follow the social media accounts for news and updates about all things AWG!



AWG 2023 Live Updates on LinkedIn • Facebook • Twitter • Instagram | @woodbuffalo2023
Hashtag: #AWG2023



WOOD BUFFALO
2023
 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

Team Alaska gets new look to jerseys

BECKI STORIE

2023 Ulu News

When Team Alaska's female basketball team had their jerseys misplaced, AWG Basketball Chair Brendan Toner reached out to high school athletic directors in Fort McMurray to find a solution.

Craig Hurley from Holy Trinity High School told us he had some jerseys in his office and said they could supply Alaska with basketball uniforms.

"Brendan gave me the specifics (number of jerseys, sizes, etc) and I confirmed with him that Holy Trinity had what they needed," said Hurley. "I knew all of our uniforms would say Knights on them and thought that there was something more that could be done."

That's when Hurley got on the phone with their design and digital media teacher Megan Loxam, explained the situation, and asked if it would be possible to print Alaska somewhere on the uniforms.

"We went to the school Sunday evening, collected the proper size uniforms and used the school's shirt press so that the jerseys then read "Alaska Knights". I dropped the uniforms off Monday morning at Ecole McTavish, where the girls' basketball is being held, and was happy to hear that the uniforms worked for the Alaskan team."



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL | SUPPLIED PHOTO

Team Alaska's female basketball team wearing their new jerseys that were brought to them by the staff at Holy Trinity Catholic School. The team misplaced their originals and new ones were transformed from the high school's basketball jerseys.



ULUS TRACKER

The Wood Buffalo
2023 Arctic Winter

Track the medal count in ULU News and online at www.awg2023.org

Contingent	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Alberta North	11	9	7	27
Yukon	8	10	5	23
Northwest Territories	9	6	4	19
Alaska	2	5	9	16
Greenland	4	2	4	10
Nunavik	0	2	2	4
Nunavut	0	0	2	2
Sápmi	0	0	0	0

In Every ULU News

Land Acknowledgement	02
2023 Sports Schedule	06
AWG Venues Map	07
Contingents Feature	08
Seven Sacred Teachings	09



ATCO SALUTES THE VOLUNTEERS

We celebrate the vibrancy and passion that volunteers bring to the Games and to our communities. ATCO is proud to power the volunteer program and to continue our support as a Legacy Sponsor of the 2023 Arctic Winter Games.

[ATCO.com/awg](https://www.atco.com/awg)

ATCO

WOOD BUFFALO
2023
ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

Local artist creates Arctic Winter Games Hodgson Trophy pin bag

BECKI STORIE

2023 Ulu News

A design by Métis, multi-disciplinary artist Stacey Grant, has been selected to create a pin bag the Arctic Winter Games which will celebrate sportsmanship.

The Wood Buffalo 2023 Arctic Winter Games Host Society in collaboration with the Arctic Winter Games International Committee (AWGIC) invited Indigenous artists to participate in a design competition to create a pin bag as part of the Hodgson Trophy award.

Artists were encouraged to produce a design centered around the theme of team spirit and togetherness. The winning artist, Grant, created a bag that draws inspiration from Indigenous traditions, local beauty, and the spirit of the Games.

Northern Lights — “My idea was to really focus on and include the northern lights on this bag. When I think about the RMWB, I think Northern Lights, last year we had the

most beautiful Northern Lights. It’s my belief that they are our ancestors dancing—now watching these athletes.” Explained Stacey.

Ancestors — Staying with the theme of ancestors, Grant used vintage beads in her creation some over a hundred years old. “Some of these beads may have been from my ancestors, others came from our local environment, this was really important to me. Whoever wins this trophy will be taking a piece of Fort McMurray home with them.”

Creation Story — She also used Muskrat fur as a nod to creation story, known to many Indigenous communities. “It was the Muskrat, the smallest member of the team with the biggest spirit that was able to bring the world back. For me, that spoke to these Games, it doesn’t matter your size or your stature, it’s your spirit that will carry these athletes through.”

