

Melfort hosting Special Olympics

On Friday, Feb. 12, 150 Special Olympics athletes will arrive in Melfort for their provincial Winter Games.

Snowshoeing, speed skating, figure skating, alpine skiing and cross country skiing will all be part of this winter extravaganza to be hosted by Zone 8 in Melfort Feb. 12 to 14.

The competitions will be held at Wapiti Ski Hill, the Melfort Golf Course, and the Melfort Main Arena. Games headquarters will be housed in the North East Leisure Centre and many of the special activities will also be held at this location.

Special Olympics was introduced into Canada over 20 years ago. The organization seeks "to improve the quality of life of persons challenged by a mental handicap by providing programs in sport, fitness, and physical recreation for them to fully participate and compete in."

Athletes of a variety of skill levels are given an opportunity to compete against athletes of similar abilities in the spirit of "The Games".

Special Olympics programs are community-based and rely on volunteers to operate.

These Games are no exception. Service clubs, organizations and individuals from throughout the Melfort area are being encouraged to take part in making these Special Olympics Winter Games the best ever.

Support for the Winter Games is already growing as there are just four weeks left before the Games begin.

Roger Vogelsang and Darren Whitehead, both of Melfort and co-chairman for this Special Olympics event, are pleased to see so many volunteers showing enthusiasm for the 1993 Special Olympics Winter Games.