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The Canadian Amateur is published by Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc. / The Canadian Amateur est publié par la société Radio Amateurs du Canada Inc.

Indexed in the Canadian Periodical Index / Enregistré à l'Index des publications canadiennes : ISSN 0834-3977

Publications Mail Agreement
Accord de publications diffusées #40028682.
Registration / matricule #09866

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720 Belfast Road,
Suite / Bureau 217
Ottawa, ON, Canada
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613-244-4367;
1-877-273-8304
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http://wp.rac.ca/

Printed in Canada by
St. Joseph Communications
Ottawa, ON, Canada
Imprimé au Canada sur
les presses de St. Joseph
Communications
Ottawa, ON, Canada

Return Undeliverable
Canadian Addresses to
Circulation Department:
217-720 Belfast Road
Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z5



“On April 7, 1947, a ski-wheel equipped C-47, followed by a C-54, landed on the ice of Slidre Fiord, Ellesmere Island, to establish the first joint Canada-US Weather station at Eureka, Nunavut. Amateur Radio played a unique role in the history of these furthest north stations starting with the first Amateur station, VE8MA at Eureka.” – see page 14

“Sunday, the big day, dawned bright, sunny and warm. French security had installed very controlled access to the ceremonies. The operators took advantage of shuttle bus service from near our hotel to a car park in Vimy itself. There, a lineup at least a half a kilometre long led to security checkpoints and another bus to the Vimy Memorial site itself.” – see page 31

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Would you like to be notified when an issue of *The Canadian Amateur* (eTCA) has been posted online? If so please subscribe to our mailing list by completing the form on the RAC website at: <http://wp.rac.ca/rac-notifications/>

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ARTICLES WANTED: SDR AND MORE...

The Canadian Amateur magazine is always looking for articles – both technical and non-technical. In particular, we are looking for articles on software defined radio. SDR is rapidly gaining interest within the Radio Amateur community as it offers remarkable capabilities and performance when compared to traditional analog radio. Possible topics for articles could include:

- An introduction to SDR
- A performance comparison of SDR with analog radio
- A review of current SDR software
- A review of the SDR market: What is available? How do the products compare?
- Other applications of SDR hardware: panadapters, spectrum analyzers, beacon receivers, noise power measurements, and so on

Please send all articles to the TCA Editor at tcamag@yahoo.ca. The deadlines for the next issues of TCA are May 15 and June 15.

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VE100VIMY ACTIVATIONS ACROSS CANADA

Hugh McCully, VE3AYR

More than 38,000 QSOs with all six continents in 13 weeks of operating; 138 countries, all 50 states, 13 Canadian call areas and more than 2,500 Black Line Awards. Behind those numbers are the more than 175 operators that made it happen. Here in their words are their stories and comments.

Boyd Snow, VO1DI: “The New Year saw the start of the VE100VIMY portable operations, at 0000 UTC January 1, with Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island leading the charge. From a personal perspective, this is one of the greatest events that I have had the pleasure of taking part in since becoming an Amateur. A big congratulations goes out to the Vimy Commemorative Station Society for putting this all together.” (see page 61)

Bill, VE5FN: “It was great fun for me as a contester, veteran of 61 years of ham radio and 90 years of life. I got so involved in activating the VIMY call that I missed one of our favorite contests, the CQ WPX RTTY, that was on for the last weekend of our time.”

Joe, VE5JM: “It was fun and I enjoyed the time on air helping to raise awareness of Canada’s part in WWI and the special part our soldiers played in the Vimy operation. It has been a lot of fun chasing the rest of the sections as they come on line.”

Rick, VE3BK: “One comment I heard was that it certainly was a mouthful of a call, but this just made it more fun talking to our fellow Canadians as well as many others from the US and abroad.”

John, VE3FDK: It was an honour and a privilege to be part of the team from the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club to be a participant in this memorable occasion in history.”

Gabor, VE7JH: “Opening day for /VE7 the first QSOs were made on 40m SSB from the VE7NA club station in Nanaimo. The start of the activity (4 pm local) coincided with the end of the club’s licensing course, so the prospective new hams could listen in and learn about the expedition to Vimy. It went very well.”

Rebecca, VA7BEC: “The ARRL DX CW was in progress during Koji’s (VA7KO) CW shift, so he participated as VE100VIMY/VE7. Stations who picked him up seemed to think he was a VE1, then caught the ‘stroke VE7’, so there was perhaps a ‘which way should I turn the antenna?’ moment. And then, Koji had to rattle off the entire call sign again. Even for the experienced CW operators in ARRL DX CW, all those dits and dahs must have sounded like a round of ammunition. No pun intended.”

Doug, VA7DP: “Our operators all had a great time and the only way things could improve was if the conditions were better. We did what we could with what Mother Nature gave us. It was fun.”

Fred, VE7IO: “For me it was a very busy time leading up to our week of operation as I volunteered to do the BC schedule for VE100VIMY/VE7. During the week of operations I really enjoyed having my station on the air with experienced operators. We had a few ‘gotchas’ but we had many laughs and great experiences that will be long remembered.”

– see pages 31-33