MONDAY MARCH 16, 1998

ULU INEWS



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE 1998 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES



Arctic Winter Games are under way



Events schedule and map inside



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The Opening Ceremonies



Let the Games Begin! The 15th Arctic Winter Games roared to life Sunday night at the Yellowknife Community Arena, launched by almost 3,000 exuberant athletes, officials and spectators. For the first time ever, they shared the hour-long event live with friends and families across the Arctic, via CBC

What a show

Months of planning came together with a resounding bang last night as a standing-room only crowd was "wowed" by the official opening of the 15th running of the Arctic Winter Games last night in the Yellowknife Community Arena. Northern News Services

The Yellowknife Community Arena was awash in colour with more than 40 Arctic Winter Games flags and the flags of all the participating teams hanging from the ceilings. Colour balloons covered the ceiling of the lobby and were tied to railings throughout the area. CBC North Television's live coverage of the opening was projected on a massive, bigger-than-life screen at one end of the rink.

Spotlights of amber, teal and magenta danced across the ice as Master of Ceremonies George Tuccaro welcomed officials, athletes, dignitaries and spectators to Canada, Yellowknife and

the Arctic Winter Games.

Approximately 1.7500 athletes paraded onto the ice before a crowd of more than 1,000 to music provided by the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School Drummers from Rae Edzo, NWT - an amazing performance that lasted for nearly half an hour and drew praise from many of the athletes

Entertainment included throat singers Mary Ittunga and Bernadette Uttaq from Taloyoak which had the crowd in awe and brought more than a few puzzled looks from some younger ath-

letes who were hearing throat singing for the very first time.

There was also foot-stomping fiddle music from renowned NWT fiddler Richard Lafferty of Hay River and 15-year-old Matthew Menacho of Tulita, NWT, that had athletes dancing on Manus Weiner, of Manusch Choir, directed by Bill Gilday, gave a dazzling rendition of the AWG theme song "Here We Are". Ardith Dean accompanied the choir on the organ. Dean and her son Jonathon Seeton collaborated to write the theme

Another highlight of the evening was a performance of "Hina Na Ho Ho Hine" by singer and songwriter John Landry of Fort Providence, NWT, who performed his famous creation with his

NWT Commissioner Helen Maksagak opened the ceremonies with a quiet prayer asking for the safety of competitors and for understanding of other cultures and languages. AWG International Committee President Gerry Thick told the audience and athletes that thousands and thousands of hours of have gone into organizing the '98 AWG and that Yellowknifers have opened their hearts and homes to their guests: now it's time for athletes to pick up the spirit of the AWG!

One of the largest cheers of the evening came for the shortest speech of the evening. NWT Premier Don Morin's granddaughter Jesse spoke into the microphone from the safety of her grand-

father's arms and urged everyone to "...have fun and eat a lot!"

AWG '98 Host Society President Don Cooper was also warmly rewarded for his attempts to welcome all of the teams in their native languages.

Reaction from athletes, dignitaries, organizers and spectators

was wildly complimentary. "Great" was the reaction to the open-ing ceremonies from Greenland cross-country skirrs Mads Math-iassen, Jonas Jensen, Miki P. Sethsen and Aage Hansen.

AWG Host Society President Don Cooper has been involved with eight runnings of the AWG and says last night's ceremony "went exceedingly well". Cooper says last night marked the first time the opening ceremonies have been broadcast live on television and as a result they had to adhere to a strict one-hour time

"This was the first time live and it made for a snappier program, it was a better program." Although Cooper has witnessed



Masters of the opening ceremony included (from left) stage manager Mitch Jamieson, Mari Croizier, technical co-ordinator Ben Nind, and Nina Capello. Along with dozens of volunteers, they got through the games opener with barely a hitch. They're gearing up for closing next Saturday.

many AWG openings, he says there were times during last night's program that he had goosebumps. "It was quite emotion-

Ben Nind, technical coordinator for the official opening, says "the feeling was great - base euphoria." Stage Manager Mitch Jamieson says the opening went "amazingly well. I missed a couple of heartbeats a few times but we hit 60 minutes on the

Yellowknife Mayor Dave Lovell said "I was really impressed this was really spectacular. Yellowknife volunteers always come through!" NWT Government Minister Stephen Kakfwi says he was standing, clapping and dancing during the ceremony - highly unusual behavior for this normally reserved man. Kakfwi described the ceremony as an historical moment; the last time a unified NWT witnessed the opening of the AWG. "I think a tremendous amount of work and effort and coordination went into putting this together," he adds.

