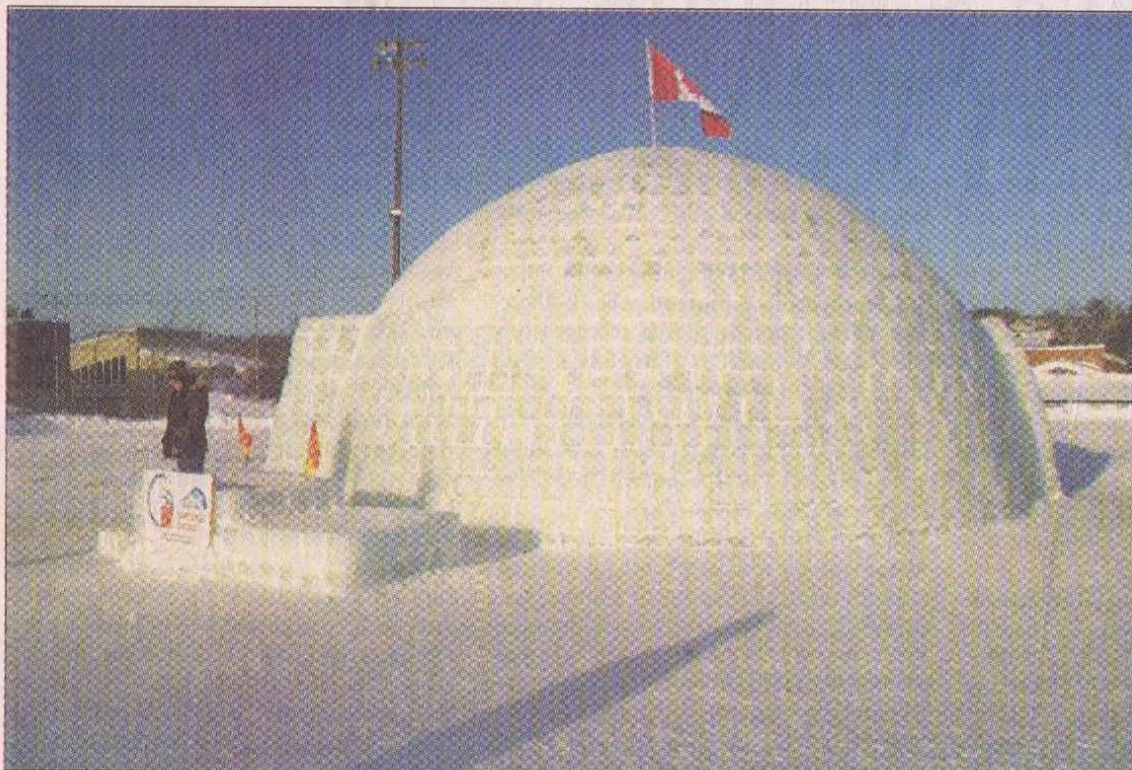


ACTUALITÉS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This ice igloo, which was built for the second annual Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick Igloo Building Competition held Feb. 15-17, measured 7.9 metres in diameter and 4.2 metres high. It collapsed April 8 and was confirmed as a world record holder by Guinness World Records on Friday.

Guinness deems Grand Falls igloo world's largest

TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

Hydro-Quebec, step aside.

Guinness World Records recently notified the Northwestern Branch of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick that it officially built the world's largest self-supporting dome igloo.

The group did this feat for the second annual APEGNB Igloo Building Competition at Grand Falls, Feb. 15-17.

It measured 7.9 metres (25-foot-9) in diameter and 4.2 metres (13-foot-8) high. Hydro-Quebec established the previous

record in 2005 with an internal diameter of 7.36 metres (24-foot-2) and an internal height of 3.81 metres (12-foot-6).

Event organizer Eric Ouellette, P.Eng., says the igloo took 70 volunteers, 2,000 blocks of ice and 50 hours to build.

"It required a lot of planning and hard work to build a safe and solid structure that ultimately accommodated more than 200 people at one time," he says. "The igloo was so strong that it stood intact for 59 days until a warm stretch of weather brought it down on April 8."

Ouellette credits the cold northern New Brunswick weath-

er and the engineering expertise of the team for this success.

Aside from establishing a world record, 10 teams competed in the the 2008 APEGNB Igloo Building Competition for the APEGNB igloo trophy. The teams spent the weekend of Feb. 15 building igloos using only traditional and environmentally friendly tools such as snow spades and saws.

Restigouche Construction from Saint-André took home the gold for their whimsical igloo that looked like a seal. The silver medal went to the Falls Construction Team. SNC-Snam received the Bronze medal.