

TAIJI POST



*Newsletter of the Peng You Taiji Quan Association
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EXCITING WUSHU EVENTS COMING TO THUNDER BAY

This summer the City of Thunder Bay will host the International Wushu Festival and National Championships, July 23-26, 2020 at the Lakehead University C. J. Saunders Field-house.

Wushu or the Chinese Martial Arts includes Taijiquan, which is known as an internal martial art, that relies on Qi, mindful movements and precise form rather than superior size, weight, and muscular strength. This event will attract competitors from across Canada many hoping to win a place on Canada's national team, and go on to represent Canada in international competition.

There will also be non-competitive performances and displays making up the Wushu Festival part of this event. Many participants will be from the United States and overseas as well as Canada. Our Master Peng has been working tirelessly for some time behind the scenes on behalf of the City, the T.B. Martial Arts Council and our Association to bring this major event to Thunder Bay.

As big and exciting as this event is, (expected to bring in well over three hundred martial artists, their family, coaches and staff), it pales in comparison to The World Taijiquan Championships which have just been awarded to Canada and the City of Thunder Bay for the summer of 2024 by The International Wushu Federation (IWUF).

This past October Master Peng flew to Shanghai to present our bid before the 15th Congress of IWUF to host The World Taijiquan Championships. These Championships are held biennially officially sponsored by IWUF. They feature the highest competitive level within the discipline of Taijiquan.

The International Wushu Federation, established in 1990, is the international federation that governs Wushu in all its forms world-wide. Currently,

the IWUF has 155 national/territorial members, across 5 continents. The IWUF is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the sole worldwide governing authority for Wushu in all its forms. The mission of the IWUF is to develop Wushu throughout the world, enriching people's lives physically and mentally, and promoting friendship and understanding, free from all forms of discrimination, between all people through the spirit of sport.

The venue for The World Taijiquan Championships in the summer of 2024 will be at a brand new Field-house currently under construction on the Campus of Lakehead University near the current C. J. Saunders Fieldhouse.

This was announced at a press conference here at the Taiji Academy on November 13 by Peng You and Jim Taylor, Chair of the Organizing Committee representing the Canadian Chinese Association of Thunder Bay.



At the press conference: Brian Nieminen, Wayne Billbrough, John Cameron, Jim Taylor, Peng You, and Paul Pepe. Jim Taylor is chair of the organizing committee for next year's event. John Cameron and Paul Pepe are from Tourism Thunder Bay.



IN MEMORIAM

We are sad to report that Grandmaster Zeng Nailiang died this summer in Japan where he was being treated for cancer. Master Zeng was named one of the ten most important Taiji masters in China. He was for a number of years the head coach of the Chinese National Wushu team.

We remember fondly his visits here with his wife, Master Wei Xianglian. During their last visit they taught us their creation, Six Forms Taiji Qigong.

Master Zeng was the chief advisor of the Peng You Taiji Quan Association.

The pictures going counter-clockwise:

- Grandmaster Zeng arriving by canoe for the opening of International Forum on Taijiquan 2006 at Old Fort William. Paddling to his left is Grandmaster Chen Zhenglei and behind him is Grandmaster Eddie Wu.
- Masters Zeng, Wei and Peng posing in the Crane form of Six Forms Taiji Qigong.
- Master Zeng posing with saber on the patio of the Thunder Bay 55 Plus Centre.
- Master Zeng leading Taiji in the Marina Park. (That's the same spot where we now have the Taiji pad.)



Taiji Sword performance at the press conference to announce the National Wushu Championships 2020 and the World Taijiquan Championships 2024.

On the right images from the meeting in Shanghai where Peng You announce Thunder Bay's bid for the 2024 event.

*Photo credits in this issue:
Bill Climie, Cheryl Merlo & Peter Puna & Oliver Reimer*



Peng You and Sunny Tang, President of Wushu Canada, who flew to Shanghai from Toronto to support Thunder Bay.



Peng with Grand Master Eddie Wu and Alan Tang, Director of Operations Wushu Ontario. Special thanks to Alan for his work in supporting our bid to host The World Taijiquan Championships.





Congratulations to the graduates of The Taiji Qigong Six Forms for Health Instructors Workshop.

The legacy of Grandmaster Zeng and Master Wei Xianglian lives on as Master Peng continues to teach Taiji Qigong Six Forms for health and qualify others to do so as well.

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HOORAY!

WE ARE HAVING A TAI
CHI CHRISTMAS PARTY
BACK AT THE POLISH HALL
209 CUMBERLAND STREET N
DECEMBER 7

SYMPOSIUM 6PM DINNER 7PM



MEMBERS \$30
NON-MEMBERS \$35

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM ANY INSTRUCTOR, BY CALL
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