Team Alaska finished first in the medal race with 83 gold ulus, 67 silver and 66 bronze, and was awarded the Hodgson Trophy.

How has your Arctic Winter Games been so far?
It’s been a wonderful experience so far. We’ve enjoyed Nuuk, and people here have been gracious, warm and welcoming.

How have the members of Team Alaska liked Greenland?
We’ve loved visiting Greenland. We enjoyed the adventure in Kangerlussuaq, exploring Nuuk and competing in an international sporting event.

How did you like the opening ceremony?
It was lively and really pumped the athletes up. We arrived to Nuuk earlier that day so we all got to attend.

What was Team Alaska’s best experience during AWG2016?
All the young Alaskans having the opportunity to compete in a country they otherwise did not have the chance to see. The team has been excited to meet new people and absorbed the culture.

What has been the worst?
Two of our athletes have had the stomach flu and had to spend a night in the hospital. They missed a futsal game but got right back into the tournament.

What was your best result?
Overall, we did really well in Arctic sports, volleyball, futsal and basketball. I think we ended up the contingent with the highest medal count in large parts because we’re the largest contingent, and because our athletes are an extremely talented crowd.

How did the team prepare for AWG2016?
Some of them met for the first time in the airport, some of them have been practicing for years.

Aside from sports, what has the team experienced so far?
Many of the kids have gone to the museums or walked along the waterfront. They’ve been almost everywhere you can go in Nuuk, and they’ve met many new friends.
Allanit immikkuullarissuseqarpugut

Standing out from the crowd
Delicate pink cold water prawns are caught in the icy and pristine waters off the Greenlandic coast. They are usually caught when they are 5-6 years of age. In comparison, farmed Asian prawns are harvested after just 5-6 months. In Greenland we treat our prawns with care and do our utmost to make sure that our prawns stand out from the crowd.

Vi skiller os ud fra mængden
Delikate, lyserøde koldtvandsrejer fanges i det iskolde og rene farvand langs den grønlandske kyst. De fanges typisk når de er 5-6 år gamle. Til sammenligning høstes asiatiske varmtvandsrejer typisk når de er 5-6 måneder. I Grønland behandler vi vores rejer med stor omhu og gør os umage for at sikre, at vores rejer skiller sig ud fra mængden.
### MEDALS BY TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Silver</th>
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<td>32</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>81</td>
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<tr>
<td>NWT</td>
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<td>51</td>
</tr>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukon</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>36</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**THANKS A LOT FOR THIS TIME!**

The games are over, and the torch has been passed to South Slave. Pisiffik wants to congratulate all contestants and not to forget all of the volunteers who have been a big part of the games this year. Without you, all of this would not have been possible. We are proud to have contributed along with the other sponsors, to show what Greenland are capable of throughout these games.

We are looking forward to see the games back in Greenland.

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**MAANNAKT**

**QUIJANAR SUAQ!**

**Timmersøren It/Pinninguat nalmassipput, statuegingerrit eqqinneq Sooqutlamut. Pisiffikimmipiqluaitaqququt papiqattaaqrotapassuit mingittsuq QUJANAR SUAQ naminniq kajumissutsiminnik ikiut torr pappsuit, pinninguat iluait silluattingaannuit pisoqqat aalluitunut. Ilisseq atmunut puyu suqinnuq. Tulluutiggamaiqput papiqattaaqrot aasinnaasim aqatattaurtut aarrot pappsuit, takissinnaasimassat sinnullu Kallait Nunanutt utersutit / pinninguat qanooq iliuu seqqinnuut Nunanutt. Qilan aaruq parput timersutit / pinninguat Kallait Nunaaatu.**

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**TUSINDE TAK FOR DENNE GANG!**

**Legen ere, statueeting er givet videre til South Slave. Fra Pisiffiks side skal der lyde et stor tillykke til dem angelægte, og ikke mindst et stor tak til alle dem frivillige der var med til at gøre legen en stor succes. Udendategori var det ikke muligt. Vi er stolt over at kunne bidrage, sammentrængt med de andre sponse...**

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We are looking forward to see the games back in Greenland.

MAANNAMUT QUJANARSUAQ!
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TUSINDE TAK FOR DENNE GANG!
Legene er over, statuetten er givet videre til South Slave. Fra Pisíffiks side skal der lyde et stort tillykke til de mange deltagere, og ikke mindst et kæmpe stort tak, til alle de mange frivillige der var med til at gøre legene en stor succes. Uden Jer var det ikke muligt. Vi er stolte over at kunne have bidraget, sammen med de mange andre sponsorer, til at legene viste hvad Grønland er i stand til.

