

Manitoba Heavy Summer Rain Event
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Heavy rainfall accompanied by strong winds in Western and Southern Manitoba impacted a number of municipalities necessitating local action, States of Local Emergency (SoLEs), and deployment of some Provincial resources in support.

- Impacts were greatest in but not limited to Western/Southwestern Manitoba where municipalities, roads (both provincial and municipal), and agricultural operations have been affected.
- A number of Provincial park campgrounds were affected by flooding.

Eventually a provincial SoLE was declared for very specific areas.

Beyond trying to maintain Situational Awareness (SA) there was no actual ARES operations at any municipal or the provincial level. The first Manitoba EMO SITREP was issued 29 JUN and the last SITREP was issued 21 JUL. As Acting SEC (and a participant of the Manitoba EMO Interagency Emergency Preparedness Committee) I received each SITREPs and shared with Manitoba ARES Executive and the VE4EMO Team (I had asked VE4EMO Team members to log into *WebEOC* periodically both to maintain SA and ensure that they had continued access to *WebEOC*).

WebEOC is the emergency management software package used in the provincial EOC and an increasing number of municipal EOCs. VE4EMO team members have personalized access allowing them to log into *WebEOC* in the ECC-ARES position.

ARES ECs were asked 04 JUL to poll their members over the weekend and report how many were available for deployment to other districts in case of a provincial request. Essentially only four ARES members came forward:

Andrew Johnson VE4APJ
Garry Frankel VE4VD
Kent Haase VE4KEH
Derek Hay VE4HAY.

As already mentioned, there were no municipal or provincial taskings for ARES so there were no deployments at all. One scenario that was considered was establishment of an Amateur Station as a back-up in the temporary provincial Command Post that was established in a particular community – the local ARES group indicated that while they could establish the station if requested only 1 member was available to be on stand-by to staff in case regular communications failed and only available for about a week since inter-provincial travel was booked. Fortunately Manitoba EMO declined when I inquired as SEC if they wanted an Amateur Station established as a back-up. Andrew, Garry, Kent & Derek were advised 17 JUL that operations had begun to wind-down and that they could go back to enjoying their summer.