April 3, 2020

Mr. Norman Laube
Chairperson – Local Organizing Committee
2023 Squamish-Whistler
FIS World Junior Nordic/U23 Ski Championships

Dear Mr. Laube,

We are pleased to submit this letter in support of your proposed hosting of the 2023 FIS World Junior Nordic/U23 Ski Championships at Whistler Olympic Park. As this is a youth focussed event, we see great alignment with the potential of future generations of Métis and all Canadians.

As one of three Indigenous groups in Canada, with a population of more than 600,000, the Métis are one of the fastest growing cohorts in Canada and the USA. In British Columbia, there are more than 100,000 Métis.

As you are aware, the Métis contributed significantly to the 2010 Winter Olympics through the spectacular artwork of Squamish Métis artist Moses Peech who sculpted the stone Inukshuk located in Whistler and the collaborative Métis wolf sculpture – “Mothers, Sisters and Grandfathers” located at Whistler Olympic Park (images attached).

We look forward to working with the Organizing Committee to be part of this inspiring and amazing event.

Yours truly,

President Clara Morin Dal Col
Métis Nation British Columbia
This innovative project involved ten Métis artists from regions across Canada. Using social media, the artists collaborated to create this representation of wolves linked together. The wolf is significant to the diverse communities of the artist group.

This sculpture is part of the art collection commissioned by the Vancouver Organizing Committee of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC). The collection is a celebration of Indigenous art and has become a beautiful legacy of the 2010 Winter Games.
The Inukshuk or Ilanaaq is a symbol of welcome and friendship and became the logo of the 2010 Winter Olympics.

The Resort Municipality of Whistler commissioned Squamish-based Métis artist Moses Peech to create the 17-foot (5.2-metre), 43,000-pound basalt figure that greets visitors at the entrance to Whistler Village along Village Gate Boulevard.