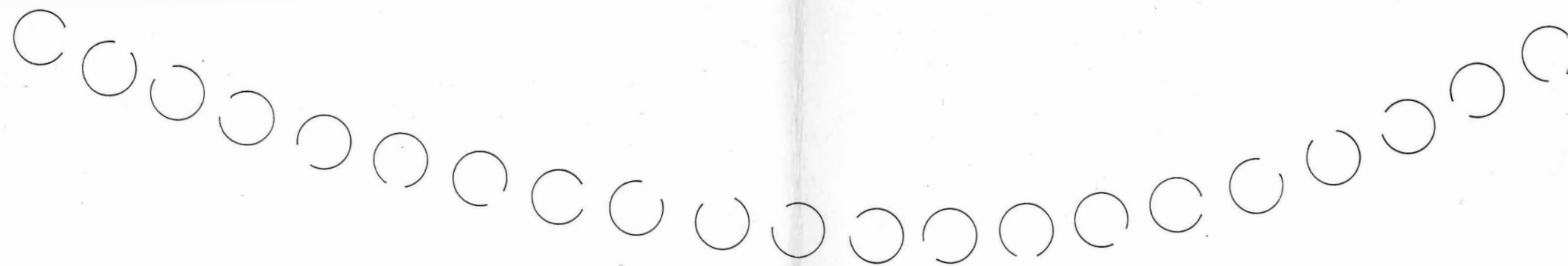


1975



Fort McPherson, N.W.T

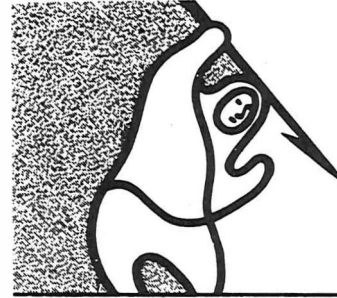
July 25, 26, 27, 28



OFFICIAL PROGRAM 50¢

Cover illustration:
Piet Van Loon

Photos courtesy of:
Tapwe Chretien
Indian Brotherhood of the N.W.T.
Northern Games Association



Northern Games Association

When some of us organized the first Northern Games in 1970 we probably never thought we would be around to celebrate the sixth annual Games!

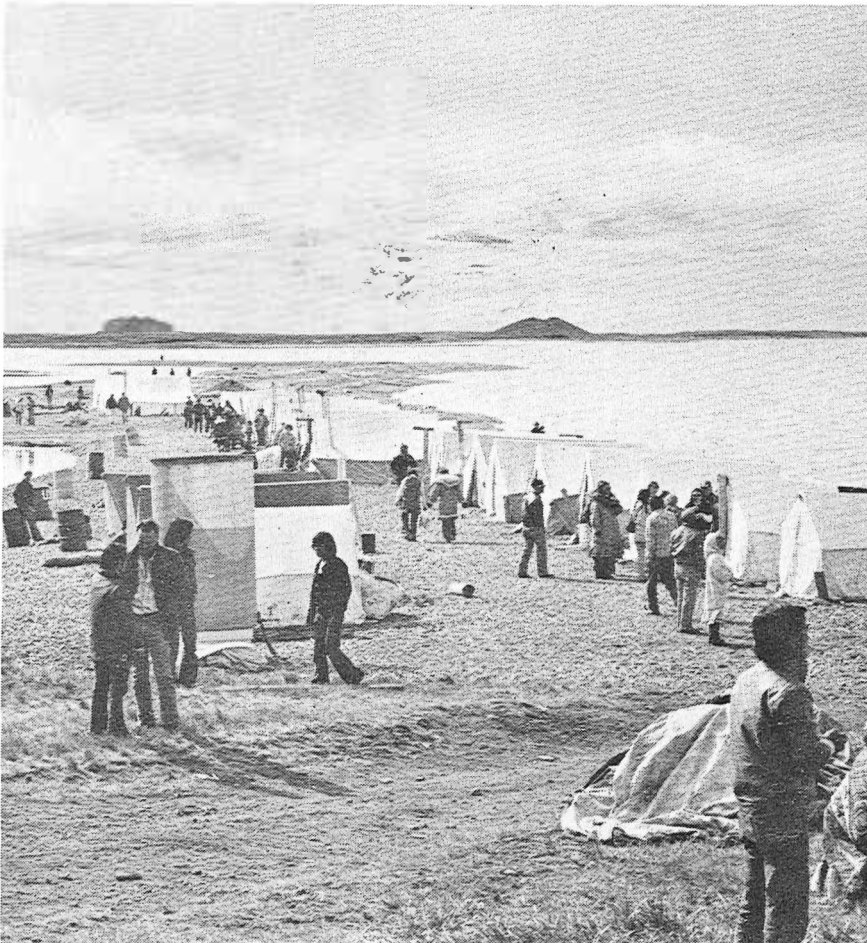
We hope that some of our original purposes of bringing back the old games and traditions of our people have been achieved.

