



# The Northern Star

Official Newspaper of the 2016 Labrador Winter Games

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## 2016 LWG officially underway!

### Opening ceremonies kicks off 31st games!

By Bonnie Learning

The Northern Star

The 2016 Labrador Winter Games has officially begun!

The opening ceremonies kicked off last night at the E.J. Broomfield Memorial Arena, with 23 teams from across Labrador entering the arena to much fanfare and cheering crowd.

The Queen of Peace Middle School led off the evening with the singing of the national anthem, and later, joined in a song with Harry Martin.

Premier Dwight Ball was the first dignitary to address the crowd.

“As Premier and Minister of Labrador Affairs, I am proud and consider it a privilege to be here tonight,” he said. “(The Games) really speaks to what Labrador is all about – the resiliency, traditions and culture...”

Labrador Yvonne Jones got the crowd cheering, when she called out the names of each of the teams, and provided an anecdote about her own experience in the past with the Games.

“I remember the very first Games, when I was here as an athlete,” she recalled, noting fellow politicians Todd Russell, president of NunatuKavut and Innu Nation Grand Chief Anastasia Qupee, were also in the Games as athletes.



The 2016 Labrador Winter Games officially got underway last night, with the lighting of the Games torch.

**Photos by Bonnie Learning/The Northern Star**

Continued on page 2

# Labrador Winter Games kicks off!

Continued from page 1

“This just goes to show that if you compete as an athlete, you might end of competing in the political arena as well!” she quipped.

Joe Goudie, Chair of the LWG Board, noted he has been involved in each of the 33 Winter Games.

“Every set of Games has been a pleasure since day one,” he said. “Get out and see every event you can.”

The Athletes Oath was read out by athletes in English, Inuktitut and Innu-Eimun, as well as some words from two Special Olympic athletes, who are also represented in these Games.

After the lighting of the Games torch by the youngest and oldest athletes at the Games, Harry Martin sang the Ode to Labrador and in a special tribute, also sang his well-known and well-loved song ‘This is my Home’ in memory of Max (Mackie) Winters, who passed away in October of 2015.

Max’s wife, Mary, as well as son, John Paul, and daughter Maxine, were seated in front of the stage while the song was sang and were visibly touched by the tribute. Max’s komatik was placed in front of the stage area, as part of the night’s set design.

Premier Dwight Ball was also the last speaker of the evening.

“I now declare the 2016 Labrador Winter Games officially open!”

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# Opening ceremonies



## Remembering Max

By Bonnie Learning

The Northern Star

Team Makkovik have a special addition to their team uniform for the 2016 Labrador Winter Games.

The team is sporting a red “M” on an armband made up of the Labrador flag colours.

The “M” is in memory of Max Winters, explained team coordinator, Gemma Andersen.

“It’s in memory of Uncle Mackie, where he lived in Makkovik,” she said. “It was short notice, but where he always did the Labrathon, I was going to get our Labrathon athlete, Paul Mitchell to wear the armband, but then I said, ‘What the heck? We should all wear it as he’s from here and he did so much for the Games. I thought it would respect and honour him.’”

The Winters’ family thought it was a very special way to honour the family patriarch.

“He never, ever forgot his roots,” said Max’s wife, Mary. “He had his picture taken with (Makkvoik teams), he went to their (sporting events), he did it all.

Daughter Marlene Wheeler said it is a nice way to honour her father.

“It’s very touching,” she said. “It means a lot to us.”

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Team Makkovik is wearing armbands on their team uniforms in honour of Max Winters, an icon of the Labrador Winter Games since its inception in 1983. Max passed away in October of 2015. Some of the team members include (from left) Herman Voisey, Tyler Andersen, Dion Voisey, Cory Pottle, Megan Andersen, and Gemma Andersen.

Official 2016 Labrador Winter Games Schedule																	
Monday, March 14			Tuesday, March 15			Wednesday, March 16			Thursday, March 17			Friday, March 18			Saturday, March 19		
Time	Event	Place	Time	Event	Place	Time	Event	Place	Time	Event	Place	Time	Event	Place	Time	Event	Place
8:30am	Table Tennis	LTC	8:30am	Target Shooting	R&GC	8:30am	Arena Ball Hockey	EJB	9:00am	Volleyball	MMC	8:00am	Darts	RCL	9:00am	Dog Team Race	TB
8:30am	Target Shooting	R&GC	8:30am	Snowmobile Race	RT	8:30am	Badminton	LTC	9:00am	X-Country Ski: 10K Relay	BB	9:00am	Labrathon	TB	10:00am	Labrathon	TB
8:30am	Snowshoe Race: Men's 1200m & Women's 800m	MSP	10:30am	Snowshoe Race: Men's & Women's Finals, Special Olympics, & Relay	MSP	9:00am	X-Country Ski: Men's 10K & Women's 10K	BB	11:30am	Medal Presentation: X-Country Skiing	BB	4:00pm	Medal Presentation: Darts	RCL	11:00am	Medal Presentation: Labrathon	TB
4:00pm	Medal Presentation: Table Tennis	LTC	12:00pm	Medal Presentation: Snowmobile Race	RT	7:30pm	Medal Presentation: Arena Ball Hockey	EJB	1:00pm	Snowshoe Biathlon	BB	6:00pm	Northern Games (Night 2)	EJB	12:00pm	Northern Duathlon	BB
7:30pm	Athletes and Special Guests Movie Night	AT	1:30pm	Medal Presentation: Snowshoe Race	MSP	8:30pm	Medal Presentation: Badminton	LTC	3:00pm	Medal Presentation: Volleyball	MMC	10:30pm	Medal Presentation: Northern Games	EJB	12:30pm	Medal Presentation: Dog Team Race	TB
			4:00pm	Medal Presentation: Target Shooting	R&GC				6:00pm	Northern Games (Night 1)	EJB				2:00pm	Medal Presentation: Northern Duathlon	BB
			7:00pm	Athletes and Special Guests Labrador Concert	OBAC				7:30pm	Medal Presentation: Snowshoe Biathlon	EJB				5:00pm	Athlete's Banquet	SMH
															7:00pm	Closing Ceremonies	EJB

# Contact us!



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