

## **ARES Ottawa District trip to Kinston October 08-05**

Hello fellow ECs,

Planning for a District wide ARES social get together for all members within the Ottawa District is underway. This will revolve around a bus trip to visit the famous Kinston Communication's Museum on October 08-2005. *Please mark your calendars now.* That weekend has the least impact on other ARES activities and transportation has already been secured. As the Museum does not normally have tours on weekends after September, they are making a special effort for us and they will open their doors and give us a tour.

Briefly, once everyone is on board from each of the pick up points (see schedule below), we will have a round robin introduction session by everyone. We will follow that with an update regarding ARES District news and ARES Ontario news. Shortly after we will present one or more specially selected and very informative ARES videos while on the way to Kingston. Everyone is encouraged to wear their nametag showing name, Callsign and affiliation. We are looking at having an ARES activity as soon as we arrive in Kingston, and then lunch at a restaurant. From there, we will attend a one-hour tour at the Communications Museum. Finally, we have an opportunity to have a second ARES activity. The plan is to include a "meet & greet" with the St-Lawrence District ARES members. Details still need to be worked out.

This is an opportunity for members of the various ARES groups within the Ottawa District to get to know each other. This will be a time to meet new friends or even re-acquaint ourselves with old ones. This is a first step in providing Mutual Aid response between ARES groups in a time of emergency or disaster. These days one never knows what that might be, so we need to work on our local readiness and on our Mutual Aid response capability. It is easier for us to work with folks we can put a name, a Callsign and a face to.

As just briefly mentioned, on this trip there will be two periods of ARES activity in the day's schedule. I would like the ECs to suggest ARES activity that can be performed during the first ARES time slot. An example is an exercise that you would like your group to experience while we are there in Kingston. If you like, you could run with the idea that we are one District leaving to go and help another District in need. I would very much like to hear from you indicating what ARES activity or exercise you would like to see take place, something the members could put in practice and benefit from. Perhaps it's as simple as bringing a 24-hour ready kit, or perform some type of communication exercise. Your input is vital to making this enjoyable and useful to all ARES Ottawa District participants.

We are also looking into coordinating an inter-District "meet & greet" with the well-established ARES group members of the St-Lawrence District. A Communications channel has been opened with the adjacent District DEC. Details are still in the works and the DEC there is very responsive to the idea and will consult with his ECs very shortly.

As we will be traveling by a pre-paid hired coach, we must have a minimum of 46 seats filled to secure one bus. Here is your chance to be a part of this one time trip as it is open to ALL the ARES groups in the Ottawa District. To date, the District has 115 registered members, so lets see how many participants we will have. *If we have enough to fill up two coaches, then so be it, the more the merrier.*

Each member who is interested in taking part in the District ARES trip is requested to send in their reservation request and enquiries to Harry [va3zak@rac.ca](mailto:va3zak@rac.ca) ASAP. In your e-mail; please indicate your name, Callsign and ARES group affiliation. He needs to know and track who is interested so he can quickly calculate the number of seats to book, and know how many buses if more than one is needed. If a second bus is needed, then this has to be booked ASAP as October is a premium month. As soon as Harry VA3ZAK hears from you, he will explain to you by e-mail how you can secure a seat for yourself and how that process works, (see below). ***First come, first served, as the saying goes.*** Bus fare per person is \$22.00; restaurants and such are not included in the bus fare. Tour cost according to their website: Admission is by voluntary donation.

As this is an ARES social get together with ARES activities, please pass this info on to every member in your group and also to any Ham who is sympathetic to your ARES group. Priority will be given to ARES

members, but if we have any empty seats after we hear from every committing member, we will open the remaining seats up to Hams who are friend or family to an ARES member.

This one-time event will have a greater chance of success if we encourage as many of our members as possible to participate.

*Like they say, the more the better! - And, like we say, first come first reserved! Hi, Hi...*

## **ALL ABOARD....**

### **Here is how this works:**

- Need checks cleared latest by Aug 30<sup>th</sup>
- Cut off date for no refund will be Sept 10<sup>th</sup>
- NSF charge will be \$25.00
- Refund check cost... not required

### **Schedule of trip pick-up points departure times and locations:**

- **Alfred** Ontario departure = **6:30AM**
- **Rockland** Ontario departure = **7:00 AM**
- **Place D'Orleans** = for Ottawa East folks = **7:30AM**
- **Bayshore** = for all Renfrew & Ottawa West folks = **7:45AM**
- **Truck-stop HWY 401 & 416** = for all SD&G including Cornwall folks = **08:45**
  
- **Kingston arrival = 10:AM - First ARES activity** - *Time enough for an ARES exercise of some type: 1 hour & 15 minutes max.*
- **Lunch restaurant arrival = 11:45.**  
*Lunch 1 hour & 15 minutes - This leaving needed time to get off the bus, eat, pay at the cash line up, and get back of the bus.*
- **Lunch restaurant departure for Museum = 13:00**  
*It should take no more than 10 – 15 minutes to move the bus from the restaurant to the Museum.*
- **Museum tour begins at 13:30**
- **Museum departure 15:00:**
- **Inter-District getting acquainted activity.** *Here we have a safe 1-hour for meeting local ARES members (15 minutes to get off bus, and 15 minutes getting back on for next event.*
- **Supper restaurant arrival = 16:30** *Here we have one hour for supper with 15 minutes getting off the bus and 15 more minutes getting back on for final departure.*
- **Departure for Ottawa = 18:00**

### **Arrival times for each drop off points:**

**Truck-stop HWY 401 & 416** =18:50  
**Bayshore** arrival = 19:35  
**Place D'Orleans** arrival = 20:00  
**Rockland** arrival = 20:25  
**Alfred** arrival = 21:00

Please send ALL seat reservations info & queries to < [va3zak@rac.ca](mailto:va3zak@rac.ca) >

**For more info on the Military Communications and Electronics Museum**  
**< <http://www.c-and-e-museum.org/> >**

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