



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL HAMS HELP MAKE WFPS MARATHON HAPPEN
ARES 2012-04

Twenty-eight members and affiliates of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) are providing communication support for the first ever Winnipeg Fire-Paramedic Service Half Marathon. This local group of Amateur Radio Operators (commonly called Hams) provides communications support for emergencies like floods and severe weather and public service events like this. It has been a busy year for the group as they have supported the Manitoba Marathon, the Air Force Run and Parkinson Superwalk as well as the monitoring a number of severe weather events.

“Public Service Events like this are great training and practice opportunities for us” said Jeff Dovyak the local Emergency Coordinator. “We’ve been involved in every single Manitoba Marathon and hopefully bring a lot of experience on what is needed to run a successful event”

To become a Ham Operator, one has to pass an exam from the federal government. They also supply all their own equipment which makes them very valuable resource to municipalities who need communication support in the event of an emergency or organizations trying run events on a tight budget