At this time each year many people now look forward to getting together and sharing the good times that they have come to expect.

Participation is what has made the Games a success. To those of you who have come to the Games this time - join in the festivities with enthusiasm!

Welcome to old friends and new. Once again, a big thank you to all who have assisted.

Edward Lennie
Chairman
Northern Games Association



Tent village at Tuk - 1974



Dancers at 1974 Northern Games



Archery

NORTHERN GAMES COMMITTEE

Chairman	Edward Lennie
Vice-Chairman	Billy Day
Secretary-Treasurer	Doug Dittrich
Public Relations	Nellie Cournoyea
Transportation	Lois Keating
Chairman - Fort McPherson Committee	Paul Itsi



The blanket toss

5th ANNUAL NORTHERN GAMES - 1974 AWARD WINNERS

Single High Kick	Steve Cockney	Tuktoyaktuk
Double High Kick	Charles Komeak	Tuktoyaktuk
Alaska High Kick	Ernie Bernhardt	Spence Bay
One Hand Reach	Peter Norberg	Tuktoyaktuk
Kneel Jump	Ernie Bernhardt	Spence Bay
Ear Weight	Roger Lucas	Sachs Harbour
Knuckle Hop	Peter Norberg	Tuktoyaktuk
Bow and Arrow	Edgar Kotokak	Tuktoyaktuk
Harpoon Throwing	Luke Nuleiyak	Gjoa Haven
Blanet Toss (Women)	Jenifer Rigby	Inuvik
Blanket Toss (Boys)	Jerry Cockney	Tuktoyaktuk
Blanket Toss (Girls)	Laverna Komeak	Tuktoyaktuk
Blanket Toss (Children)	Darlene Cockney	Tuktoyaktuk
Fiddle Playing	David Ruben	Paulatuk
Jigging	Emmanuel Felix	Tuktoyaktuk
Jigging	Lily Gruben	Tuktoyaktuk
Indian Drumming	Skookim Jim Dances	Whitehorse
Inuit Drumming (Group)	Mackenzie Delta Dancers	
Inuit Drumming (Individual)	Patrick Qaqqutaq	Pelly Bay
The Good Woman	Alice Anablak	Coppermine
Traditional Dress	Margaret Haviyok	Coppermine
Seal Skinning	Christine Kudlak	Paulatuk
Rat Skinning	Jane Charlie	Ft. McPherson
Fish Cutting	Alice Anablak	Coppermine
Duck Plucking	Cora Kimiksana	Tuktoyaktuk
Tea Boiling	Annie B. Robert	Ft. McPherson
Bannock Making (Best)	Kathleen Hansen	Aklavik
Bannock Making (Fastest)	Edna Elias	Coppermine
Handicrafts (2)	Agnes Blake	Ft. McPherson
Handicrafts (2)	Lena Wolki	Sachs Harbour
Handicrafts	Alice Arnaoyok	Paulatuk
Handicrafts	Christine Felix	Tuktoyaktuk
Handicrafts	Mary Gruben	Tuktoyaktuk
Handicrafts	Jimmy Jacobson	Tuktoyaktuk
Handicrafts	Nellie Kanovak	Coppermine
Handicrafts	Mary Kassi	Old Crow
Handicrafts	Sarah Kuptana	Sachs Harbour
Handicrafts	Margaret Lennie	Tuktoyaktuk
Handicrafts	Ada Naklak	Coppermine

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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 Department of the Secretary of State
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 The Alberta Gas Trunk Line Company Limited
 Shell Canada Limited
 Gulf Oil Canada Limited

PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES 1970 - 1974

Aklavik, Arctic Red River, Cambridge Bay, Cape Dorset, Chesterfield Inlet, Colville Lake, Coppermine, Coral Harbour, Fort Good Hope, Fort McPherson, Fort Norman, Fort Simpson, Frobisher Bay, Gjoa Haven, Holman Island, Inuvik, Pangnirtung, Paulatuk, Pelly Bay, Rankin Inlet, Sachs Harbour, Spence Bay, Tuktoyaktuk, Wrigley; Dawson City, Old Crow, Teslin and Whitehorse, Yukon; Fairbanks and Point Barrow, Alaska.

Northern Games is truly a means by which people meet people and take home memories of friends left behind after it is over.

This will not in many cases be possible if there were no program such as this set up for us.

So by all means let us keep it alive and circulated throughout the different communities.

It also gives us a chance to share our sports handed down by our long departed ancestors and to revive those games and stories that were lost over the years.

We the people of Fort McPherson will welcome all those who decide to come to the Northern Games here this summer and we hope you all enjoy your stay with us.

John Simon:
 Settlement Council
 for The Northern Games Committee.

FORT MCPHERSON

Fort McPherson is situated on the east bank of the Peel River about 35 miles upstream from the Mackenzie River and 75 miles north of the Arctic Circle. The first Hudson's Bay trading post was established by John Bell in 1840 at a site four miles upriver from the present site which was named after chief trader of the Hudson's Bay Company, Murdoch McPherson, in 1848.

In 1852 an Indian village inhabited by Tetlit (Kutchin) or Loucheux Indians moved to the present site partly due to frequent floodings of the original site. The new site afforded an excellent view of the Delta thus providing an early warning of enemy approach. In 1871, according to Anglican parish records, the population consisted of 351 Loucheux Indians and 350 Eskimo who were presumably attracted by the abundance of fur. With the decline of the fur trade the Eskimo withdrew further north and today the only native inhabitants of Fort McPherson are the Loucheux Indians.

In 1903 the first North West Mounted Police detachment was set up in Fort McPherson and was the first of its kind in the Mackenzie Delta. Mail and medical supplies were brought over from Dawson in the Yukon by R.C.M.P. dog team patrols between the two communities. In 1911 one such patrol lost their way and perished in the winter weather. The patrol was led by Sgt. Dempster and the Dempster Highway which will link Dawson, Fort McPherson and Arctic Red River is presently under construction.

In March of 1970, 11 men from Fort McPherson retraced the historic police trail to Dawson as part of the N.W.T. Centennial activities. Today Fort McPherson has a population of close to 800 and in recent years the people have been actively involved in establishing locally owned-operated services including a canvas shop, handicraft outlet and Tetlit Co-op store.



Spectators at the Games

- 8:00 p.m. Indian Dance groups
- 9:00 p.m. Traditional Games
- 10:30 p.m. Inuit Dance groups
- 11:15 p.m. Fiddle contest
Jigging contest
Old Time Northern Dance

SUNDAY, JULY 27

- 1:00 p.m. Blanket Toss
Indian and Inuit Drummers and Dancers
- 2:00 p.m. to
6:00 p.m. Good Woman events (Site 1)
Traditional games and contests (Site 2)
- 8:00 p.m. Finals - Drum Dance groups (15 minutes per group)
Traditional Dress Parade - Good Woman
Jigging finals
Fiddle playing finals
Finals in remainder of contests
Award presentations
Closing remarks
Northern Dance (Inuit, Indian, Old Time)

MONDAY, JULY 28

- 11:00 a.m. Canoe (freighter) Races - community vs community (8 on a team)
- 2:00 p.m. Tug-of-Wars
Men vs. Women: community vs. community; etc.
- 9:00 p.m. Old Time Dance

Monday will be a day for completing unfinished events, new games, and informal socializing and feasting.

