

Media Release

FSIN Communications Unit



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 6, 2008

SASKATCHEWAN ATHLETE TO PERFORM NATIONAL ANTHEM IN CREE AT THE 2008 NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES

(Duncan, British Columbia) Team Saskatchewan is once again showcasing its diversity and broad range of talent at the 2008 North American Indigenous Games in Cowichan, British Columbia. Swimmer, Akena Shirt, from the Carry the Kettle First Nation, will sing O Canada in Cree at the official games opening ceremonies of the Cowichan Aquatic Centre in Duncan, British Columbia, at 4 p.m. P.D.T. on Thursday August 7, 2008.

Last winter Shirt sang the Cree version of the national anthem before a Calgary Flames NHL game. "I am truly honoured to sing in my Cree language," says Shirt. "I also look forward to competing in the brand new pool. This will be historic."

The North American Indigenous Games swimming competition will be the first event ever in the new Cowichan Aquatic Centre. To arrange an interview with Akena Shirt, contact Team Saskatchewan Swimming Coordinator Bryce Cameron at 306-270-1200.

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations represents 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan. The Federation is committed to honouring the spirit and intent of Treaty, as well as the promotion, protection and implementation of the Treaty promises that were made more than a century ago.

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