



Winter Games "snow birds", with Barnaby the Games mascot.

SECOND CANADA WINTER GAMES

The Second Canada Winter Games, held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, last month, cost a total of \$1.5 million - \$1,100,000 from the Federal Government and \$200,000 each contributed by the province and the city.

The First Canada Winter Games took place in Quebec City in February 1967, followed by the Summer Games in 1969, in Halifax and Dartmouth. The object of the Games is to develop a higher calibre of Canadian athlete for international competition.



Ski champion Nancy Greene, prepares to officially open Blackstrap, the mountain made by man, south of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

The Games are awarded by the Minister of National Health and Welfare to medium size cities to develop their sports facilities through community involvement.

The city of Saskatoon having won the bid for the Winter Games about a year ago, appointed a president, an executive and a board of directors. In Saskatoon there were some 500 volunteers who helped put the games together for some 2,300 athletes from across Canada. These athletes were chosen to represent their provinces from about 300,000 athletes competing at all levels.

MAN-MADE MOUNTAIN

Ski competitions at the Games were held on Blackstrap Mountain, 300 feet high, 2,000 feet above sea level, which was created in four months by the city of Saskatoon. This man-made mountain boasts a ski run of 1,400 feet and a 50-meter jump.

Saskatoon also built a skating oval with a standard 400-meter track.

GAMES VILLAGE

The problem of accommodating most of the athletes and coaches was solved by converting a large four-storey department store into what was known as Canada Games Village, into which trailers, campers and tents were installed on "streets" and "avenues" named after Canadian provinces and territories.

Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau and National and Health and Welfare Minister John Munro opened the games, which lasted for ten days.