



February 22, 2023

Team Alberta Wednesday Media Round Up from the Canada Winter Games

Daily Medal Count:	Gold 4	Silver 2	Bronze 1
Total Medal Count	Gold 7	Silver 9	Bronze 6

CHARLOTTETOWN—Alberta's speedskaters helped the wild rose province to their second-straight seven-medal day at the 2023 Canada Winter Games. Jalen Doan became the first Albertan to win back-to-back golds in men's longtrack racing. Maya Lueders enjoyed a double-medal day, winning the silver in the women's 500m and a bronze in the team pursuit with her sister, Zoe. Yankun Zhao also added a silver in the men's 500m longtrack race. Karate athletes – Donya Movaffagh and Ethan Tomusange – took double gold before Ayden Fraser flew to a gold of her own in freestyle skiing slopestyle.

Longtrack Speedskaters Celebrate Four-Medal Haul in Halifax

Team Alberta's longtrack speedskaters are making their mark on the outdoor oval in Halifax, earning a complete set of medals (four) in the 500-metre and women's team pursuit events.

Calgary's Jalen Doan became the first Albertan to win double-gold. Doan gutted out his second victory through the high winds in Halifax, while setting a new track record time of 36.88.

"The conditions were really good – I think even better than yesterday" said Doan. "I'm glad I could get another medal. It is quite exciting to do that here at the Canada Games."

Doan's teammate, Yankun Zhao from Calgary, skated to the silver medal.

Zhao – the 19-year-old son of Xiuli Wang who competed in four Olympics in speedskating for China and has been a national team speedskating coach for both Canada and China – clocked a second-place time of 37:08.

Quebec's Zacharie Deprés settled in third spot at 38:12.

Calgary's Maya Lueders captured her first ever Canada Winter Games medal, winning the silver. The 17-year-old daughter of legendary Canadian bobsledder, Pierre, sprinted around the 500-metre outdoor oval in a time of 42:76.

"In the 500, it was so close all the way through between me and the gold medallist," said Lueders. "Honestly, whatever colour I won today in the 500 was going to be good. I was just so proud to be on the podium. It is my favourite distance, my best distance so this shows all of the hard work my coaches and I have done all season long."

Manitoba's Sofia Bieber elevated the colour of her silver medal from Tuesday's 1,500-metre event to gold on Wednesday after clocking a time of 42:25. Quebec's Camille Tremblay stopped the clock at 43:49 for the bronze.

Maya Lueders also teamed up with her 20-year-old sister, Zoe, along with two 15-year-old Calgarians, Isabelle Champagne and Tatiana de Vlieg, to add a bronze medal for the Alberta speedskaters in the women's team pursuit race. Team Alberta clocked a time of 3:58.47.

"It was amazing to win a medal with all of these girls, and especially my sister. It is such a great feeling and I wouldn't have wanted it any other way," added Lueders.

Quebec won the gold in the team pursuit with a time of 3:49.78. Manitoba was second at 3:57.55.

Alberta Celebrates Double Gold in Karate Kumite

Team Alberta stole the show in the women's -59kg and men's -68kg kumite events, capturing a pair of victories at the penultimate day of karate competitions at the Canada Winter Games on Wednesday in Summerside, P.E.I.

After losing her second match, 15-year-old Donya Movaffagh was dominant throughout the double-elimination bracket. Movaffagh faced Quebec's Mélody Monfiston in the women's -59kg final. A hard-fought battle resulted in a 2-0 triumph for the Albertan to solidify the gold at the Multi-Sport Dome.

"It feels amazing. I'm honored to be standing here with my teammates, and especially Ethan, with both of us standing here in the first place position," said Movaffagh. "I'm just so happy to be standing on the podium representing Alberta, my dojo, my family and myself. It just feels great."

Monfiston settled for the silver medal. British Columbia's Ciara Browne and Nova Scotia's Denise Thibault snagged a bronze medal each after losing their semifinal matches.

Ethan Tomusange's dreams of winning the Canada Winter Games took an early stumble after losing his first match, but the 16-year-old quickly rebounded and battled his way back to the medal rounds. Tomusange battled through the next three matches to earn his ticket to the final where he faced British Columbia's Haruki Mori – the winner of the men's kata competition – not once, but twice.

Tomusange took down 3-0 in the first match and then again 5-3 in the grand finale to take the gold.

"I feel ecstatic. I feel so happy about the work I have put in and the journey I have been on. Words cannot explain how I'm feeling right now," said Tomusange. "I'm just so thankful to all of our coaches, Karate Alberta, for creating a healthy environment, and I'm so grateful to my parents right now for getting me into the sport."

Nova Scotia's Dorian Thibault and Quebec's Mohamed Ilbouche both took home bronze medals.

Ayden Fraser Flies to Freestyle Slopestyle Victory

Calgary's Ayden Fraser soared to new heights on Wednesday, landing on the top of the podium in the women's freestyle skiing slopestyle event.

The 17-year-old rocketed to a winning score of 88.67 to win the gold medal.

"I'm just so psyched," said Fraser. "I worked so hard to get here and I'm just really happy to be able to win today. I can't thank my coaches enough. The experience of these whole Games has been awesome."

Quebec's Naomi Urness skied to the silver medal with 88.00 points. British Columbia's Jordan Peet landed on the bronze-medal step of the podium with 83.83 points.

Women's Curling Suffers First Loss

The Alberta women's curling foursome of Myla Plett (Carstairs), Alyssa Nedohin (Sherwood Park), Chloe Fediuk (Edmonton) and Allie Iskiw (Edmonton) dropped their first game of the Canada Winter Games round robin to Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia put up three on the board in the first end, and Alberta was not able to regain control, losing 7-4.

They will play their final game of the round robin on Thursday against New Brunswick at 10 a.m. AST.

Wheelchair Basketball Loses to British Columbia

Alberta's wheelchair basketball team lost their first game of preliminary play 69-43 to British Columbia.

The quarter-finals will begin on Thursday at the Chi-Wan Young Sport Centre.

Results and Medal Standings

Celebrate medal-winning moments by Alberta's next generation of national, international, Olympic, Paralympic, and Special Olympic champions. The official list of medal winners, results and schedule by sport is available [here](#).

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Twitter & Instagram: @GoTeamAB

Broadcast;

There will be more than 1,200 hours of live event coverage from the 2023 Canada Winter Games. The 15-day broadcast will be featured live and on-demand through the following platforms:

- CanadaGames.ca/Watch
- [CBC Sports](#)
- [Radio-Canada Sports](#)
- [CBC Gem](#)



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