



# Yellowknife Amateur Radio Society

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## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

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### **Amateur Radio Operators (HAMS) “Show Off” for Yellowknife Residents**

Public Demonstration of Emergency Communications June 26 – 27, 2010

**Yellowknife, Northwest Territories** – The Yellowknife Amateur Radio Society will demonstrate its capabilities at the Yellowknife Ski Club Biathlon Range (directly across from the Yellowknife Dump) for 24 hours from noon June 26 to noon June 27. The Society invites the public to come and see the Society’s capabilities, operate its communications equipment and learn how to get qualified as a Canadian amateur radio operator.

This event, known as “Field Day”, is an annual event throughout North America. It is an emergency preparedness exercise, cloaked in the guise of a contest. More than 30,000 ham operators will set up emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools and back yards around the continent. Hams will demonstrate their capability to establish emergency communications independent of existing public service infrastructure, with the latest in amateur radio communications equipment (digital, Morse code, satellites, voice etc.).

The Yellowknife Amateur Radio Society is one such group of hams. Its emergency communications capability is an integral part of the Northwest Territories Emergency Plan and territorial emergency preparedness. The Society and its members may be called upon to assist authorities and to establish and maintain communications with distant stations in the event of an emergency. Such occurrences do happen, whether they occur as a result of earthquake, forest fire, extreme weather or terrorist acts.

While Field Day is primarily an emergency communications exercise, it is also a showcase of the hobby of amateur radio in all of its aspects. Some hams will be demonstrating their latest projects, sometimes with entertaining results. The basic principles of radio, electronics and our physical environment will be demonstrated. All are welcome to attend in order to see the volunteer spirit within the community and to learn some hands-on science and technology.

The Yellowknife Amateur Radio Society is a non-commercial and not for profit Society incorporated under the *Societies Act* with objects including emergency preparedness and the promotion of the amateur radio service.

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