Jay Marten of Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, was dancing up a storm to the fiddle music. Marten, a first time competitor in snowshoeing at the AWG described the evening as "exciting" Patricia Gustafson of Grande Prairie, Alberta, said the opening ceremonies were "...great, super. I think it's great when we can all get together like this!"

"It's exciting to see friends and people I haven't seen in a long time," says Meika McDonald of Fort Smith, a member of the NWT Arctic sports team. "We had a chance to practice and watch some of the other competitors and it's exciting. And I'm a

"It's a great feeling (to be here). It's exciting to have all these countries here, the Russians and Greenland. I'm looking forward to the competition," says Robin Sproule of Yellowknife, a member of the NWT women's hockey team.

Steve McKay of the NWT midget hockey team says he feels great! "I've been looking forward to this for a couple of months, ince we found out we were on the team. All I can say, man, is it just feels great!

Kristin Grabowski of Whitehorse is a member of Yukon basketball team. She described the opening ceremony as "awe-some" and was touched by the gesture of having Theresa Crane light the AWG flame in memory of her late husband, Dennis, who was both an athlete and official in the AWG. Aubrey Spicer of Team Yukon says the ceremony was "excellent" and cited the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School Drummers as one of the highlights

Max Dolchok and Dan Amidon of Team Alaska thought the opening ceremonies were "great" and agreed that the high point of the evening was the Dene drumming by the Chief Jimmy Bruneau School Drummers.

Now let the games begin!

The Opening Ceremonies

Opening tribute

The Arctic Winter Games paid tribute to the late Dennis Crane, one of its dearest friends and longest-serving supporters, who was present in spirit when the Games officially opened last night at the Yellowknife Community

Northern News Services

Theresa Crane of Yellowknife was given the honor of lighting the Arctic Winter Games flame in honor of her late husband, Dennis, who passed away on December 31, 1997 at the

Sunday's opening ceremony was an emotional evening for Sultary's opening ceremony was an emotional evening for Theresa who received emotional support from Wendy Williams, Dennis' long-time badminton partner. Dennis and Wendy combined to win a gold ulu at the 1974 AWG and a silver ulu in the 1972 Games.

"Oh, I just feel overwhelmed with gratitude for being asked to do this," said an emotional Theresa. "Dennis would have been quite humbled by it (by Sunday's tribute) because he never looked for that kind of thing. Dennis never asked for rewards, he never sought rewards in this life, he even turned his awards back into the badminton association so that they could be used again."

Dennis was involved with the AWG since the very first Games in 1970 and only missed one set of Games following 16 years. He was a coach, umpire, chief referee, Chef de Mission for the NWT and athlete, says Theresa.

"This is only the second time he won't be involved at all,

but his spirit will be here," says Theresa.

This year's badminton competition has been dedicated to the memory of Dennis Crane. Theresa has been asked to open the badminton competition this morning and present the medals for badminton on Friday. "Again, that is quite an

She describes Dennis as a person who believed in the value of sport as a means of developing the whole person. He also believed that you get back out of a community what you put into a community, says Theresa. "And he seemed to do that in everything he did — it wasn't just badminton and it wasn't all the other things he was involved in. He would do that for friends or even a stranger.

That was just the kind of person he was. A good man.

Theresa Crane was asked to light the AWG flame as a tribute to her late husband Dennis' contributions to the Games over the past 18 years





What's different about being in Canada?

Ulu News visited the Subway restaurant Sunday evening and asked the Team Alaska peewee hockey squad what they thought about Canada. Without any prompting whatsoever, here's what they said:



Brendan Hall, 11, Eagle River: You got different money.



Bryan King, 11, Eagle River: Sometimes people say 'eh.'



Cody Oatman, 13, Kenny Lake: My money's worth more and there's not as many hot chicks



Sean Rafter, 13, Anchorage: The accents - you're hard to understand



Levi Kramer, 13, Tok: You can cuss a lot and nobody stops you.

