



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.

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