



Niagara ARES

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Special points of interest:

- Niagara ARES Newsletter will be published periodically and emailed to ARES members in the Niagara Region.
- Niagara ARES CEC is Henry, VA3OV.
- Contact Henry at: va3ov@bell.net.
- Newsletter prepared by Geddie, VE3CJX.
- To unsubscribe from this newsletter, contact Geddie at ve3cjx@gmail.com
- Niagara ARES Net every Monday 8:00pm VE3RAF.

Contents

- Niagara ARES News from Henry, VA3OV, GC, CEC.
- Niagara Regional CEMCs, online training, CANWARN, SET and the Hadfield Canada Day song.



This month's planning is an example of the **necessity to distribute tasks** across our members to facilitate completion in a timely fashion of all projects.

My personal agenda and health got into conflict with ARES administration. We are running behind completing some tasks.

In April, Niagara ARES met with the Niagara Region Chair, Alan Caslin and the **Niagara Emergency Management** team to introduce ARES services to the local community in the region, across Canada and the USA in time of emergency. The Region Chair was receptive to our presentation and objectives for the near future. The Niagara Emergency Management Team will be working in closer collaboration with ARES to facilitate contacts with Municipal CEMC and access to radio station at the region HQ.

On **Wednesday's meeting (May 17, 2017)** agenda will focus mostly on **Field Day** event planning. As a Field Day coordinator, I have invited everyone who would like to participate in Field Day to attend and volunteer their services to make it a successful event.

Ride for Roswell is slated for the same day as Field Day. It is manageable, as we demonstrated last year. Everyone was back on Field Day site before noon.

Volunteers to **Ride for Roswell** need to be at their operating station by 0600 at Fort Erie, 0630 at Townline and at 0700 at Rainbow bridge. Minimum equipment requirements are a dual band HT connected to mobile antenna. We will require 10 radio operators to offer good radio coverage. More details will follow as we get closer to the event. Volunteer badges and T-shirts will be distributed at the briefing meeting.

July 1st 2017, **Canada Day Parade** in Niagara Falls. 12 volunteer radio operators will be needed to cover the various intersections. They are expecting a large crowd for the Canada Day 150th anniversary celebration. More details following.

Another bicycle fund raising tour is happening in the Niagara Region on **August 18, 19, 20**. John VE3POJ did a presentation at the last NPARC meeting. They are looking for volunteer support as radio operators, intersections marshals, and net control. This is a type of event we were looking for to practice our communications skills over a large area. This is work in progress, it will demand com-

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mitment for a 3 day period from a large numbers of radio volunteers. NPARC and Niagara ARES can be part of this fund raising if we dedicate some our time to **The Tour for Kids**. This the web site link for more information. www.tourforkids.com

We will review the **GTA Spring SET** at the meeting for **May 27, 2017 at 1900**.

Police Regional Headquarters Valley Way and Stanley in Niagara Falls (right off the 420).

We have a full calendar for the next three months. As always your participation is appreciated. Thanks.

Henry VA3OV
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Field Day Manager
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Building strong relationships between the local amateur radio resources includes continued and strident efforts with local emergency management initiatives. **Niagara Region and the Regional Council** works together locally to address these concerns on behalf of the residents in the jurisdiction of the Niagara Region and provides opportunities for interested folks from taking free online courses to learn the standards for how to assist people with disabilities and special needs, how to apply basic concepts of exercise program development, design and corrective action and learn about other initiatives.

ARES volunteers design and carry out annually SET (Simulated Emergency Test) exercises as a test of our radio networks, protocols, forms and equipment. One can see the information on SETs at this web site: (<http://wp.rac.ca/simulated-emergency-test>). Now **online courses** allow an update for the amateur radio participants of new terminology and concepts applied in Niagara Region and across Ontario. Our local CEMC (Community Emergency Management Co-ordinator) is **Kevin Smith**, Chief of the Niagara Emergency Medical Services and Alternate CEMC is **Patricia Martel** an Emergency Management Program Specialist of Regional Niagara Public Health. (https://training.emergencymanagementontario.ca/TPOnline/TPOnline.dll/EMO_Home)



Working together often allows groups to experience the elation that comes when a task is carefully completed and especially if it is uniquely challenging. So is the co-ordination of individual resources and efforts to build the amateur radio networks and their application in community emergency communications. Some have said to me that packet radio and other digital systems are something pretty old. Not having being a ham for a very long time myself, I took time to look up the history of Packet Radio and much to my surprise it has been considered a very stable technology back in 1992. **Packet radio has now advanced in reliability to be accepted** throughout the international amateur radio community supported through the Amateur Radio Relay League in emergency communications networks. It seems complicated at first, until you find that you have access to experienced local radio amateurs, free software, video training support and lots written documentation.

ARES is a Canada-wide sanctioned activity from the Canadian Federal Government and gives us a national scope for communication. Yes there is structure and rule, however, in times when individualization and personalization is so highly prized, working together in a binding common objective and focussing on the “message” that we share, continues to be relevant.

Geddie, VE3CJX
NIAGARA ARES, Newsletter Editor



CANWARN Training - At Niagara Regional Offices, Geoff Coulson presented another information filled session on exceptional weather conditions and specific events of rare weather and it was so different from the presentation on Storm Chasers featuring the Weather Network reporters held at the Niagara College. The job of a storm spotter for CANWARN is quite different from reporters that chase storms such as tornados; reporters were literally blown away from in front of the camera.

We learned about any thunderstorm being equal to a high potential of lightening, the difference between downbursts, microbursts, and Doratio. A spotter may be involved with weather monitoring and actually participating in the local documentation of rain, hail, wind speeds, barometrics, clouds and may offer photos and site observations of on-the-ground conditions to better understand and to augment radar images that are available on-line. A review of the Enhanced Fujita Damage Scale referring to EF0, EF1, and EF2 storms and an EF2storm which happened in Midland, Ontario on June 23rd in 2010 with windspeeds in the order of 220 km/hour and where damage was investigated.

HADFIELD GIFT TO CANADA in 2014

Hadfield uploaded the “polite song” to YouTube saying it came from “two brothers who are just hoping your day is going okay.” And thanks to this song, it’ll be a lot better than just “okay.” The rapid montage of Canadian culture reminds us of everything we love about this great country. Because at the end of the day, we’re just a bunch of exceedingly polite, Timbit-eating winter-lovers. And we wouldn’t have it any other way.

Check out the video:

(<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/news-video/video-chris-hadfield-and-brother-dave-celebrate-canada-day-with-new-song/article19409471/>) or (http://hadfield.ca/?page_id=68)