GOOD LUCK

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Indoor Activities - Chief Julius School Auditorium

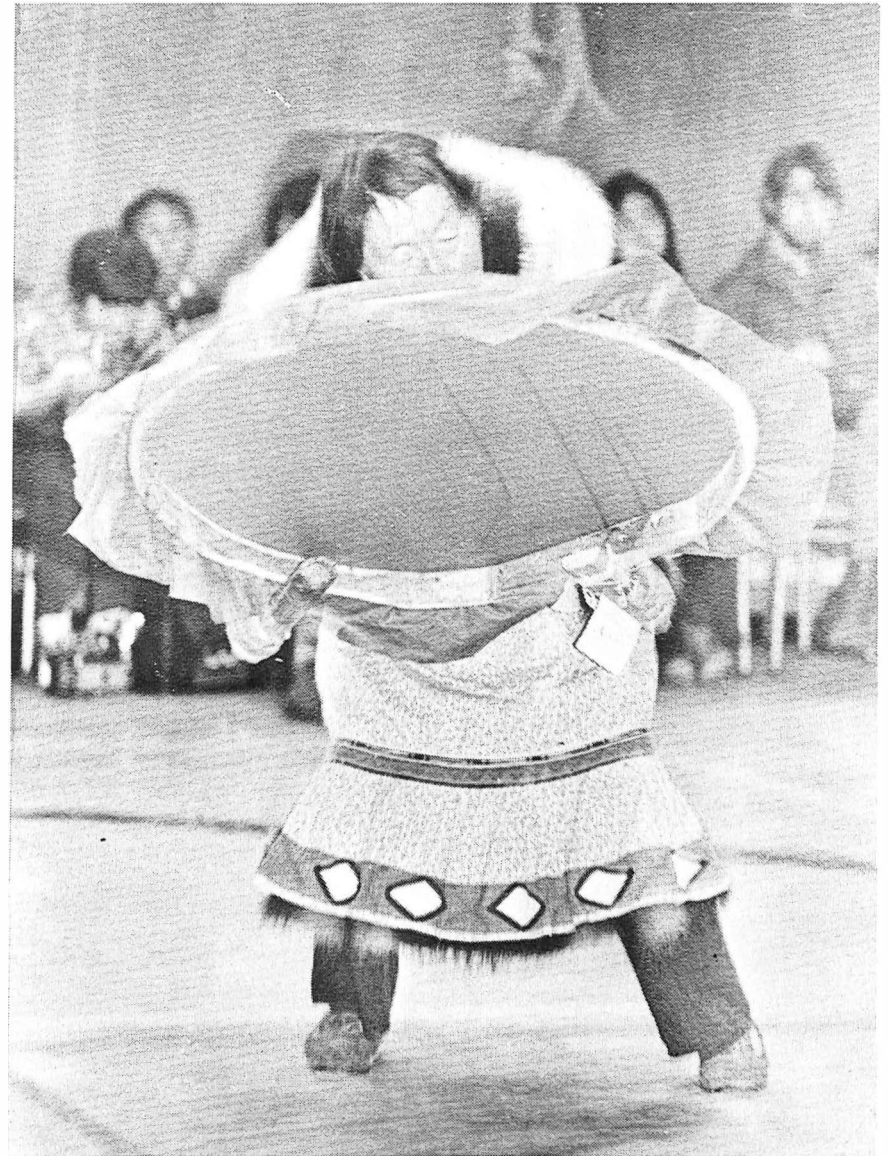
Outdoor Activities - Sites 1 and 2 (near Hostel)

FRIDAY, JULY 25

- 7:30 p.m. General Assembly
Grand March of Participants
Introductions (communities, guests,
officials)
Welcome - Chairman of Northern Games
Greetings from Settlement Chairman
Greetings from Ft. McPherson Band Chief
Official Opening Ceremony
- 8:30 p.m. Dance demonstrations:
Indian Drum Dance Groups
(with welcome dance - all join in)
Inuit Drum Dance Groups
(with welcome dance - all join in)
- 9:30 p.m. Demonstration of traditional games
- 11:00 p.m. Demonstration of jigging
Old Time Northern Dance

SATURDAY, JULY 26

- 1:00 p.m. Inuit Drummers and Dancers
Indian Drummers and Dancers
- 2:00 p.m. Blanket Toss
- 2:30 p.m. Introduction of Good Woman contestants
- 2:30 p.m. to
6:00 p.m. Good Woman events (Site 1)
Tea boiling, bannock making, fish cutting,
goose plucking, muskrat skinning, seal
skinning
Traditional games and contests (Site 2)

