



**Press Release**

***For immediate release***

## **Rescheduled Arctic Winter Games a Relief for Nunavik Youth**

**Kuuujuaq, April 9, 2021** – The Kativik Regional Government is delighted that the 2022 Arctic Winters Games have been rescheduled for 2023.

The Arctic Winter Games International Committee announced this week that the Games scheduled for Wood Buffalo, Alta. will be held between January 29 to February 4, 2023.

The KRG is encouraged that all the hard work from the coaches, athletes and organizers in the communities across Nunavik in preparation of the 2020 Whitehorse, Yukon Games, cancelled last year due to the pandemic, will now serve as a springboard to help prepare Nunavik youth for the newly rescheduled Wood Buffalo Games.

Organizers of Team Nunavik are relieved that its young athletes will proudly take part in what is the premier circumpolar sport and cultural event for youth hosting up to 2,000 athletes and an equal number of volunteers.

The rescheduled games will allow organizers throughout Nunavik to prepare the local and regional try-outs that will help build Team Nunavik not only for the upcoming Games but also for those that will be held as previously scheduled in Alaska in 2024.

Approximately 60 athletes from villages on both the Hudson and Ungava coasts will be invited to compete, as preparations will soon begin for local and regional try-outs. In Nunavik, these events include Dene Games, Arctic Sports, Snowshoe competition, Table Tennis, Badminton plus cultural activities. Athletes and coaches have been waiting patiently for the decision from the International Committee to hold the 2022 Games after suspending them last March.

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*The Kativik Regional Government is a non-ethnic public organization created in 1978, under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. The organization has jurisdiction over nearly the entire territory of Québec north of the 55th parallel in areas such as municipal matters, transportation, the environment, policing, employment, labour training, income security, childcare services, renewable resources, land-use planning, civil security and economic development.*