Vi glæder os allerede til at legene vender tilbage på Grønlandsk jord.
AWG16’s best fair players

The following participants received a fair-play pin during AWG16

Recipient | Sports
--- | ---
**Alaska**
Nick Hanson (4) | Arctic Sports
Autumn Ridly (4) | Arctic Sports
Paul Paul, coach (3) | Arctic Sports
Madi Ko (2) | Arctic Sports
Koby Vinson (2) | Cross-country
Tristan Weise | Cross-country
Genevieve Grenier | Table tennis
Erica Meckel | Arctic Sports
Art Alejandro | Volleyball
Gary Lehnhart, coach | Futsal
Joshua Goeden | Wrestling
Lita Johnson | Dene
Christian Gardiner | Arctic Sports
Brittany Sallaffie | Dene
Drew Dewberry | Dene
Madison Johnson | Dene
Isaiah Charles | Arctic Sports
Makiyan Ivanoff | Arctic Sports
Robert Strick | Dene
Jenna Nickel | Volleyball
Eli Hermanson | Cross-country
Kai Meyers | Cross-country
Peter Hinds | Badminton
Adam Verrier | Dene
Sang Nguyen | Volleyball
Mekhai Rich | Arctic Sports
**Alberta North**
Dhruv Patel | Badminton
Mat Cole | Culture
Brant Cartwright | Volleyball
Kat Eriksen | Wrestling
Sam Hasenclever | Arctic Sports
Shellane Pearson | Alpine
Alexei Walisser | Badminton

Recipient | Sports
--- | ---
**Greenland**
Ittukusuk Heilmann (2) | Arctic Sports
Frederikke Nielsen (3) | Snowshoe
Kiki Gottfredsen (2) | Culture
Tonny Fisker (2) | Arctic Sports
Kim Rosing, coach (2) | Arctic Sports
Melissa Larsen | Table tennis
Daniel Melanson | Badminton
Ivik Nielsen | Table tennis
Lea Lyberth Petersen | Wrestling
Abel Jensen | Snowshoe
Mikla Brenlund | Badminton
Bent Jakobsen | Arctic Sports
Tittu Wille | Arctic Sports

Recipient | Sports
--- | ---
**Nunavik-Quebec**
Joy Aragoptak | Badminton
Timothy Narpurak | Badminton
Nunia Simiunie | Badminton
Deseray Cumberbatch | Arctic Sports
Jason Alaniaq | Table tennis
Felix Guay-Vachon, coach | Snowshoe
Philippe Balthazar | Arctic Sports
Madeline Yaaka | Dene

Recipient | Sports
--- | ---
**Nunavut**
Drew Bell (2) | Arctic Sports
Susie Pearce (2) | Arctic Sports
Olivia Chrislett (2) | Culture
Thomas Levi | Dene
Curtis Willie | Dene
Myca Nakashuk | Badminton
Peter Inootik | Volleyball

Recipient | Sports
--- | ---
**NWT**
Michael Elms | Futsal
Gaius Cook | Biathlon Ski
Jerry Dion | Volleyball
Jenma Gruben | Arctic Sports
Chris Church | Arctic Sports
Dora-Faye Hansen | Arctic Sports

Recipient | Sports
--- | ---
**Yukon**
Alice Frost | Futsal
Maggie Brook | Snowshoe
Prism Saswisky | Badminton
Karyn Qui | Culture
Colin Hickman | Arctic Sports
Emily Gaw | Table tennis
Emily King | Arctic Sports
Peyton Twardochleb | Futsal
Grace-Anne Janssen | Table tennis
Allen Mark | Arctic Sports
Kuduat Shorty | Arctic Sports
Sofia Bond | Cross-country

Shellane Pearson, Team Alberta North, alpine, is one of AWG16’s fair players.
AWG is a unique Arctic cultural- and sports event that we are proud to be a part of.
Mission completed

Nuuk passed the AWG flag to Hay River and Fort Smith yesterday

By Noah Mølgaard
ulunews@awg2016.gl

Hay River and Fort Smith, NWT received the Arctic Winter Games flag yesterday, officially marking the end AWG2016.

The flag transfer was part of the closing ceremony in Inussivik field house, which was punctuated by a tremendous fireworks display over the colonial harbor.

