



# ***OAKVILLE A.R.E.S. GROUP***

## ***Newsletter***

Communication between two parties only happens when the message is Sent, Received, Understood and Acknowledged. Everything else is just noise.



**NOVEMBER, 2008**

**NOVEMBER SET**

The Oakville A.R.E.S. Group will be holding another SET on

**\*\*\*NOVEMBER 30, 2008\*\*\***

It will start around 8 a.m. and finish up near noon. A debriefing will take place at the Red Cross office immediately after the SET shuts down.

Oakville A.R.E.S. member should check their equipment and Go kits prior to the SET date. It is hoped that the packet network will also be tested so those members that currently have stations on the air at home should confirm their operational status prior to this date.

Please make sure that you have a sufficient quantity of both outgoing and incoming message forms. Copies of both are available for download from the A.R.E.S. page of the O.A.R.C. web site, [www.oakvilleamateurs.net/](http://www.oakvilleamateurs.net/)

Our standard frequencies will be used for Oakville operations and members will be advised of specifics at the time of activation.

A.R.E.S. members are reminded that when passing any message during the SET they should include the words "TEST MESSAGE" at the beginning of the text body.

## **HALLOWE'EN REPORT**

Our A.R.E.S. Group members participated in the annual Hell Night and Halloween Patrols. For both nights we had enough cars to patrol all the zones in Oakville and no major problems were reported. Thanks to all who came out.

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT NEWS\*\*\***

Many of us have been following the proposed Provincial ban of using cell phones and other electronic distractions in the car. The current proposal, Bill 118, is from the Government of

Ontario and is combined with some amendments related to environmental issues. Previous attempts, such as Bill 40 and Bill 73, were Private Members Public Bills (John O'Toole, MPP Durham)

As Amateurs, and as A.R.E.S. members, this Bill could have a significant impact on our ability to provide the standard of emergency response that our support agencies will require when needed. If we are unable to use our mobile radios as we do now, many hams may consider removing the equipment from their cars outright. Equipment that is idle has a greater likelihood of not working when needed.

So what can we do?

The Bill has only had First Reading and must go through several more stages prior to receiving Royal Assent and becoming law. This is the time for each and everyone of us to contact our respective representative and let them know that Amateurs and their mobile equipment should be exempt from this restrictive law, that there is no known statistical information on accidents directly related to operation Amateur radios while operating a motor vehicle and as such we should not be lumped in with cell phone users.

Your MPP should be told of the contributions that Amateurs and A.R.E.S. make to the communities they live in and be reminded that the Province of Ontario itself has recognized this with the sponsoring of the VE3EMO station.

You may find out how to contact your MPP at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario web site:

[www.ontla.on.ca](http://www.ontla.on.ca)

A copy of Bill 118 may be found at:

[http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills\\_detail.do?locale=en&BillID=2099](http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?locale=en&BillID=2099)

The R.A.C. has already sent a statement to the government, a copy of which is on their site.

### **\*\*\*REMINDERS\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Oakville A.R.E.S. SET and Group Meeting \*\*\***

**Sunday, November 30, 2008**

**Oakville Red Cross**

**1400 Cornwall Road**

**Unit 15**

**8:00 am Start**

**SUPPORT YOU'RE A.R.E.S. GROUP, YOUR CLUB and the RAC.  
GET INVOLVED AND PARTICIPATE!**

**" Experience is one thing you can't get for nothing." - Oscar Wilde**