Nature and Life — Another element is the floral motif—this is based in Métis beadwork teachings.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Hodgson Trophy pin bag was created by local Métis artist, Stacey Grant. The Hodgson Trophy will be awarded by the AWGIC at the closing ceremonies on February 4, 2023.

Diversity — The bag uses three different hides, all different shades to represent the diversity in the RMWB has in the community. “Our Region has one of the most diverse populations, the different shades of hides represent the different skin tones which make up our region, something to be celebrated.”























SUPPORTED BY:
**CULTURE
OF THE DAY**



MULTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
OF WOOD BUFFALO

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 3
MACDONALD ISLAND PARK

2023 SPORTS SCHEDULE

SPORT	VENUE	28-JAN	29-JAN	30-JAN	31-JAN	1-FEB	2-FEB	3-FEB	4-FEB
 ALPINE SKI	Vista Ridge	ARRIVAL DAY	T	C	C	C	W	W	W
 ARCHERY	Shell Place - MIP*		NC	T	C	C	C	C	NC
 ARCTIC SPORTS	CNOOC Fieldhouse #1 - MIP*		T	C	C	C	C	C	NC
 BADMINTON	Anzac Recreation Centre		T	C	C	C	C	C	C
 BASKETBALL	Ecole McTavish & Holy Trinity High School		T	C	C	C	C	C	C
 BIATHLON (SKI)	Fort McMurray Golf Club		T	C	C	W	C	C	NC
 BIATHLON (SNOWSHOE)	Fort McMurray Golf Club		T	C	C	W	C	C	NC
 CROSS COUNTRY SKIING	Birchwood Trail/Doug Barnes Cabin		T	C	C	C	C	C	W
 CURLING	Suncor Community Leisure Centre - MIP*		C	C	C	C	C	C	C
 DENE GAMES	CNOOC Fieldhouse #2 - MIP*		NC	C	C	C	C	C	NC
 FIGURE SKATING	Frank Lacroix Arena		T	T	C	C	C	C	NC
 FUTSAL	Fieldhouse 3, SSWC**		C	C	C	C	C	C	C
 GYMNASTICS	Norfort Gymnastics		T	T	T	C	T	C	NC
 HOCKEY - FEMALE	Centerfire Place		C	C	C	C	C	C	NC
 HOCKEY - MALE	Arena #1 & #2 - MIP*		C	C	C	C	C	C	C
 SNOWBOARDING	Vista Ridge		T	C	C	C	C	W	NC
 SNOWSHOEING	Birchwood Trails/Doug Barnes Cabin		T	C	W	C	W	C	NC
 SPEED SKATING	Fort McKay Arena		T	T	C	C	C	C	NC
 TABLE TENNIS	Shell Place, MIP*		T	D	C	C	C	C	NC
 VOLLEYBALL	Composite High School & SSWC**		T	C	C	C	C	C	C
 WRESTLING	Fieldhouse 2, SSWC**	T	C	C	D	C	C	T	

C COMPETITION DAY **NC** NON-COMPETITION DAY **T** TRAINING **W** WEATHER DAY **D** DEMONSTRATION/CLINIC

*MacDonald Island Park | **Synchrude Sport & Wellness Centre

Athlete of the Day

ATHLETE: Myla Turner, 17
TEAM YUKON
SPORT: Level II Figure Skating

In every Ulu News edition, our field reporter Stephen Harris will feature an Athlete of the Day to learn a little more about the athletes participating in the Wood Buffalo 2023 Arctic Winter Games.

How did you get the skills to be so good at your event?

I have been skating for ten years, and the coaches did their jobs.

What is your favourite local tradition or special day within your community?

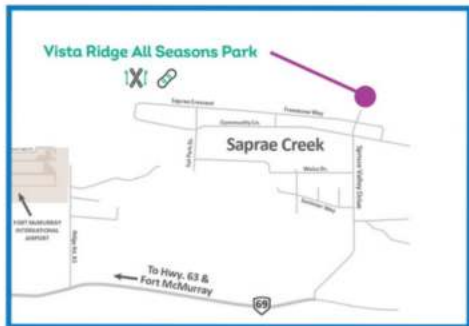
Rendezvous. It is a festival in February with can-can dancers and fireworks.