For participants, the closing ceremony was an occasion to say good-bye, but also to send Facebook friend requests.

Addressing the gathering, Nivi Olsen, Greenland’s culture minister, encouraged participants to keep AWG spirit alive after they returned home.

Mayor Asii Chemnitz Narup thanked the city and its residents for pitching in to help make the week a success.

“Your participation was a milestone and it is something we will maintain,” Narup said.

The final exchange came when closing-ceremony hosts Maren Louise Poulsen Kristensen and Hans-Henrik Sversaq Poulsen handed the AWG flag John Rodda, of the Arctic Winter Games International Committee, who then handed it further to the 2018 co-hosts.

Once the flag was received, the Arctic Winter Games flame was allowed to burn out. AWG2016 was done.
John Rodda passes the AWG flag to AWG2018 co-hosts Hay River and Fort Smith

All the entertainers who performed during the closing ceremony were called on stage at the end of the show.
Young people from Nuuk dance during the closing ceremony
Team Alaska earns Hodgson Trophy

For the fifth time, Alaska won the top Arctic Winter Games honor

By Noah Molgaard
ulunews@awg2016.gl

It was a very surprised but honored Team Alaska chef de mission who received the Hodgson Trophy at the end of the end of yesterday’s closing ceremony.

The Hodgson Trophy is awarded to the contingent that is voted to have exemplified the Arctic Winter Games’ principles of fair play and team spirit.

It has been a central part of the Games since 1978, when it was awarded to Team Alaska.

Receiving the trophy on behalf of Team Alaska this year, Shawn Maltby said the trophy served as a lesson to participants that sportsmanship was also valued.

“We don’t talk about trying to win the Hodgson Trophy. But we teach our athletes about sportsmanship and that is what we saw this week,” Maltby says.

In addition to being awarded the Hodgson Trophy, Team Alaska also ended these Games atop the medal standings, winning a total of 216 ulus, 14 more than they won at home in Fairbanks in 2014.

Team Alaska was particularly strong in traditional events like skiing, volleyball and Arctic Sports during this year’s Games, but Maltby also noted that the team had secured medals in the futsal finals on the last day of the Games.

“Futsal is coming to Alaska, and we’re proud of that.”

Hodgson Trophy winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Contingent</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-1988</td>
<td>Yukon</td>
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<td>1990</td>
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<td>Nunavut</td>
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<td>2008</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Alaska</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Nunavut</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Greenland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Alaska</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bliv certificeret projektleder i Nuuk

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Fantastic futsal finals

Team Alaska and Team Greenland each took home a gold and a silver in Friday’s boys’ futsal finals. Team NWT’s juvenile girls needed extra time to secure a win.

Team Greenland and Team Alaska split the gold-ulu matches in an exciting close to the boys’ futsal tournament on Friday. Playing in front of a standing-room only crowd at Godthåb field house, the Team Alaska juvenile boys’ held on for a 4-2 win against Team Greenland in a closely fought contest.

For Team Alaska, the win came after 3-1 defeat to the same team in the preliminary round. Both teams sailed through their semifinal matches on Thursday, setting up yesterday’s rematch. For Team Alaska, the win came after 3-1 defeat to the same team in the preliminary round. Both teams sailed through their semifinal matches on Thursday, setting up yesterday’s rematch.

“I think I over-coached my team in the first game against Greenland,” said Team Alaska coach Gerry Lehnhart. “I was trying to do too much, since we hadn’t practiced a lot. That wasn’t smart of me.”

His strategy in the final was to prevent Team Greenland from getting too much space.

“I was sure they would give us a lot of trouble if we allowed them to work with the ball,” Lehnhart said.

During a team meeting on Friday, Lehnhart said he head told his team to trust their skills.

“It was really exciting and crowd was against us, but it was a lot of fun,” said Team Alaska’s Sturm Harrison.

Later in the day, the same contingents faced off in the junior boys’ final with the opposite result.

Team Greenland had played to convincing wins all week. But the noisy home crowd appeared to throw the squad off its game. After playing 1-1 for most of the game, Team Greenland scored a last-minute goal to secure the gold.

“It was really bad, but we did it,” Marco Geisler, the Team Greenland captain, said.

He said that with the score knotted at half, the team decided to come out aggressively after the break in the hopes of securing the win.

In girls’ action on Friday, Team NWT’s juvenile side edged past Team Greenland on a golden goal in extra time to clinch the gold by a margin of 2-1.