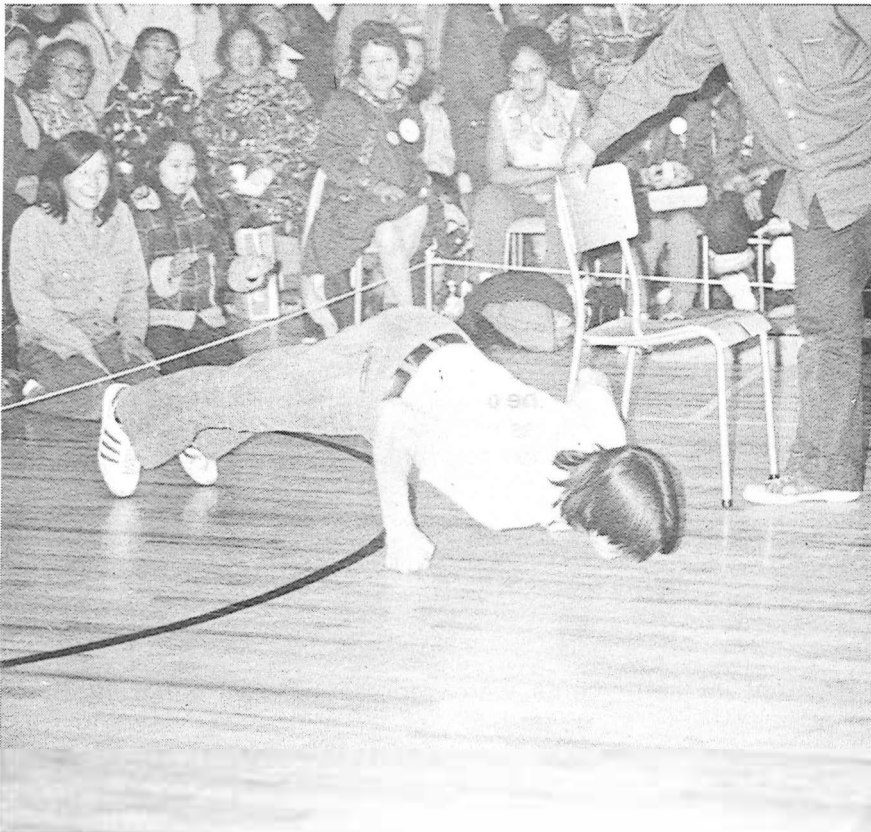


THE NORTHERN GAMES STORY

The idea of Northern Games was born in 1969 when we realized that the proposed Arctic Winter Games would include only southern-type sports. A plan was made to hold a weekend of native games and activities at Inuvik in the summer of 1970 as a Northwest Territories Centennial project. Early in 1970 a special grant was made available to our organizing committee by the N.W.T. Government.

