



TCDSB NORTHERN SPIRIT GAMES

The TCDSB Northern Spirit Games are annual athletic, cultural and spiritual celebrations that welcome approximately 300 TCDSB students in Grades 4, 5 and 6. The students participate in ten indoor and outdoor activities based on traditional First Nations, Métis and Inuit games. Each day's activities are run by trained secondary student leaders from the hosting school.

Staff and students will partake in culturally significant traditions such as art, music and time-honoured games and activities which focus on physical strength, agility and endurance. The Games emphasize team work and introduce students to sports and activities still alive in northern communities, such as snow shoeing, rope skipping, and spear throw.

The opening ceremonies are based on the teachings of the Medicine Wheel and honour the gifts of Mother Earth, reminding students of their sacred connection to nature. Métis guest speakers including story tellers, musicians and cultural leaders, will address the children before the athletic activities begin.

The Northern Spirit Games are part of the Board's larger First Nations, Métis and Inuit initiatives, including curriculum development, teacher workshops and twinning with Northern communities. The TCDSB Northern Spirit Games (formerly Arctic Games) arose from the Twinning Initiative which was established by former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable James K. Bartleman.

SCHEDULE FOR 2012 GAMES

All Games begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at approximately 1:30 p.m.

February 13: Msgr. Percy Johnson C.H.S – 2170 Kipling Ave., **Etobicoke**

February 24: Archbishop Romero C.S.S. – 99 Humber Blvd., **York**

February 15: Brebeuf College School – 211 Steeles Ave. E., **North York**

February 27: St. Patrick C.S.S. – 49 Felstead Ave., **Toronto**

February 28: Blessed Mother Teresa C.S.S. – 40 Sewells Rd., **Scarborough**