Final standings

Juvenile male
Gold: Team Alaska
Silver: Team Greenland
Bronze: Team Yukon

Juvenile female
Gold: Team NWT
Silver: Team Greenland
Bronze: Team Alberta North

Junior male
Gold: Team Greenland
Silver: Team Alaska
Bronze: Team Yukon

Junior female
Gold: Team Alaska
Silver: Team Alberta North
Bronze: Team NWT

Intermediate female
Gold: Team Sápmi
Silver: Team Yukon
Bronze: Team Greenland

By Noah Mølgaard
ulunews@awg2016.gl
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#AWG2016
A giant among tall people

Despite being one of the shortest players in the girls’ basketball tournament, Team Alaska’s Angelline Isabella Nageak was one of the leading scorers in the girls’ basketball tournament.

Team Alaska’s girls’ basketball team went undefeated throughout the entire Arctic Winter Games. The team wound up winning final match against NWT, 94-46, on Friday.

A big part of the reason was Angelline Isabella Nageak, 14. Despite her diminutive stature (she measures 160cm) Nageak ended up as the tournament’s leading scorer.

It is an accomplishment that she chalks up to years of training.

“I’ve been playing basketball my whole life, so I have practiced everyday, doing drills and stuff,” she said.

Being an above average player, despite being shorter than average, is apparently also something that runs in Nageak’s family.

“My dad helped a lot, too. He plays basketball, and he taught me everything, and he’s not that tall either.”

While admittedly proud of being the top scorer, she recognizes it was more than just an individual accomplishment.

“It took my team to help me get there. I can’t score without them passing me the ball,” she said.

Nageak enjoyed playing in the tournament, but said there had been more to her Games than basketball.

“The best part is probably the food. Everything I have tried has been pretty good. It’s also a great honor to been chosen to play on the team, so it is pretty big for me just to be here. I have never travelled away to play basketball,” said Nageak, who will soon return to Alaska with a pair of big accomplishments.

Paarnaq Hansen
ulunews@awg2016.gl
Alberta North, NWT head home with hockey golds

Successful tournaments for the western Canadian teams, while Nunavut had a hard time in front of the home crowd

By Trine Juncher Jørgensen
ulunews@awg2016.gl

The hockey tournaments ended Thursday in Iqaluit with gold ulus to the boys from Alberta North and the girls of NWT.

Playing in the AWG Arena outside Iqaluit, the Alberta North boys took the gold in a 5-4 victory on a last minute goal. Alaska ended third, Nunavut fourth and Yukon fifth.

NWT’s Connor Fleming, 14, was the tournament’s high scorer with 14 goals.

The girls played their gold match in the Arnaitok Arena in downtown Iqaluit. NWT won 5-1 over Alberta North. Alaska won the bronze-ulu game over Yukon. Nunavut finished fifth.

NWT’s Davina McLeod, 18, led all scorers with eight goals.
The girls from NWT won the gold match against Alberta North.
Next stop Greenland. The hundred or so hockey players are now in Nuuk.
NUNATSINNI INOQARFINNI TAMANI IPPUGUT
No polar bear’s gonna stop him

Living in extreme northern Greenland poses special challenges for snowshoer Abel Jensen, but he promises he’ll be back for a second AWG.

Six months ago, Team Greenland’s Abel Jensen was unaware he was going to be at the starting line of the snowshoe competition this week. Jensen finished second-to-last in the final of the snowshoe run yesterday, but said he was satisfied, given that he was new to the sport, and that living in Qaanaaq, some 2,000km north of Nuuk, had put unique limitations on his ability to train.

Jensen said he hit the trails as soon as the snow began falling last autumn, but snow time in Qaanaaq also coincides with the onset of polar night. On top of that, comes the risk of running into a polar bear during training runs.

Instead, Jensen concentrated mostly on indoor training, where he worked on building muscle mass.

Not being able to train properly, Jensen admitted, made it difficult to master proper technique.

“It’s hard. You need to focus on it the entire time, otherwise you lose your snowshoe or fall.”

Being at the back of the pack didn’t take away from the AWG experience, he said.

“It was tough, but meeting young people from other countries was encouraging. This is an experience I’m never going to forget. My goal now is to make it to the next Arctic Winter Games.”

Abel Jensen pledges AWG2016 won’t be his last Games

By Marie Kuitse Kristensen
ulunews@awg2016.gl
Frederikke Nielsen also competed in her first AWG this week.
The finals in the open one foot high kick ended yesterday with gold ulus to Melanie Curtis, Team Alberta North, with a kick of 2.36m, and to Makiyan Ivanoff, Team Alaska, who bested the field with a kick of 2.79m.

