



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Ataii! Team Nunavik-Québec ready to compete at Arctic Winter Games

Kuujuaq, Québec, March 4, 2026 — Final preparations are taking place this week for a pep rally in Kuujuaq on March 6 to celebrate Nunavik athletes and cultural performers participating in the Arctic Winter Games (AWG) in Whitehorse, Yukon from March 8-15.

The AWG is a chance for Nunavik youth to showcase their remarkable skills and connect with other Inuit cultures. The Games are a biennial, international circumpolar sport competition for northern and Arctic athletes that bring together over 4,000 athletes and visitors from Alaska, the Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nunavut, Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland), Northern Alberta, Sápmi (northern Finland, Norway and Sweden), and, of course, Nunavik.

Nunavik communities are well represented on this year's Team Nunavik-Québec (TNQ) with 58 athletes and six cultural performers coming from Kangiqsualujuaq, Kuujuaq, Kangirsuk, Kangiqsujuaq, Salluit, Ivujivik, Puvirnituq and Inukjuak. They are competing in Arctic Sports, Badminton, Dene Games, Snowshoe and Table Tennis. The team is supported by 14 coaches, two cultural managers, and 10 mission staff that includes, for the first time, a medical liaison officer and a mental health counselor.

This year marks the first time that TNQ is participating as a full member of the AWG International Committee. TNQ's participation in the Arctic Winter Games dates to 1972 at the second AWG, also in Whitehorse. Since then, TNQ's commitment and pride as Nunavik's AWG team has grown by leaps and bounds.

TNQ receives tremendous community, organizational and corporate support. Major sponsors include Makivvik, Nunalituqait Ikajuqatigiittutt Inuit Association, Hydro Québec, Raglan Mine – Glencore, Tivi Galleries and Kativik Ilisarniliriniq. TNQ also receives extensive financial and technical assistance from the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) in partnership with the Government of Québec.

TNQ invites supporters from all over Nunavik and Québec to cheer on the team by watching their performances, and sending messages of encouragement on social media: @TeamNunavikQuebec .

Quotes:

“As we look back on Team Nunavik-Québec’s participation in the Arctic Winter Games, I can only express my gratitude and appreciation for its legacy in Nunavik. Through the years, athletes and performers have become amazing role models for other Inuit youth, and proof of what Nunavimmiut can achieve when we work together and set our minds, muscles and talents to the same goal. Let’s Go Nunavik, Let’s Go, Ataii!”

– Maggie Emudluk, Chairperson, Kativik Regional Government

“We want to let the world know that Nunavimmiut are standing strong, and honouring our ancestors’ strength and spirit through sports competition. Nunavik youth deserve to thrive, and the Department of Recreation of the KRG is proud to support our athletes and performers, and to help make their dreams possible.”

– Emma Cain, Director, KRG Recreation Department

“As an athlete, I can’t wait to be in Whitehorse, I’ve been thinking about it for so long now! I hope to make new friends from other parts of the world and have fun competing.”

– Hannah Mae Annanack, TNQ Snowshoe U-17 athlete

The Kativik Regional Government delivers comprehensive public services to Nunavimmiut under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (1975). KRG is governed by a 17-member Council of elected municipal representatives from Nunavik’s 14 northern villages, an elected Chair and Vice-Chair, and the chief of the Naskapi First Nation of Kawawachikamach.

Contact: Rocio Valencia / KRG Communications / Tel: 819-964-2961, ext. 2383 / media@krg.ca

MEDIA GUIDE



**ARCTIC
WINTER
GAMES**
WHITEHORSE 2026

6,6K FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS


20K FACEBOOK REACH

304.8K FACEBOOK VIEWS

 [TEAM NUNAVIK QUÉBEC](#)

 MEDIA CONTACT | (438) 855-4794

 TEAMNUNAVIKQUEBEC@KRG.CA

 [Team Nunavik Québec](#)



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



THE TEAM



Nunavik, known as Québec’s far north, Team Nunavik-Quebec (TNQ) participated in the Arctic Winter Games in 1972, 1974, 1976, and 1986. Nunavik’s contingent returned to the games as Team Nunavik Québec in 2000 with funding from the Kativik Regional Government in partnership with Makivvik and the Government of Québec. In 2025, the Arctic Winter Games International Committee officially recognized Team Nunavik Québec as a permanent member, solidifying Nunavik’s long-standing contribution to the AWG movement since its first participation in 1972.

