



News Release

Nunavut Wins its First Medal at the Canada Winter Games

IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 2, 2007) – An historic first for Nunavut, Team Nunavut wins it's first ever medal at the Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse, Yukon.

“This is a milestone for Nunavut at a major Canadian sporting event,” said Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth Louis Tapardjuk. “We have a young population in our territory and winning a medal puts Nunavut on the map.”

Eugene Dederick of Iqaluit won a bronze medal in Judo. Dederick competed in the over 100 kilograms category. The 15-year old who has been competing in Judo for the last six years was ecstatic to achieve his personal best at the Winter Games.

“I am very proud that I was the first athlete from Nunavut to win a medal” said Dederick.

Team Nunavut has over 60 athletes competing in badminton, curling, judo, speed skating, and table tennis. Inuit games and the Dene Games are demonstration sports.

“The 2007 Canada Winter Games have provided Nunavut with the unique opportunity to showcase the talents, culture, craftsmanship and hospitality of our territory to the rest of Canada,” noted Tapardjuk.

This is the first time that the Canada Winter Games have been held north of the 60th parallel. The games will run until March 10.

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