What is the most special thing about your community?

Even though it is a bigger community, it is tight-knit, and everyone knows everybody.

What would your dream job be? A social worker

If you could choose any superpower, what would it be? Speed like The Flash



Sports Legend

- Alpine Skiing
- Anchoring
- Arctic Sports
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Biathlon Ski
- Biathlon Snowshoe
- Cross Country Ski
- Curling
- Dance Skating
- Figure Skating
- Futsal
- Gymnastics
- Hockey
- Snowboarding
- Snowshoeing
- Speed Skating
- Table Tennis
- Volleyball
- Wrestling



WOOD BUFFALO 2023
ARCTIC WINTER GAMES
Venues

GROUND TRANSPORTATION: All accredited volunteers and participants have complimentary access to The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) transit system, WOOSH, during Games week. Volunteers must show their accreditation badge to ride for free. Learn more at awg2023.org/ground-transportation/

CONTINGENT SHOWCASE: TEAM YUKON



2023 ULU NEWS | GRAPHIC SUPPLIED

Team Yukon happy to be back after the wait

Eight contingents are participating in the Wood Buffalo 2023 Arctic Winter Games. Every edition of the Ulu News will feature each contingent.

Chef de Mission - Megan Cromarty: After working with Team Yukon for several years, this will be Megan Cromarty's first Games representing as the team's Chef de Mission. The Chef de Mission is the support behind all the teams, athletes and coaches ensuring the logistics and administration is in place for the teams to succeed.

"It's so exciting to see Team Yukon, and all the athletes able to compete. It was a little bittersweet after the cancelled Games in Whitehorse, and then the delay on these Games,

There are athletes who have unfortunately aged out and won't have the opportunity to compete or experience a home Games. What we saw was a ton of resilience come out of these athletes, now they're ready to start a new chapter," Megan said.

Continuing a Legacy: Team Yukon has participated in every Games since its inception in 1970 with Whitehorse hosting the Games six times. The 2020 Games would have marked the seventh time for the city when the pandemic struck and forced the Games to be cancelled.

Spirit of the Games: "I'm so looking forward to the team's Games experience. There's something special about the atmosphere, competing in a Games is so special, the friends you make, it's a cultural and personal experience like no other." Megan explained.

— BECKI STORIE, 2023 Ulu News

**MENTAL
HEALTH
IS OUR
SPORT**

Visit the **Mental Health and Sport Resource Hub** to learn how to integrate positive mental health practices into your sport.



#MentalHealthIsOurSport

coach,ca

Coaching Association of Canada
Association canadienne des entraîneurs

— ULU NEWS SNAPSHOT OF THE DAY —



SUPPLIED PHOTO

SKI BIATHLON BREEZE TO SILVER — Cole Germain of Team Yukon takes on the 6.0 km Sprint at the Fort McMurray Golf Club yesterday. He received a silver medal in the day's competition. Team Yukon is leading the medals chart in second place at the Arctic Winter Games.



COURAGE

The Seven Sacred Teachings

The capacity of facing danger without giving up due to fear. To face challenges with confidence and bravery. Courage Gift of the BEAR. The Bear represents courage because of its natural ability to overcome challenges through its everyday life and its incredible instinct of *The Seven Sacred Teachings will be highlighted in each edition of Ulu News to honour the land the Games are played on.*