THE LOGO

THE SHAPE OF THE LOGO REPRESENTS THE REGION ON THE MAP.

THE SNOWY OWL HAS BEEN THE OFFICIAL AVIAN EMBLEM OF QUEBEC SINCE 1987. IT SYMBOLIZES THE PROVINCE’S VAST NORTHERN TERRITORY, THE HARSH BEAUTY OF ITS WINTERS, AND A COMMITMENT TO WILDLIFE CONSERVATION.

THE TEAM WEARS LIME GREEN AND BLACK.

Representing Inuit youth from Nunavik’s 14 communities, it’s giving youth the opportunity to display their skills while connecting with other circumpolar cultures and explore the world. The team focuses on promoting culture, language, and community spirit.



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QUOTES

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Maggie Emudluk, Chairperson, Kativik Regional Government

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Emma Cain, Director, KRG Recreation Department

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SPONSORS

TEAM NUNAVIK QUÉBEC IS SUPPORTED WITH FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM



AND SPONSORED BY



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Kativik Ilisarniliriniq

ARCTIC SPORTS

MISSION

U17



COACHES



OPEN



BADMINTON

MISSION



U16



COACHES



U18



DENE GAMES

MISSION

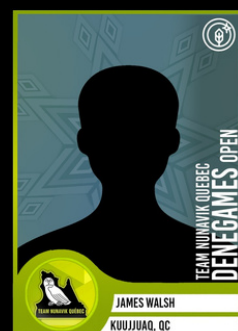
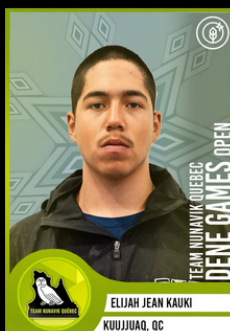
U18



COACHES



OPEN



SNOWSHOE

MISSION



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE MISSION

ÉMILE MAHEU
KUUJJUAQ, QC

U15



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U15

BERTHA ANNACK
KUUJJUAQ, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U15

MIIKA CREPEAU GORDON
KUUJJUAQ, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U15

LUCASSIE THOMASSIAH-P.
KUUJJUAQ, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U15

ZACHARIAS ANNACK
KANGIQSUALLUJJUAQ, QC

COACHES

U19



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE COACH

DANIELI SAMISACK
INUKJUAQ, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U19

HANNAH-MAE ANNACK
KANGIQSUALLUJJUAQ, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U19

MARYANN ALAKU
KUUJJUAQ, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U19

HENRY GORDON
KUUJJUAQ, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE U19

MATUSIE TOMASSIE
KANGIRSUK, QC



TEAM NUNAVIK QUEBEC
SNOWSHOE COACH

MARYAM ILGUN
QUAQTAQ, QC

TABLE TENNIS

MISSION

U15



COACHES

U18



CULTURAL

MISSION

SPONSORED BY 



CULTURAL CONTINGENT MISSION



KARIN KETTLER
INUKJUAQ, QC

SPONSORED BY 



CULTURAL CONTINGENT PERFORMER



VELESIE ADAMS
IVUJIVIK, QC

SPONSORED BY 



CULTURAL CONTINGENT PERFORMER



JACQUELINE TULUGAK
PUVIRNITUQ, QC

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SARALIKITAA ANGNATUK
KUUJJUAQ, QC

MANAGERS

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CULTURAL CONTINGENT MANAGER



TOMMY PUTULIK
KANGIRSUK, QC

SPONSORED BY 



CULTURAL CONTINGENT MANAGER



TOMMY PUTULIK
TORONTO, ON

SPONSORED BY 



CULTURAL CONTINGENT PERFORMER



SARAH SALA
PUVIRNITUQ, QC

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CULTURAL CONTINGENT PERFORMER



SUSIE TUKAI
PUVIRNITUQ, QC

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CULTURAL CONTINGENT PERFORMER



GEORGE JOHANNES
KUUJJUAQ, QC