Considered the marquee discipline of Arctic Sports, the one foot high kick requires athletes to jump in the air and kick a ball and then land on the same foot.
Silver-ulu winner Deseray Cumberbatch of Team Nunavik-Quebec makes an attempt during the open women’s final yesterday.
Knuckle hop is a painful discipline. Participants begin in a push-up position and then hop as far as they can on their knuckles. Afterwards, their hands have to be looked at by a medic. Team NWT’s Christopher Daniel Stipdonk won the gold ulu in today’s final. Kyle Worl and Nick Hanson, both from Team Alaska, took the silver and bronze.
The road to an **efficient Greenland** has become shorter

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One homeless man is hoping that volunteering during AWG2016 will help him to find a job

Hans-Peter Ananiassen has been homeless since 2009. That, however, has not stopped the 49-year-old from volunteering during AWG2016. For six hours each day for the past week he has been helping with security at sleeping accommodations and other venues.

“I wanted to help because I want to meet people from other northern countries, and because I like their language,” said Ananiassen.

Ananiassen often noticed that others see the homeless as lazy. Volunteering was his way of helping to change that stereotype.

“As a volunteer I got experience in a lot of areas. And I got the opportunity to show others that the homeless can do something and contribute to society. Many homeless are willing to help others. We are not so different. We have feelings too,” he said.

Ananiassen was happy to help and thinks working as a volunteer will help him to get a job. During the Games, he met a number of people who said they would help him find work.
Air Greenland – Getting you on board Arctic Winter Games 2016!

Read more about Air Greenland and book your next flight on www.airgreenland.com
The other side of the snowmobile tracks

By Malik Brøns
ulunews@awg2016.gl

We’ll all remember Nuuk as the city that hosted AWG2016. But what most probably didn’t get the chance to discover was the mountains that make for a great getaway for city residents and visitors alike. Here’s what you missed.
We bring people together
Away-from-home schooling

When the nearest school is 1,200km from where your family is, homesickness is both a curse and a blessing

By Malu Pedersen
ulunews@awg2016.gl

Tukuminnguaq Nykjær Olsen, 28, was born and raised in Qaanaaq, the northernmost town in Greenland. Her high school, however, was some 1,200km to the south, in Aasiaat. Her university, where she is studying sociology, is 700km further away, in Nuuk.

The immense distance meant that none of her other classmates in Qaanaaq went on to high school. Being away from family and friends, she admits, is hard, but also necessary.

“It was hard at first to have to travel to another city where they speak another dialect that I didn’t understand. I still feel homesick everyday, but my goal is to have a job, so it is vital that I complete my education.”

A combination of vast size and tiny population makes education an immense challenge for Greenlandic authorities. But for students and authorities, the challenge can be even greater. Only a few towns are large enough to support more than an elementary school. There is one university.

For Olsen to fly home from Aasiaat cost 20,000 kroner, more than full month’s salary for most Greenlanders. Olsen said she was mentally ready to be away from home when she began high school, as well as the reality of being able to return only during her summer holiday, thanks in large part to the emphasis her parents place on her education.

“Whenever I feel homesick they always remind me that when I finish my education I am going to work with something I love,” she said.

Being away from home isn’t all bad, however. She says it has reinforced the value of having a healthy social network.

“If I want to go home, my classmates start asking questions about what I would do there. They remind me there is nothing to do in Qaanaaq. That’s when you realize how important it is to finish your education if you want to be able to support yourself or others.

Naaja Nathanielsen, an independent member of Inatsisartut, Greenland’s national assembly, agreed that being separated from home could be a strength.

“Education is very much about persistence. That is important when you have a dream to pursue. It is part of being student. It’s not easy and it must not be easy,” she said.
Providing Energy/Nukissamik tunisisut

As Nanoq sponsor, Brugseni will provide delicious and healthy food to all the participants and volunteers, and take care of all the food serving.

We have created the slogan »Providing Energy/Nukissamik tunisisut« to show that Brugseni supplies good energy to the athletes, the cultural representatives, and all the volunteers who diligently give of their time, their talents and their skills.

Providing Energy

The Brugseni team is ready

Brugseni is ready to serve healthy and delicious food to the many people participating in the Arctic Winter Games.
All the AWG that’s fit to print

AWG2016 provided a challenge for more than just the athletes taking part. For the student journalists that had to cover them, the past week has been an exhilarating experience.