More than sports

Northern News Services

Yellowknife residents and visitors alike are being encouraged to take in the Arctic Winter Games cultural program.

"I would encourage everyone to please get out and make an effort to see the artists. The artists

will be really happy to see your faces at the venues," says Cultural Coordinator Darlene Man-

Mandeville says more than 150 fine, traditional and performing artists are participating in the cul-

the artists are arriving... most of them are here. The venues are being put together," says Mandeville. "Everything is coming together very nicely. We tural program, including some artists who are not in Yellowknife for the AWG but whose works will be

have a tightly organized program."

Metis fiddler Richard Lafferty is one of the performers in this year's cultural program. The Hay River fiddler says the "...program looks pretty good to me. There are people from all over!" Lafferty says the AWG provides entertainers with an opportunity to the provides entertainers with an opportunity to the provides entertainers. tunity to get together, exchange ideas and, most

It's looking really good. We're getting excited,

importantly, provide entertainment!

When asked about public feedback to the cultural program, Mandeville says tickets have quickly sold out. "We only have two ticketed events and those are sold out. The other venues are all open to the public and those are not ticketed."

One of the highlights of the week will be the Arctic Gala on Thursday and Friday night with its full representation of all the cultures participating in the AWG. A free children's concert will held on Friday from 2 - 3 p.m.

Throat singers Mary Ittunga and Bernadette Uttaq face off during a performance at the opening ceremonies for the Arctic Winter Games Sunday

Schedule of events

March 16, 1998

	ARCTIC SPORTS			ARCTIC SPORTS		ORTS	
Classification All All	Event One Foot High Kick Russian Triple Jump Medal Presentations	Venue J H Sissons School J H Sissons School J H Sissons School	Time (MST) 12noon 7:00pm 9:30pm				
000000000000000000000000000000000000000							

BADMINTON

Cames to be played out throughout the day at Range Lake North.

BASKETBALL			
Classification Junior Female Junior Male Junior Female Junior Male	Event Yukon vs NWT Yukon vs NWT NWT vs Alaska NWT vs Alaska	Venue St. Pat's High School St. Pat's High School St. Pat's High School St. Pat's High School	Time (MST) 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 04:00 PM 05:30 PM
	CUF	RLING	

Classification	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
Junior Female	Alaska vs NWT	YK Curling Club	01:30 PM
Junior Female	Alberta vs Yukon	YK Curling Club	01:30 PM
Junior Male	Alaska vs NWT	YK Curling Club	01:30 PM
Junior Male	Alberta vs Yukon	YK Curling Club	01:30 PM

DENE GAMES			
Classification	Event Opening Ceremonies Snow Snake Competition Medal Presentations	Venue Ndilo Ndilo Ndilo	Time (MST) 1:15pm 1:30pm 2:00pm

FIGURE SKATING

	REPORT OF STREET		
assification	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
reliminary Female	Hements	YK Community Arena	1:00nm
reliminary Male	Hements	YK Community Arena	1:20pm
ovenile Female	Hements	YK Community Arena	1:35am
ivenile Male	Bements	YK Community Arena	2:00pm
termediate Female	Hements	YK Community Arena	2:20um
termediate Male	Hements	YK Community Arena	3:15am
ovice/Open Female	Hements	YK Community Arena	3:25pm
ovice/Open Male	Hements	YK Community Arena	4:00pm

HOCKEY				
Classification	Event	Venue	Time (MST)	
Midget	NWT vs Yukon	YK Community Arena	07:00 AM	
PeeWee	NWT vs Yukon	Gerry Murphy Arena	07:00 AM	
PeeWee	Alaska vs Magadan	Gerry Murphy Arena	09:00 AM	
Junior Female	NWT vs Yukon	Gerry Murphy Arena	11:00 AM	
Junior Female	Alaska vs Alberta	Gerry Murphy Arena	01:00 PM	
Bantam	NWT vs Yukon	Gerry Murphy Arena	03:00 PM	
Bantam	Alaska vs Alberta	Gerry Murphy Arena	05:00 PM	
Midget	Alaska vs Alberta	YK Community Arena	06:00 PM	
PeeWee	NWT vs Alaska	Gerry Murphy Arena	07:00 PM	
Junior Female	NWT vs Alaska	YK Community Arena	08:00 PM	
PeeWee	Yukon vs Magadan	Gerry Murphy Arena	09:00 PM	
Junior Female	Yukon vs Alberta	YK Community Arena	10:00 PM	

