

### **P.E.I. speed skaters win medals at Eastern Championships**

Prince Edward Island Skaters captured eight medals at the Eastern Canadian Speed Skating Championships in Nova Scotia on the weekend.

The Championships were an age group meet at which the Island skaters competed against skaters of the same age from the other Atlantic provinces.

Carly Connell won a gold medal in the Midget Girls Division while younger brother Kyle took the gold in Pee Wee boys and older brother Jack won a bronze medal in a tough Juvenile Boys group.

P.E.I. dominated the Midget Boys competition. Niall Burnett took the gold medal and team mate Zach Moran the silver. Michael Rogers completed the P.E.I. medal sweep by winning the bronze.

In the Open division for the fastest skaters in the Atlantic region, Scott Beamish won the silver medal and Jesse Francis finished close behind for the bronze.

The medals wins were an encouraging result for the Speed Skate P.E.I. club under Head Coach Phil Byrne.

Other P.E.I. results were Megan Campbell fourth, Miriam Burnett fifth and Eliana Monthany eighth in Bantam girls. Adrian Monthany ninth in Juvenile boys. Ellen Burnett eighth, Clare Cullen ninth Morgan McGinn 11<sup>th</sup> and Taylor Johnston 12<sup>th</sup> in Junior girls. Nathan Cudmore eighth and Thomas Trotter ninth in Junior boys and Daniel Cottreau ninth in Open males.

The meet featured 100 skaters from 11 clubs in the Atlantic region. 36 medals were up for grabs in 12 age classes.

The meet was held at the renovated St. Margaret's Centre in Upper Tantallon which will be the site of the 2011 Canada Games short track speed skating competition. One of the two ice surfaces at the facility has been converted to Olympic dimensions to better accommodate speed skating events.

P.E.I. will be sending a team of eight skaters to the 2011 Canada Games.

The next meet for the Island club will be the Codiac Meet in Dieppe, New Brunswick on 13-14 February.

The Speed Skate P.E.I. club is for skaters of all ages and abilities. It practices at the Charlottetown Civic Centre. Information about the club is available at [www.speedskatepei.com](http://www.speedskatepei.com).