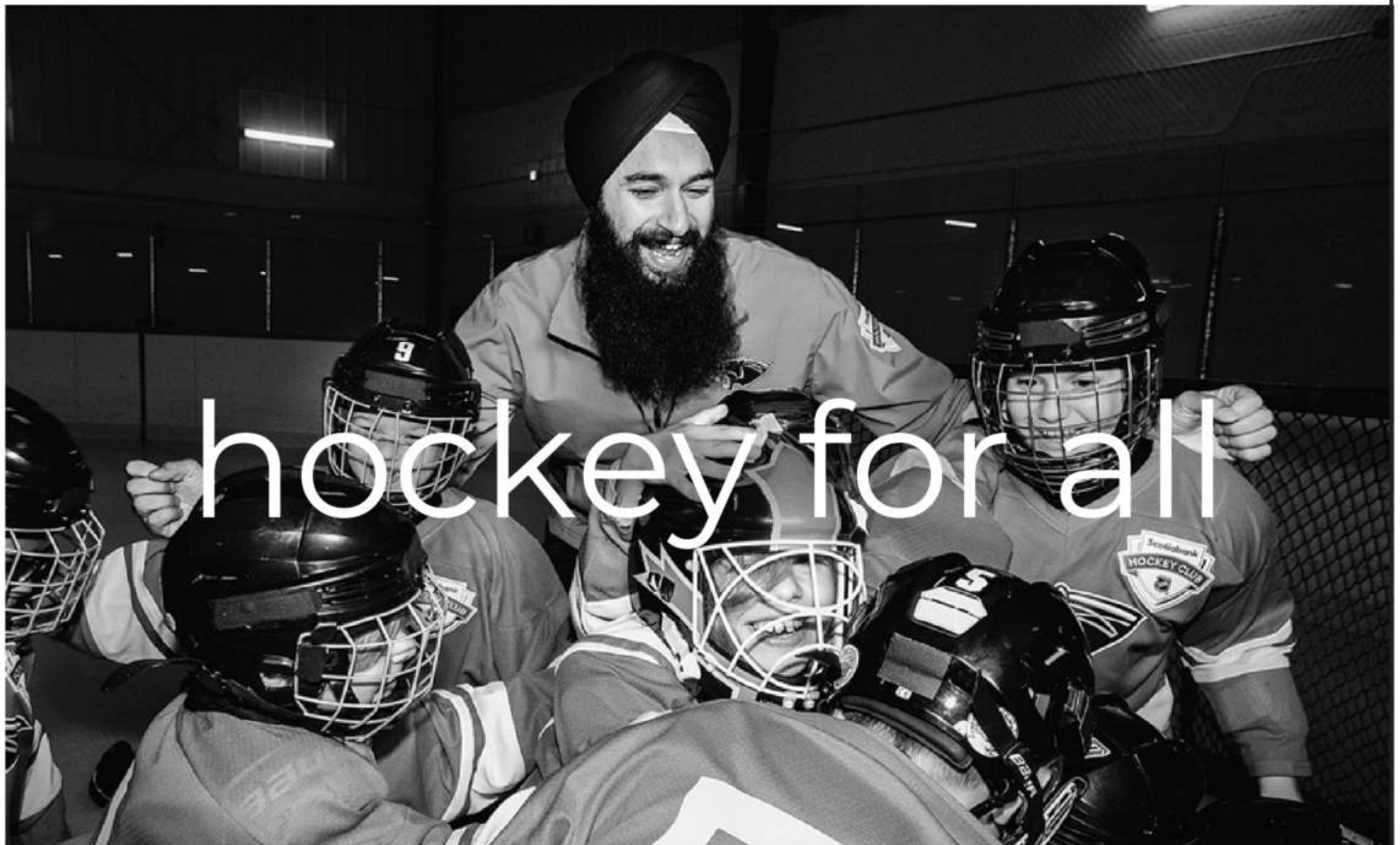
A LEGACY OF IMPACT

From operating and maintaining the North Warning System to installing solar infrastructure in Fort McKay, ATCO has spent more than a century making an impact on Canada's North and the communities that call it home.

We're proud to be a Legacy Sponsor of the Arctic Winter Games and the presenting sponsor of the 2023 Volunteer Program.

ATCO.com/AWG





Helping kids succeed on the ice means helping them succeed everywhere. That's why Scotiabank is on a mission to make hockey more diverse, more inclusive and more accessible for all.

Scotiabank is proud to sponsor the
2023 Arctic Winter Games.

See how we're changing the game at
scotiabank.com/hockeyforall

Timberlea Landing, Thickwood Boulevard and
Franklin Avenue locations.

Scotiabank[®]

® Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia.