

Media Release

FSIN Communications Unit



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SASKATCHEWAN WELL REPRESENTED AT THE 2008 NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES

(Duncan, British Columbia) Team Saskatchewan is conducting itself with an enormous amount of class and respect as it competes at the North American Indigenous Games in Cowachin, British Columbia. The team is winning its share of medals but more importantly Saskatchewan's Indigenous youth are representing our province with pride and a healthy competitive attitude.

For the first time in Team Saskatchewan's history at NAIG the Saskatchewan Government will have a representative attending the entire event from the opening to closing ceremonies. First Nations and Metis Relations Minister June Draude marched in with Team Saskatchewan during the opening ceremonies and has cheered on Saskatchewan athletes at different sporting events.

"It means a lot to our young people to have the Provincial Government as part of our cheering section," says FSIN Vice-Chief Lyle Whitefish. "The support and commitment from the province has been tremendous. It's overwhelming to have Minister Draude on hand. She's a part of the team."

"Team Saskatchewan's athletes, coaches, and mission staff are doing an excellent job representing our province," says Minister June Draude. "Since arriving at the games, I've learned Team Saskatchewan's secret to success and that's team work."

The Government of Saskatchewan and its agencies contributed \$100,000 to Team Saskatchewan. In addition, First Nations and Metis Relations gave an extra \$15,000 outside the agreement of planning and preparation. Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Christine Tell will arrive at the North American Indigenous Games later this week to cheer on Team Saskatchewan.

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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