Classification	Event	Manue	T (350T)
		Venue	Time (MST)
Juvenile Male	NWT vs Magadan	St. Pat's High School	08:00 AM
Juvenile Male	Alberta vs Alaska	St. Pat's High Schoo	09:00 AM
Juvenile Female	NWT vs Alaska	St. Pat's High School	02:00 PM
Juvenile Female	Yukon vs Alberta	St. Pat's High School	03:00 PM
Juvenile Male	Yukon vs NWT	St. Pat's High School	07:00 PM
Junior Female	NWT vs Alaska	St. Pat's High School	08:00 PM
Junior Male	NWT vs Alaska	St. Pat's High School	08:00 PM

	SKI BIATHLON		
lassification	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
unior Female	10 km Individual	YK Ski Club	1:30pm
unior Male	10 km Individual	YK Ski Club	1:30pm
pen Female	15 km Individual	YK Ski Club	1:30pm
pen Male	15 km Individual	YK Ski Club	1:30pm

SNOWSHOE BIATHLON

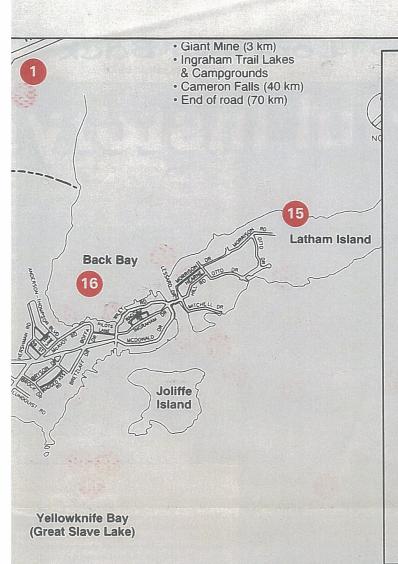
Classification	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
Junior Female	5 km Individual	YK Ski Club	9:30am
Junior Male	5 km individual	YK Ski Club	9:30am
Open Female	5 km Individual	YK Ski Club	9:30am
Open Male	5 km Individual	YK Ski Club	9:30am

Predatabiled			
Classification	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
Junior Female	5 km X-Country	Frame Lake	2:00pm
Junior Male	5 km X-Country	Frame Lake	2:00pm
pen Female	5 km X-Country	Frame Lake	2:00pm
Doen Male	5 km X-Country	Frame Lake	2:00nm

SPEED	SKATING	

ssification	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
enlie	777 m Heats	YK Community Arena	9am - 1pm
ior	1000 m Heats	YK Community Arena	9am - 1nm
ior	500 m Heats & Finals	YK Community Arena	9am - 1pm
renile	333 m Heats & Finals	YK Community Arena	9am - 1pm

	TABLE .	LEMMIS	
ation	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
emale	Alaska vs Tyumen	St. Joseph School	09:30 AM
emale	Greenland vs Magadai	1 St. Joseph School	09:30 AM
Male	Alaska vs Tyumen	St. Joseph School	09:30 AM
Viale	Greenland vs Magadai	1 St. Joseph School	09:30 AM
emale	Alaska vs NWT	St. Joseph School	11:00 AM
emale	Tyumen vs Magadan	St. Joseph School	11:00 AM
Viale	Alaska vs NWT	St. Joseph School	11:00 AM
Viale	Tyumen vs Magadan	St. Joseph School	11:00 AM
emale	Magadan vs NWT	St. Joseph School	01:00 PM
emale	Tyumen vs Greenland	St. Joseph School	01:00 PM
Male	Magadan vs NWT	St. Joseph School	01:00 PM
Male	Tyumen vs Greenland	St. Joseph School	01:00 PM
emale	Magadan vs Alaska	St. Joseph School	02:30 PM
emale	NWT vs Greenland	St. Joseph School	02:30 PM
Male	Magadan vs Alaska	St. Joseph School	02:30 PM
Male	NWT vs Greenland	St. Joseph School	02:30 PM
emale	Greenland vs Alaska	St. Joseph School	04:00 PM
emale	MWT vs Tyumen	St. Joseph School	04:00 PM
Male	Greenland vs Alaska	St. Joseph School	04:00 PM
Male	NWT vs Tyumen	St. Joseph School	04:00 PM
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Where is it?