By Martine Lind Krebs
ulunews@awg2016.gl

For those of you who thought that the Ulu News team was a group of chain-smoking reporters with a press card stuck in the band of their fedora hats should think again. The majority of the content was produced by students at Greenland’s Illisimatusarfik School of Journalism.

In all, 11 Greenlandic students wrote articles and took pictures. One of them, Marie Kuitse Kristensen, said the week had been as challenging as it was interesting.

“It gave us the chance to put the things we’ve learned in school into use,” she said.

She found it difficult to speak with people from foreign countries but felt the effort had been worth it.

“They’re so filled with positive energy. They’re just so happy to be here.”

The students were divided into two groups that alternated making each day’s edition.

Malik Brøns was another of the students who contributed to Ulu News this week. Readers may not recognize his name, but they are no doubt familiar with his pictures, including the front page of Thursday’s edition.

“I was assigned the task of photographing and interviewing the people I took pictures of. It’s been challenging to talk to people and capture them in action, but the participants turned out to be very open and easy to talk to.”

Brøns found the daily deadline to be the greatest challenge.

“I really felt like staying a little longer at the various venues, but I had to get back to the newsroom to start editing,” he said.

Brøns’s favorite picture during the Games was a portrait of Team Yukon skier Katie Wowk.

During the week, the students received help from four reporters from SermitsiaqAG, a Greenlandic news outlet, as well as their instructors.
Ulu News student reporters Gaba Olsen and Marie Kuitse Kristensen at work during the snowstorm on the first day of AWG2016.

Malik Brøns’s best shot during AWG16: Team Yukon skier Katie Wowk with reflections in her goggles.

Ulu News Team 2: Kevin McGwin, mascot Kuluk, Ane-Marie Petersen, Naimah Hussain, Nita Jul Larsen, Nathan Kreutzmann, Winnie Filemonsen (back row), and Nukaaka Tobiassen, Pannguaq Steenholdt, and Martine Lind Krebs (front row).

Ulu News student reporters Gaba Olsen and Marie Kuitse Kristensen at work during the snowstorm on the first day of AWG2016.
The towns of Hay River and Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, have been selected to organize the next Arctic Winter Games.

By Martine Lind Krebs
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The next Arctic Winter Games will be held in 2018 in the South Slave area of Canada’s Northwest Territories.

The Games will be organised jointly by the towns of Hay River and Fort Smith in the area south of Great Slave Lake, in the southern part of NWT.

Hay River last hosted the Games in 1978 together with the now-abandoned mining town of Pine Point. Hay River and Fort Smith also bid to host the 2008 games but were beat out by Yellowknife.

“We thank the International Committee for making this possible. Hosting the Arctic Winter Games in a small community like ours means that the Games will be the pulse of the entire community,” said Greg Rowe, the chairman of the South Slave AWG organising committee.

The Arctic Winter Games are hosted in rotation between NWT, Yukon, Nunavut, Alberta, Alaska and Greenland.

At present, 18 sports are on the program for the 2018 Games. Only downhill skiing has been left off, but there is still a chance table tennis could be included.

Table tennis was not included in the original bid because there was no table-tennis federation in NWT at the time. A federation has since been established, and table tennis has been included. Read the winning bid here.
Collect them all

The BANK of Greenland presents the 5 items series of Arctic Winter Games pins.
Visit us at Imaneq 33.
Work for 2018
Games begins now

The South Slave hosting committee heads home from Nuuk with inspiration and a long list of things to do

By Martine Lind Krebs
ulunews@awg2016.gl

When Hay River and Fort Smith welcome participants to the Arctic Winter Games in 2018, it will only be the fourth time that two communities have co-hosted the Games. Greg Rowe, the president of the South Slave AWG hosting committee, sees this as a sign that it will be easier for small communities to host future AWGs.

“We are appreciative of the International Committee for allowing this. Hosting the Arctic Winter Games in a small community like ours means that the Games will be the pulse of the entire community,” he said.

Another advantage, according to Rowe, is that athletes will be able to walk to most venues. A challenge, on the other hand, will be providing enough accommodation.

“We will have to be creative.”

Rowe himself participated in figure skating at AWG1976, winning three ulus. He has also coached hockey teams to ulus. Hay River has a population of 3,600. Fort Smith 2,500. The distance between the towns is 272km. Chartered flights will transport participants between the two host communities. Hay River has hosted numerous sports events before, including serving as the venue for the NWT Track and Field Championships for the past 25 years.

