



Press Release Northern BC Winter Games Society

For Immediate Release

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Northern BC Winter Games Society invites communities to bid to host the 2011 or 2013 Northern BC Winter Games

The Northern BC Winter Games Society is pleased to announce that bids to host the 2011 and 2013 Northern BC Winter Games are now being accepted. Bid packages to host this regional multi-sport event have been sent to community mayors and regional districts across northern BC. The deadline for submission of completed bids from potential Host Communities is August 11, 2008.

Since their inception through to 2011, the Games are annual events. Beginning in 2011, the Northern BC Winter Games will move to biennial events, providing more opportunity to build community capacity in volunteering, coaching, and athletic experiences. As a regional multi-sport event, the Northern BC Winter Games provides northern BC athletes with opportunities to prepare for higher levels of competition, as well as competitive and sport for life opportunities for athletes of all ages and abilities. The Northern BC Winter Games also present opportunities for communities in northern BC to successfully stage a major event and for the development of officials, coaches, and other community volunteers. Each set of Northern BC Winter Games involves as many as 1,000 and up to 1,500 or more participants from northern BC. The size of the Games are tailored to the availability of sport venues in the community and the ability for a community to access and secure resources, including volunteers and billet homes. The Games can be expanded when hosted in large communities (the 2002 Games brought over 1,800 participants to Smithers) and reduced in size when hosted in smaller communities (the 2006 Games saw just over 1,000 participants in 100 Mile House). Sports in the Games may include familiar winter sports such as curling and hockey but may also include those like seniors curling and bowling, activities that promote life-long recreational participation. The Northern BC Winter Games include participants from the northern Regional Districts starting at 100 Mile House.

The 2009 Northern BC Winter Games will be held in Mackenzie February 12–15. As host of the Games in 2001, this will be the second time this community welcomes the Northern BC Winter Games and embraces the opportunities it provides.

For detailed information on the Northern BC Winter Games bid application process and the associated documents, please go to http://www.bcgames.org/NBCWGS/g_bidding.html.

For information about the Games or to get involved, go to
www.northernbcwintergames.org.

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