



Northern Lights School Division #113

Student Games and Cultural Festival

Updated June 5, 2009

Philosophy of the Northern lights School Division #113 Student Games

The Northern Lights School Division #113 Student Games and Cultural Festival are organized with the ideas of furthering friendship, knowledge, culture and understanding between communities, schools and individuals. The primary purpose of the Northern Lights Student Games and Cultural Festival is to promote group and individual experiences in fine arts, cultural and athletic undertakings throughout Northern Saskatchewan as well as to try to prevent unhealthy choices and encourage healthy lifestyles.

Goals of the Northern Lights School Division #113 Student Games:

1. The NLSD #113 Student Games and Cultural Festival provide an opportunity for students from various Northern communities to meet, interact, and participate in fine arts, cultural and athletic events in a spirit of cooperation, competition, and friendship.
2. The NLSD #113 Student Games and Cultural Festival encourage the on-going development of in-school programs and curriculum. The emphasis on fine arts, cultural and athletic pursuits promotes the development of well-rounded students who are both comfortable with and competent in these arts, culture, and athletic pursuits.
3. The NLSD #113 Student Games and Cultural Festival promote local and community relations and is a capacity building opportunity for the two to work closely together. In addition, the Games promote First Nations and municipal community and corporate community relations. It is an opportunity for all of these communities and partners to work together towards the development of fine arts, cultural and athletic pursuits.
4. The NLSD #113 Student Games and Cultural Festival will focus on development at the grassroots, community level, serving as a developmental program for students in their future school athletics programs, Games programs (such as the Saskatchewan Games Program, First Nations Games and NAIG) and other opportunities in fine arts, cultural and athletic pursuits.

Northern Lights School Division #113 Junior Student Games

General Rules:

1. Each school will send participant(s) to represent their community in fine arts, cultural/traditional and athletic events. For the purposes of this outline, the term fine arts includes,(visual arts, music, drama, dance). The term cultural/traditional refers to traditional Northern undertakings and skills. For example, beadwork, crafts could be listed under this classification. The term athletics refers to individual and team sports that have had widespread participation across Northern Saskatchewan. For example hockey, basketball and cross country skiing are various sports which can be listed under this classification. While both fine arts and traditional skills comes under the category of culture, they have been listed as separate categories. These categories along with the athletic category will each award a trophy to the school team receiving the most points.
2. Participants for the Student Games and Cultural Festival must be full time Grades 6, 7, 8 and 9 students in good standing and under the age of 15 at the start of the games.
3. The fine arts and cultural events will take place on-site. The tangible entries such as painting and sculpture will be donated to Northern Lights School Division #113 on a loan period of two years. Specifically, visual art works may be displayed at the Northern Student Gallery at the Northern Lights School Division #113 Central Office, exhibited in various galleries or at conferences and then circulated through the Northern Library Office, as per existing arrangement. At the end of each year the art work will be returned to the students. In recognition of their efforts in all areas of the Games each student will receive a certificate of participation issued by the hosting school then presented to the students by their individual school officials.
4. Arts and cultural events will be judged by a panel comprised of: one Northern artist, one teacher, one host community member, one visitor, one Northern Lights School Division #113 Central or Sub Office representative for a total of five (5) members. Their decisions will be binding.
5. Dispute Committee and procedures must be specified in the technical package which the Host School is responsible for preparing in collaboration with the Student Extra-Curricular Activity Consultant.

Who is Responsible for What?

The three areas of responsibility – administrative, policies and operational are outlines in general terms. To encourage host schools to exercise creativity and to promote participation which reflects local realities, some of the decision making power needs to be decentralized. In other words, the host school will be allowed to make many of the judgments pertaining to the Games. The rationale is that since the host school is the site of the Games and since it is the host school community that is doing the front line work and organizing that they should be allowed; in fact, encouraged to present Games reflective of their location and talents. Queries about jurisdictional concerns, however, can be directed to the Northern Lights School Division #113 Games and Cultural Festival Central Committee which is comprised of representatives from all areas of responsibility.