“But Arctic Winter Games are really special and we are excited about hosting them. It will get us back into the circumpolar world,” Rowe said.

A widely attended pep-rally hosted last year, showed that the organizers have the full backing of their communities.

“This will be the biggest event ever in our region.”

Kevin Smith, the director of AWG2018 media and marketing, has been on hand in Nuuk this week. While here, he observed the importance of having a large number of volunteers.

“We’re going to need almost every single person in South Slave being involved,” he said.

The AWG2018 games run from March 17-24, but Smith said the work is already under way.

“I’ve noticed the countdown clock for AWG2016 is down to 0:00. Our countdown now begins.”
Former AWG hosts
1970 Yellowknife, NWT
1972 Whitehorse, Yukon
1974 Anchorage, Alaska
1976 Schefferville, Quebec
1978 Hay River/Pine Point, NWT
1980 Whitehorse, Yukon
1982 Fairbanks, Alaska
1984 Yellowknife, NWT
1986 Whitehorse, Yukon
1988 Fairbanks, Alaska
1990 Yellowknife, NWT
1992 Whitehorse, Yukon
1994 Slave Lake, Alberta
1996 Chugiaq/Eagle River, Alaska
1998 Yellowknife, NWT
2000 Whitehorse, Yukon
2002 Nuuk, Greenland/Iqaluit, Nunavut
2004 Wood Buffalo, Alberta
2006 Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska
2008 Yellowknife, NWT
2010 Grande Prairie, Alberta
2012 Whitehorse, Yukon
2014 Fairbanks, Alaska

Lokal rådgivning – en verden af ekspertise
Najukkami siunnersuisneq – ilisimasaqarluarnerup silarsuaani

Deloitte.
The return of the Inukshuk Express

The original Inukshuk Express took athletes back and forth from Hay River to Pine Point during the 1978 Games. Now the AWG2018 committee plans to set the express in motion once again.

When Hay River and Fort Smith host the Arctic Winter Games in two years it will be the second time for Hay River. The 1978 Games were held in the town together with the now-abandoned community of Pine Point.

A coach train named Inukshuk Express was used to ferry spectators between host towns. It was provided as a courtesy to the Games by Canadian Rail. At that time it was the first passenger train in NWT. For many of the children participating in AWG1978 the Inukshuk Express was their first train ride.

The AWG2018 organizing committee plans to bring back the Inukshuk Express to commemorate the 1978 Games.

“Many people have asked about the Inukshuk Express. We will try to recreate the memories of the 1978 Games,” Greg Rowe, the president of the AWG2018 host committee, said.

If all goes according to plan, the 2018 Inukshuk Express will transport guests from downtown Hay River to the old town.

With no rails in Hay River the Inukshuk Express will have to be on wheels this time, though. In order to give the coaches a rail feel, they will be decorated with pictures from the first Inukshuk Express and AWG1978.

Read about the first Inukshuk Express here.

By Martine Lind Krebs ulunews@awg2016.gl
✓ Focus
✓ Dedication
✓ Experience
✓ Teamwork
Nunavut turns down 2020 Games

High winds, frigid temperatures and the lack of facilities in one place has led Iqaluit to pass on hosting AWG2020

By Trine Juncher Jørgensen
ulunews@awg2016.gl

Team Nunavut athletes will have to wait until at least 2026 to perform in front of a home crowd.

A Government of Nunavut review of what it would take to host the Games in 2020 led to a decision to request an amendment to the hosting rotation until 2026 or later, according to Kyle Seeley, the territory’s director of sport and recreation.

Part of the reason is that Nunavut lacks the facilities to host an AWG on its own, and operating a satellite location would have made hosting too expensive.

“There is certainly a cost-factor related to utilizing satellite locations and the need to duplicate services. A really big factor is also the athlete’s experience, when they come to Nunavut for the Games. We certainly want them to have a very positive experience and a big part of that is the multi-sport environment,” he said.

Even with the use of satellite venues, Sweeney said Nunavut lacks sites where it can hold cross-country skiing, ski biathlon, alpine skiing, snowboard and snowshoe events.

“We do have big hills here, but we don’t have alpine facilities. Combined with the geographic limitations, the venue issue would make hosting the Arctic Winter Games challenging. We do have facilities for many of the indoor competitions like curling, skating and hockey, so a co-host role would suit us better,” he said.