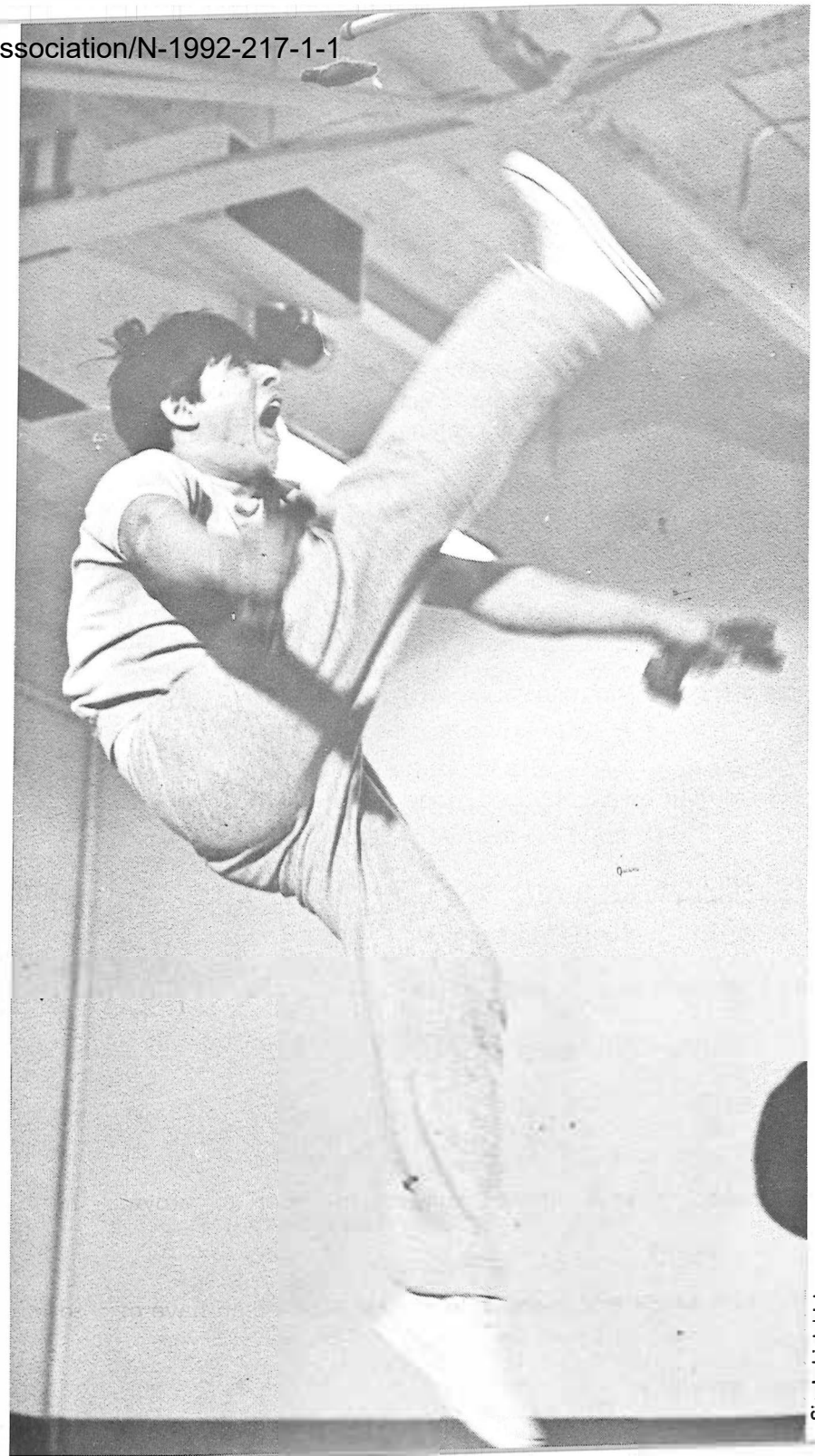
A presentation was made by the newly-formed native games team and the Mackenzie Delta Drummers and Dancers (formed in 1966) at Yellowknife in March 1970 at the 1st Arctic Winter Games. These traditional games and dances were well received, although they made up only a very small part of the program.

At Inuvik in July 1970, the Northern Games were held. They proved to be a great and popular success, with a dozen communities participating from the N.W.T., the Yukon and Alaska. The Games became an annual event in people's minds without our committee having to make any formal decision. The Territorial Government recognized the cultural value of the event and offered continuing support for 1971. In July the 2nd Games were held with more enthusiasm than ever from the representatives of the 14 participating communities.



The knuckle hop

In August 1971 Northern Games sent 20 people to join in the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics at Fairbanks, Alaska. They provided excellent competition and won several awards, including first place for drum dancing.



Single high kick

good wife and mother. Traditionally looks were not the prime asset for finding a good woman but rather her ability to contribute positively to family and community.

For the past six years we have been encouraging the practice and teaching of the traditional native games, dances and skills. Together with language, crafts, arts and legends, these form much of the culture, history and identity of our people. All these things should, we believe, be taught more in the schools, as well as be practised on special occasions, at local festivals and at larger gatherings of our people such as the Northern Games. Late in 1973 we sponsored a cultural exchange to Point Barrow, Alaska. Between Christmas and New Year's many people from the Mackenzie Delta enjoyed the opportunity to share in their week-long annual native games. During the past eight years the Delta Drummers and Dancers have travelled to many places in southern Canada to share their traditional stories and dances with as many people as possible. During 1974 they travelled as far afield as Anchorage (Arctic Winter Games), Toronto (Mariposa Folk Festival) and Vancouver (Eaton's Pacific Centre).