Northern Lights School Division #113 and Student Extra-Curricular Activity Consultant

Basically Northern Lights School Division #113 is responsible for the administrative aspect of the Student Games. This entails the overall supervision of the Festival from a financial and structural perspective.

Northern Student Games Central Committee:

The Student Games Central Committee's areas of responsibility lie in establishing the policies of the Games. In addition it is the responsibility of the Committee to ensure that all participants, Northern Lights School Division #113 and the host school are aware of the policies regarding the Games.

The composition of the Committee will reflect both the concerns and the structure of the Games. Therefore, it is suggested that the membership include:

I. Three members at large:

- A. One person with a strong background in arts
- B. One person with a strong background in athletics
- C. One person with a strong background in cultural/traditional pursuits

* These members will be rotated annually to bring forth expertise, suggestions and new ideas.

II. Core Committee:

- A. Director of Education
- B. One person from past and present host school
- C. Northern Lights School Division #113 Board Games Committee Members
- D. One NATA Member
- E. Two Honorary Core Members
- F. NSCRD Core Member(s)
- G. Student Extra-Curricular Activity Consultant

* This composition of the Core Committee is permanent to provide consistency from year to year.

The fluidity of this committee allows for a mechanism to explore new ideas while providing consistency in important aspects of the three areas of responsibility.

This committee will also make recommendations to the Northern Lights School Division #113 School Board in all the areas of responsibility as outlined in this handbook.

The Host School:

The focal responsibility of the host school is operational. Whereas the Northern Lights School Division #113 handles the administrative details and the Central Committee deals with the policies, the host school is responsible for the functional aspect of the Games. Operational concerns include things such as advertising, establishing procedures, providing food, lodging, and medical services and ensuring that records are properly kept. The host school, in addition to working closely with the Student Extra-Curricular Activity Consultant, Northern Lights School Division #113 Central Office and the Committee, is also entrusted to work with the local community. This may be best handled by designating a host school games coordinator, or committee as the host school chooses, who will assume tasks of operational responsibility.

Policies:

1. Schools interested in hosting the Games and Cultural Festival for the coming year must submit a bid, including a one page outline of its plan, by June 1 of the proceeding year. Rotation of venue will be adopted in future years. Expectations are that all schools will have an opportunity to host.
2. The current fee for non Northern Lights School Division #113 schools to participate is \$5000. The revenue from this fee will not be included in the host school allotment.
3. Principals of all participating schools must sign eligibility lists stating the names, birthdates, good standing of all participating students and their events they will be participating in by February 1. The Host School will have provided all Principals with their schedule of events and eligibility list forms by October 1. This will ensure that there will be enough students to participate in the schedule of events contemplated for the upcoming Games.

These forms along with the technical package must be presented to the Games Central Committee for approval at their meeting scheduled for the first day in December.

4. The maximum number of on-site participants per school is forty (40) (male and female).
5. The Host School in conjunction with the Student Extra-Curricular Activity Consultant is responsible, as part of its operational mandate, to prepare a technical package to incorporate all of the operational aspects inherent in such an undertaking by the first day in December.
6. There is a maximum of six (6) days, including travel for the Games.
7. The Games will all have opening (max 45min) and closing ceremonies (max 30min).
8. All awards, medals and certificates will be presented at the public gathering.
9. Trophies are awarded for the school receiving the most points in each of the three categories (i.e. Cultural/Traditional, Athletics , and Fine Arts).

Core Programs:

While the Host School has the option of scheduling the events, the following are to be considered Core events in each of the three divisions of fine arts, cultural/traditional events and athletics. There are no optional components.

Cultural/Traditional Events

- King/Queen Trapper Competition (fire making, tea and bannock, making, trap setting, animal calling, log sawing)
- crafts (including beadwork, birch-bark biting, carving)
- Dancing (jigging, square dancing, round dancing)
- Archery

Athletics

- Hockey
- Volleyball
- Badminton
- Broomball/Table Tennis
- Cross Country Skiing/Biathlon
- Basketball
- Wrestling

Fine Arts

- Visual Art (painting, sketching, sculpture)
- Music (original song composition, battle of the bands, guitar, vocals)
- Drama/Improv.
- Dance (hip hop, modern, creative)