

News Release

For Immediate Release

Team Nunavut unveils 2018 Arctic Winter Games uniform and pin set

IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 8, 2018) – Team Nunavut participants unveiled their official uniform and commemorative pin set for the 2018 Arctic Winter Games (AWG) to Premier Paul Quassa and Minister of Community and Government Services Lorne Kusugak at the Nunavut Legislative Assembly today.

Athletes Anna Lambe, Tivi Ipeelie-Qiatsuk, Jr., and Samprass Okah presented the uniforms and pin set designed with colours from the Nunavut flag and important symbols of Inuit culture.

"Success requires commitment, inspiration and team work. Team Nunavut athletes, cultural performers, coaches, the mission staff, parents and volunteers, all embody the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit principle of Pijariuqsarniq," said Premier Quassa. "I know I speak for all Nunavummiut when I say that we cannot wait to see them in action at the 2018 Arctic Winter Games. Atii Aksut Team Nunavut! "

"Team Nunavut participants serve as role models for our communities," said Minister of Community and Government Services Lorne Kusugak. "Like any of us aspiring to excellence and leadership, they need support and encouragement from their peers and community. Thank you to our territorial sports organisations in helping our athletes achieve their dreams at the Arctic Winter Games."

Team Nunavut consists of 246 participants, including athletes, coaches, mission staff and cultural performers from communities across Nunavut, participating in 14 events.

The AWG will be held in South Slave, Northwest Territories from March 18-24, 2018. It is the world's largest northern multi-sport and cultural event, and involves participants from Northern and Arctic communities across the world.

Backgrounder attached

Media Contacts:

Kris Mullaly Policy Analyst/Communications Officer Department of Community and Government Services 867-975-5342 <u>kmullaly@gov.nu.ca</u>



Backgrounder

2018 Arctic Winter Games

- The theme of the 2018 Arctic Winter Games (AWG) is Find Your Power.
- Team Nunavut is made up of 246 Nunavummiut, from 19 communities, including athletes, coaches, managers, mission staff and cultural performers.
- Athletes are participating in 14 events, including: Arctic Sports, Dene Games, Badminton, Basketball, Gymnastics, Futsal, Volleyball, Wrestling, Table Tennis, Curling, Figure Skating, Hockey, Speed Skating and Culture.
- Team Nunavut will also be represented by 13 Youth Ambassadors who will be volunteering for the Host Society.
- The AWG formally began with the registration of the Arctic Winter Games Corporation under the Canada Corporations Act on January 18, 1968. In 1992, the Arctic Winter Games Corporation changed its name to the Arctic Winter Games International Committee to eliminate confusion and to reflect the increasing international flavor of the Games.
- As stewards of the AWG, the International Committee promotes the values symbolized by the three interlocking rings of the logo: athletic competition, cultural exhibition and social inter-change. The committee also assists in building effective partnerships to address the needs of host communities, participants and Games sponsors.
- During the 2018 Games, Nunavummiut are encouraged to support Team Nunavut on social media, using the hashtags #TeamNunavut and #CheerFromHere.