- 1 Yellowknife Ski Club
- ² Silhouette Shooting/Rifle Range
- ³Range Lake School
- ⁴St. Joseph School
- ⁵ Stanton Regional Hospital
- ⁶ J. H. Sissons School
- 7 Yellowknife Community Arena
- ⁸ Yellowknife Curling Club
- 9 William McDonald School
- 10 Sir John Franklin High School
- 11 Northern Arts and Cultural Centre
- 12 Akaitcho Hall
- 13 Weledeh School
- 14 St. Pat's High School
- 15 N'Dilo Gymnasium
- 16 Back Bay
- 17 Explorer Hotel
- 18 Northern Frontier Visitors Association
- 19 City Hall
- 20 Frame Lake
- 21 Gerry Murphy Arena
- 22 Mildred Hall School
- 23 Baker Community Centre
- 24 Javaroma
- 25 Games Office
- 26 Yellowknife Inn/Centre Square Mall
- 27 Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre
- 28 Legislative Assembly

VOLLEYBALL

ation	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
nale	NWT vs Magadan	Sir John Franklin	09:00 AM
le	NWT vs Alaska	Sir John Franklin	09:00 AM
emale	NWT vs Greenland	Sir John Franklin	10:30 AM
tale	NWT vs Greenland	Sir John Franklin	10:30 AM
emale	Alaska vs Yukon	Sir John Franklin	01:30 PW
tale	Alberta vs Greenland	Sir John Franklin	01:30 PW
nale	Alaska vs Magadan	Sir John Franklin	03:00 PW
le	NWT vs Yukon	Sir John Franklin	03:00 PW
tale	NWT vs Yukon	Sir John Franklin	04:30 PM
emale	NWT vs Yukon	Sir John Franklin	08:00 PM
tale	Alaska vs Alberta	Sir John Franklin	06:00 PM
emale	Alaska vs Alberta	Sir John Franklin	07:30 PM
lale	Yukon vs Greenland	Sir John Franklin	07:30 PM
lale	Yukon vs Greenland	Sir John Franklin	07:30 PW
tale	NWT vs Alberta	Sir John Franklin	09:00 PM
nale	Alaska vs Yukon	Sir John Franklin	08:00 PM
lale	Alaska vs Yukon	Sir John Franklin	12:00 PM
nale	NWT vs Yukon	Sir John Franklin	12:00 PM

X-COUNTRY SKIING

ation	Event	Venue	Time (MST)
Ceremonies		YK Ski Club	9:30am
lale	1 Km Free	YK Ski Club	12:01pm
Male	1 Km Free	YK Ski Club	12:08pm
tale	1 Km Free	YK Ski Club	12:17pm
emale	1 Km Free	YK Std Club	12:26pm
Female	1 Km Free	YK Ski Club	12:36pm
emale	1 Km Free	YK Ski Club	12:45pm
			A STATE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN

Cross-country skier Sarah Daitch and coach Carlin Robertson of Fort Smith are caught up in the enthusiasm of the opening ceremonies of the Arctic Winter Games.



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Looking Back

A colorful history

The streets of Yellowknife have come alive with athletes in brightly-coloured uniforms over the past two days as teams from across the polar world converge on the Capital City of by Brad Heath Northwest Territories.

Northern News Services

The occasion is, of course, the 15th running of the Arctic Winter Games; the last Games before the Northwest Territories (NWT) divides into two new territories and Games head into the next millennium!

AWG General Manager Joe Walsh estimates that approximately 1,200 to 1,600 dedicated volunteers and about 45 committees have worked to organize this year's games. About 1,750 athletes, cultural performers and officials from Northern Alberta, the Yukon, Alaska, the Russian provinces of Magadan and Tyumen, Greenland and the NWT will take part in the Games.

Many of the athletes who can be found exploring the

streets of Yellowknife or preparing for the beginning of competition today were not even born when the concept for the AWG was developed in 1967 and may not realize the long and successful history of the Games.

