



Halifax Amateur Radio Club

PRESS RELEASE

May 23, 2017



CANADA 150



Once again on Saturday-Sunday, June 24-25, 2017 the **Halifax Amateur Radio Club** with an assistance of **Emergency Management Organization** will be participating in American Radio Relay League Field Day. **Field Day** is an annual special event when amateur radio operators (HAMs) across Canada and US set up emergency operations and contact as many other stations as possible in a contest-like fashion. We will start our preparations after 3:00 PM on Friday. We will set up high frequency and satellite radio stations and erect antennas in order to have an emergency operations center capable of providing world-wide communications. We will operate the radio stations in various modes (phone, Morse code, digital) for 24 hours starting at 3:00 PM on Saturday. During the event we will demonstrate our HAM radio skills in action, meet challenges of emergency preparedness, and familiarize the general public with the capabilities of amateur radio. Interested visitors will be able to talk into a radio microphone to someone on the opposite side of the country or, maybe, the opposite side of the world. All HAMs, family members, and visitors are welcome to participate in the event, taste the excitement of both contesting and emergency field operations as well as celebrate Canada's 150-th anniversary. Feel free to come and join the HARC Field Day.

LOCATION:

[St. Andrew's Community Centre](#)

3380 Barnstead Lane, Halifax, B3L2B8

DATE / TIME:

June 24 @ 3.00 p.m. – June 25 @ 3.00 p.m.

CONTACT:

Jason LaPierre

HARC 2017 Field Day Chair

(902) 410-9329, ve6tmr@gmail.com



PRESS RELEASE ATTACHMENT

RE: FIELD DAY

LOCATION: [St. Andrew's Community Centre](#)
3380 Barnstead Lane, Halifax, B3L2B8

DATE / TIME: **June 24 @ 3.00 p.m. – June 25 @ 3.00 p.m.**

Amateur Radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio operators (also called “HAMs”) are well known for communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

Once again, the **Halifax Amateur Radio Club** will be participating in the annual field day event that provides an opportunity for amateur radio clubs and operators to hone their emergency response capabilities.

The object of field day is simply to contact as many other stations as possible while operating in abnormal situations and in less than optimal conditions.

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club has a long history dating back to its inception in 1933 and is one of the oldest amateur radio clubs in Canada. HARC provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and information related to radio communications and technical experimentation. Ham radio provides an alternative means of communication during natural disasters and other emergencies.

HARC provides communications facilities to aid government agencies in times of crisis. This fulfills amateur radio's legislated mandate to provide public service communication.

In keeping with this mandate, the Halifax Amateur Radio Club has been designated as the back up communications center for the HRM Emergency Measures system. This year members will be operating from the club facilities utilizing club assets including generators and battery power.

Club members use these same skills when assisting with events such as bike-a-thons; walk-a-thons; auto rallies, celebrations etc.

The Club has a long history of success in field day operations usually placing 1st. in class in Canada and in the top 5 in North America.

What is Amateur Radio?

Often called “ham radio,” Amateur Radio has been around for over a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology to contact fellow hams within their city limits or on the International Space Station. Its people range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Rocket scientists, movie stars, politicians and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, Morse code, data and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The public and media are invited to join with members of HARC during the Field Day exercise to observe or take the opportunity to “get on the air” and talk to someone. The public is also welcome to drop by the club on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. for the regular club meeting.

Further information can be obtained by contacting:

Jason LaPierre
HARC 2017 Field Day Chair
(902) 410-9329, ve6tmr@gmail.com