And then there is the weather. It’s simply too cold and windy to be outside in March in Nunavut, where the average temperature is in the -30s.

“We have plenty of snow, but the temperature and the wind conditions are not acceptable for competition standards,” Sweeney said.

This year’s partnership between Iqaluit and Nuuk is a model Sweeney feels should be used more for future Arctic Winter Games.

Hosting AWG2020 Nunavut would have marked the first time the six permanent members of the Arctic Winter Games – Alaska, Yukon, NWT, Nunavut, Alberta North and Greenland – were able to host in succession.
Iqaluit has two suitable ice arenas: Arnaitok Arena and the more modern AWG Arena, where the hockey games took place this year.

Iqaluit lacks facilities for ski sports.
Remember your time

AWG2016 is over, but for the athletes who participated the experience will stay with them

By Gaaba Olsen
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Maja Olsen, 14
Sisimiut, Greenland
Alpine skiing

What was your best experience at AWG2016?
The competing. But I also made friends from Yukon, Alaska and Nunavut. We had a lot of fun

What is your favorite pin?
The polar bear that an athlete from Yukon traded with me.

What have you learned during AWG2016 that you will use later on?
Arctic Winter Games was big opportunity for me, I can use it as training for the upcoming national championship.

Ty Plamondon, 16
Alberta, Grande Prairie
Wrestling

What was your best experience at AWG2016?
Being here in Greenland. It has been a really great experience just being here.

What have you learned during AWG2016 that you will use later on?
Hard work! By training a lot, you can get very far.

Talia Halverson, 13
Alaska, Girdwood
Alpine Skiing

What was your best experience at AWG2016?
The course was a lot of fun. The weather was great one day. I really like the colorful houses here, it’s really cool.

What is your favorite pin?
I really like bronze Arctic Winter Games pin. I got it from an official.

Brad Sigurdson, 14
Nunavut
Hockey

What was your best experience at AWG2016?
Getting my first medals, and meeting new friends and people.

What is your favorite pin?
The pin I got from Greenland was really good. It was a good deal.

Which Greenlandic words have you learnt?
I’ve learned a few words, like qujanaq (‘thanks’), takuss’ (‘see you later’), tikilluaq (‘welcome’). A funny one I learned is usuup puua (‘condom’).

What have you learned during AWG2016 that you will use later on?
Confidence, effort and perseverence.

Jimmy Emudluk, 18
Nunavik, Quebec
Dene Games

What was your best experience at AWG2016?
There are no rinks in Nuuk so we played in Iqaluit. But it was a good experience playing in front of a home crowd.

What is your favorite pin?
I got a fair play pin for good sportsmanship, and being a good at making new friends.

What have you learned during AWG2016 that you will use later on?
Getting my first medals, and meeting new friends and people.

What is your favorite pin?
The pin I got from Greenland was really good. It was a good deal.

Which Greenlandic words have you learnt?
I’ve learned a few words, like qujanaq (‘thanks’), takuss’ (‘see you later’), tikilluaq (‘welcome’). A funny one I learned is usuup puua (‘condom’).

What have you learned during AWG2016 that you will use later on?
Confidence, effort and perseverence.
Tyra Jones, 15
Futsal
Whitehorse, Yukon

What was your best experience at AWG2016? We tied Team North Alberta yesterday, which was great, because they usually beat us.

What is your favorite pin? A polar bear from Alaska. Some girls walked into our room in the first day, and we bonded, so we traded pins.

Which Greenlandic words have you learnt? I learned qujanaq (‘thanks’).

What have you learned during AWG2016 that you will use later on? I got a lot experience from seeing how the other countries play futsal.
Imagine tug of war in reverse and you’ve got the concept for the Dene Games pole push event.

In yesterday’s finals, Team Greenland drove its way to a gold in the male open division, beating Team Nunavik Quebec. Team Alaska won bronze. During the junior competition earlier in the day Team Nunavut out-pushed Team Nunavik Quebec for the gold. Team Alaska was again third.

On the women’s side, Team NWT claimed gold over Team Alaska in the junior female division, while Team Alberta North finished third. In the juvenile female event, it was Team NWT again with a win, this time over Team Nunavik Quebec. Team Alberta North rounded out the medal winners.

Click on the page to see footage from yesterday’s action.
Parting memes

We found some people who definitely live up to the Artic Winter Games’ motto: JOIN. FEEL. JUMP.
The staff of Ulu News thanks all the participants of AWG2016 for making the past week a great one. Hope to see you in South Slave in 2018!