

News Release

Team Nunavut selection almost completed

IQALUIT, Nunavut (January 28, 2002) – Selection of Nunavut's team for the Arctic Winter Games is almost complete, Community Government and Transportation Minister Manitok Thompson said today.

"The athletes, coaches and officials selected to Team Nunavut have shown dedication and commitment to their individual sports," said Minister Thompson. "Being named to Team Nunavut is a reward for all their long and hard work."

Trials for hockey will take place over the coming weeks. Selection of the entire Team Nunavut will be completed by February 18.

Team Nunavut will be competing against top athletes from northern Quebec, the Northwest Territories, Yukon, northern Alberta, Greenland, Alaska and Russia. In order to compete at such a high international level, Sport Nunavut requires that all its athletes have a solid background in and excellent knowledge of their sport. In addition, all athletes must have a certified coach and show a true commitment to their sport through a training program that will prepare them for international competition.

Sport Nunavut and the Territorial Sports Organizations have been working together for several years to train athletes, coaches and officials to represent Nunavut at the Arctic Winter Games. Where athletes do not have the support of an established territorial sport organization, Sport Nunavut has helped athletes by providing training opportunities and team preparation.

Nunavut will be represented at the Iqaluit-Nuuk games by a team of strong, dedicated athletes who have worked long and hard to qualify for Team Nunavut, the minister said.

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