The Games were conceived by Stuart Hodgson, then

The Games were conceived by Stuart Hodgson, then Commissioner of the NWT and the donor of the Hodgson Trophy, and James Smith, then Commissioner of the Yukon, in 1967 as they watched their respective teams lose decisively time and time again at the Canada Winter Games in Quebec City.

Hodgson and Smith realized that athletes from Northern Canada were at a serious disadvantage when it came to

competing at a national level because of the relatively small pool of athletes and the limited access to good facilities and training opportunities.

ties and training opportunities.
Discussions followed between Hodgson, Smith and Walter Hickel, then Governor of Alaska, and the concept of the Arctic Winter Games was born. The Arctic Winter Games Corporation, the AWG governing body, was formed in 1968. The name was changed, however, in 1992 to the AWG International Committee to better reflect the increasing international flavor of the Games.

The committee currently consists of 10 directors, all of whom serve as volunteers. Committee members are President Gerry Thick of Whitehorse, Vice-President Peter Moore of Slave Lake, Alberta, Treasurer Peter Milner of Whitehorse, Secretary Wendell Schiffler of Fairbanks, Alaska, Directors Murray Finnerty of Edmonton, Alberta, Libby Riddles of Wasilla, Alaska, Hans Peter Hansen of Nuuk, Greenland, Don Sian of Iqaluit, NWT, Al Menard of Yellowknife, and Technical Director Ian Legaree of Yellowknife.



Mercifully, athletes' fashions have changed since the 1970s



Whitehorse hosted the Games in 1986

Looking Back







The torch-lighting ceremony in Yellowknife in 1990

The 1984 official opening in Yellowknife

Two years after the formation of the AWG Corporation, approximately 500 athletes, coaches and officials participated in the first AWG in 1970 Yellowknife. The first Games were an unqualified success and had the distinction of being opened by Pierre Elliott Trudeau who was the Prime Minister of Canada at the time.

Host towns and cities over the years have included: Yellowknife, NWT (1970, 1984, 1990 and 1998); Whitchorse, Yukon (1972, 1980, 1986 and 1992); Anchorage, Alaska (1974); Shefferville, Quebec (1976); Hay River and Pine Point, NWT (1978); Fairbanks, Alaska (1982 and 1988); Slave Lake, Alberta (1994) and Chugiak/Eagle River, Alaska (1996).

AWG highlights over the years include the addition of a Northern Quebec team in 1972 to the original three participating teams of NWT, Yukon and Alaska. Unfortunately, the '76 AWG in Shefferville marked the end of Quebec's participation. Greenland sent a small contingent of athletes to Whitehorse in '72 and in the same year the Soviet Union and Labrador also sent observers. Northern Alberta first entered the AWG in 1986 in Whitehorse with a team of 40 athletes and first hosted the Games in '94 in Slave Lake.

Other high points in the history of the Games include the participation of athletes and cultural performers from Greenland and a cultural contingent from Russia at the '90 AWG. In 1992, Greenland increased its sporting contingent and Russia sent a small group of athletes and cultural performers. Greenland became a permanent member of the Games in September of 1993. The '94 Games in Slave Lake saw Greenland field a team of more than 70 athletes. Russia was represented at the '94 Games by the provinces of Magadan and Tyumen. Each province was represented by 35 athletes.

The Hodgson Trophy was first awarded in 1978 to the contingent whose athletes best exemplify fair play and team spirit. Team Yukon claimed the trophy from 1978 to 1988 until Team Alaska was presented with the Hodgson Trophy in 1990. Other recipients of the Games' most prestigious award have been Team NWT (1992 and 1996) and Team Greenland (1994).

From the rather modest beginning, the Games have evolved and grown to the point where there are close to

1,600 athletes, coaches, mission staff, officials and cultural performers involved.

The cost of hosting the Arctic Winter Games has increased six-fold since they began in 1970. For example, the budget for the 1970 Games was about \$400,000. The budget for the 1998 AWG is \$2,205,500!

However, with the continuing support of the Govern-

ment of Canada, the governments of all participating jurisdictions, host municipalities, and corporate and individual citizens, the Games remain alive and well and have a future which is extremely bright.

The 2000 Arctic Winter Games are scheduled to be held in Whitehorse, YT, and possibly in Greenland in 2002!



The Northwest Territories parades in Fairbanks, Alaska in 1988