

Dear Athletes, Coaches, Volunteers, Officials and Parents,

Given the challenging conditions we're all experiencing across the province this winter, this news may come as no surprise, however, it is with a heavy heart that we announce the cancellation of the Freestyle Ski events at the upcoming Lhtako Quesnel 2024 BC Winter Games.

This decision comes after careful consideration and consultation with the local organizing committee, the BC Winter Games Society, our Provincial Advisor and Sports Chair. While we tried to develop modified events and alternate activities to keep the Games alive and provide our athletes with a meaningful and memorable experience, the lack of snow ultimately forced our hand.

On behalf of Freestyle BC and our snowsports communities, I would like to express my gratitude to our BC Winter Games Event Chair, Dianne Dagneau, who, with the support of her dedicated team, put forth extraordinary efforts to host our events. These efforts truly exemplify their passion for the sport and the community.

We also want to acknowledge the tremendous contributions of our local Sports Chair, Rob McGauley, who worked tirelessly over the past year to connect our sport with the local Northern community.

Troll Mountain and its key stakeholders deserve special recognition for their dedication and commitment to the event and the sport of Freestyle Skiing. Despite a constantly thinning snowpack, Troll Mountain's support and energy have been unwavering and invaluable, and I have no doubt that, with more favourable conditions, they would have hosted an incredible event.

Finally, special thanks go to Andrew Pitre and the BC Winter Games Society, whose support has been instrumental in our efforts to showcase our sport at the BC Winter Games.

Things are not a total loss, however. We are excited to announce the establishment of a new non-profit Freestyle Club at Troll Mountain. Members of our freestyle community came together to revitalise the terrain park at Troll with new dirt work, Box and Rail features. We trained new coaches who continue cultivating enthusiasm amongst dozens of athletes who will go on to fuel the growth of Freestyle Skiing in Northern BC.

This achievement would not have been possible without the tremendous support from the local community. We want to express our gratitude for their leadership and energy.

When conditions improve, I highly recommend you all take a trip to Troll, where you'll receive some of the warmest, small-town hospitality and best cinnamon buns around. I am optimistic we'll see some regional freestyle events in the coming years.



To say we are disappointed in cancelling the Freestyle Ski events is an understatement. Nevertheless, we remain committed to the growth of our sport and the well-being of our athletes and our community as a whole.

Registered athletes can expect full refunds of their fees, which will be issued as soon as possible.

The BC Winter Games Society will also continue to honour the 'Games Participant' status. This means all registered athletes will:

- o Be considered a BC Games alumni for the 2024 BC Winter Games
- Be eligible for the Athlete 10 External Sport Credit: <u>CLICK HERE</u>
- Have access to a Participant Certificate
- Continue to be Eligible for the BC Games Leadership Bursary Award: <u>CLICK HERE</u>