

# Grace Siwooko says, 'Thank you, America'

by Grace Siwooko  
for the Tundra Times

When the ground is frozen at this time of the year, ponds are too, but not too safe to walk on. Later on, they will be. Boys like to go skating on them.

Back in the days when I was young, how us girls liked to get water from

the lake close by in the evenings. While we wait for the water in our water buckets to freeze on tops, what fun we used to have playing tag and chasing around the ice.

Boys usually have skates on. They use to make skates to put on over their mukluks.

There would be a small hole through

the ice where we dip dippers to get some water out to fill our buckets. So around the hole be many water pails filled and waiting to be frozen on top, so as not to spill them on the way home. So us girls would always like to get water to be playing tag with boys.

The dog teams would be arriving close by from hunting at the other side

of the mountain.

Now the men are using hounds and snow machines for hunting and going places. No more dog teams.

We also have a different place for getting water. Now there is a very nice place where we get water, a hose in the nice building. Thank you, America, for inventing many useful things in modern times.