

## EMERGENCY MEASURES RADIO GROUP



#### **OTTAWA ARES**

Two Names - One Group - One Purpose

# Ten Years After The Ice Storm

Date Of Last Change: 2008-01-14 Version: 1.0

### 10 Years Ago

#### When the Ice Storm happened in 1998

- Ottawa was made up of 11 Municipalities plus a Regional Government (RMOC)
- Cumberland had it's own Amateur radio group, while EMRG served the RMOC and by extension served the local Municipalities
- Red Cross had it's own communications group
- Neighbouring ARES groups had no Mutual Aid

#### **CURRENT STATUS**

We are light years ahead of where we were, we are making steady progress, and there is still lots to do.

- One Amateur radio emergency communications group serving all Clients in Ottawa
- Clear understanding of who our Clients are
- Strong, supporting partnerships with City of Ottawa, providing space, funding, training centre access and repeater sites

#### **EMRG TODAY**

- Solid organization with strategy, planning, documentation, training and exercises.
  - Need to deliver more training and exercises in 2008
- Dependable core group who have stuck with it, working to make EMRG succeed.

### VOICE INFRASTUCTURE

- Clean, professional looking communications room at OFS Dispatch, dedicated for EMRG use
- Wide area VHF repeaters at OFS Dispatch & Barrhaven Fire Station (VE3OCE & VA3OFS)
- Community VHF repeater in Cumberland, with funding and equipment ready for West end site
- Regional UHF repeater at OFS Dispatch and equipment being prepared for Barrhaven

#### PACKET RADIO

- Packet progressing slowly in the background while we focus on voice communications
- Digipeater & BBS VE3OCE operational
- Computers for fixed sites, plus laptops
- Packet stations are part of implementation of Red Cross, EOC and EMRG Communications
- Clear view of which applications are required to meet EMRG needs.

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### MUTUAL AID

- Recognition of requirement for Mutual Aid
- Active participation from all neighbouring ARES groups (Keen interest)
- Yearly Mutual Aid planning meetings, plus additional special topic meetings
- Ottawa able to host meetings at OFS Training
- Sub groups looking at Packet radio and operations for Mutual Aid

- We should be proud of what we have done
- We have accomplished a lot
- We need to keep moving forward so we can look back in 20 years with total amazement!

## Thank You!

## www.emrg.ca

The EMRG web site provides information related to Amateur radio emergency communications, specifically as it relates to the City of Ottawa.

- Project Information
- Newsletters
- Upcoming Events
- Documentation
- Links to related information

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