Preserving the valued customs of the past by joining together in a time of good fun and friendly social exchange is one of the important ways of preparing for a future when native northerners will play leading roles in the development of their own land. Northern Games wants to see our young people taking increasing pride in their own cultural heritage and discovering the rich history which they have inherited from our ancestors.

Our committee feels strongly that our programs can only be a success and of real benefit to the people of the North if they have the support of the communities. We have asked every settlement, hamlet or band council to choose people in each community who are interested in the things we are encouraging. When we wish to pass along information to the people or arrange for projects and activities we will be able to communicate directly with these helpers.

Northern Games will do whatever it can to assist groups who are interested in having the traditions of our people preserved by sponsoring local and inter-community cultural programs. We are continuing to seek further support in order to provide more opportunities for people from all regions to get together frequently for cultural, social and recreational events.

We are pleased that the people of Fort McPherson have offered to host the 6th annual Games in July of 1975. We look forward to another enjoyable time with an enthusiastic sharing by all in the many activities.

At Whitehorse, Yukon in March 1972, Northern Games was well represented in the special events program of the 2nd Arctic Winter Games, attracting a great deal of attention, appreciation and spectator participation. About 50 native people from the N.W.T. attended the 3rd Arctic Winter Games at Anchorage, Alaska in March 1974 to share in the native sports and cultural activities. This involvement was co-ordinated by the Northern Games Association.

A team of Northern Games athletes took part in the 3rd Canada Winter Games held in southern Alberta in February 1975. For the first time since the Canada Games were instituted in 1967 native sports were demonstrated. It is expected that northern peoples will have displays and demonstrations in the arts and cultural program for the 1976 Summer Olympics at Montreal. The Northern Games committee has made suggestions in this regard.

In 1972 the Federal Government accepted the cultural and social place of Northern Games. A travel and exchange grant from the Secretary of State enabled our committee to assist participants to come to Inuvik from the Baffin, Keewatin and central Arctic coast regions. The N.W.T. Government again assisted with a grant. At the 3rd Northern Games in July, 21 communities were officially represented. In addition, each year, people from many other communities have come in for the Games, participating informally in the activities.

Planning for the 4th annual Games originally included having them in four different places in the one summer. Funding for this project was not obtained and it was necessary to hold the Games at one location only. Our committee felt that it would be good to take the Games to other communities. There was a danger that holding the Games at Inuvik every year would not be the best way to encourage development of the traditional activities in other regions nor allow for the greatest participation.

Fort Good Hope agreed to host the 1973 Games. Through the great efforts of many people they were successfully held there in August. A total of 14 settlements were represented, with four of them participating for the first time. Financing of the Games was helped by grants from the Secretary of State under the travel and exchange and opportunities for youth programs. The N.W.T. Government and two large corporations also provided assistance.

The site of the 1974 Games was Tuktoyaktuk with 18 communities sending representatives, five for the first time. Everyone agreed that it was undoubtedly the coldest Northern Games to date but, according to many comments, one of the best with good times enjoyed by participants, spectators, visitors and all the residents of Tuk.

The skills of a Good Woman include:



Goose plucking

With a grant from the Department of National Health and Welfare, our committee was able to provide travel assistance to approximately 260 people. Other funds for the 5th annual Games were obtained from the Secretary of State's Department (to pay for our office and secretary who was hired in October 1973), the N.W.T. Government and five of the oil and gas companies. Canada Manpower provided an O.F.Y. grant to help in local administration and organization at Tuk.

In 1974 Northern Games provided financial support to the Inuit Music Festival at Cape Dorset in mid-July. Our Association produced a one-hour video tape documentary of the Tuk Games. This film has a sound commentary and can be used to give viewers



Bannock baking



Tea boiling



Seal skinning

a good idea of the Games and their history.

Non-native sports-minded people often do not understand the purpose of Northern Games. They are used to thinking in terms of regimented athletic contests where winning appears to be the dominating or only aim. Northern Games, on the other hand, is thought of as a festival in keeping with the traditional gatherings of northern peoples in days gone by.

The Good Woman competition has been a unique and very popular part of the Games from the beginning. Women from many settlements have shown their skills in sewing, cooking, preparing food and skins, and dancing - all the things necessary to be a