



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MANITOBA HAMS PREPARE FOR SPRING FLOOD FIGHT

Amateur Radio Operators Always Ready to Assist in Disasters.

While Amateur Radio Operators (often referred to as Hams) have played an active role in providing communications after recent disasters in New Zealand and Japan, the ones in Manitoba are preparing once again to help with the expected spring flood.

“Just waiting to be activated” says Jeff Dovyak, Emergency Coordinator of the Winnipeg Unit of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service also known as ARES. Most ARES units (including Winnipeg ARES) have relationships with local Government Agencies and Non-Government Organizations to provide support if that Agency/Organization requests it. The supported organizations are known as Served Agencies. Winnipeg ARES members are expected to staff Amateur Radio stations at a number of locations within Winnipeg in support of their Served Agencies as soon as they are activated.

ARES Units across Manitoba are keeping in close contact with their Served Agencies and ensuring that their volunteer members and equipment are ready to be deployed if they should be called upon. “ There will be plenty of ARES volunteer tasks to fill over the next month or so” says Jeff Dovyak.

Winnipeg ARES reports via the Capital Region District Emergency Coordinator to the-Manitoba ARES Section Emergency Coordinator who is part of the Field Organization of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) the national organization of hams. All positions are filled by volunteers.

A course for people interested in qualifying for their Amateur Radio Certificate begins April 12 at Red River College. Contact the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club for more details <http://www.mts.net/~warc/>

If you'd like more information on this topic or to schedule an interview, please contact one of the following people:

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