



21 January, 2010

Vice President Field Services

## Ontario Field Services Review Committee Recommendations

As announced in Radio Amateurs of Canada Bulletin 2011-021E, a RAC Ontario Section Restructuring Commission was appointed by the Vice President for Field Services with the objective of "improving representation to our members and to ensure that the task of our Section Managers is realistic in terms of member access and service." The Commission was tasked to "determine the most effective number of Section Managers and other positions as well as any further such regional divisions which may be required." The difficulties of effectively managing such a large geographical area are well known and the need for a greater number of sections has been discussed at various levels for some years. The mandate given the Commission outlined the requirement to seek the concurrence of the current Section Manager and to give the draft report the widest possible circulation so that clubs and groups may comment prior to its submission to VPFS.

Under the chairmanship of Bill Unger VE3XT (Ontario Director North), the Commission commenced its proceedings on August 7, 2011. The other members of the Commission are Jeff Stewart VA3WXM (Ontario Director South), Dave Hayes VE3JX (Algoma ARC), Vic Henderson VE3FOX (Peel ARC), Al Boyd, VE3AJB (current Ontario Section Manager and Pat Barrett VE3RNH (Barrie ARC). Dave, Vic, Al and Pat are active participants in the ARES. Also included in the deliberations was Ian Snow, VA3QT, special advisor to the Vice President of Field Services and Doug Mercer, VO1DM Vice President of Field Services for RAC.

The task force recognized that Section Managers are elected by the membership to manage a range of RAC programs. They report on Section operations through the Vice President Field Services, who is accountable to the President for the overall operation of the Field Organization, but like the Regional Director, the Section Manager holds overall responsibility within their Section. The Commission also realized that Ontario is a large province, that Field Services may have different responsibilities based on where in the Province they are located, and that it has proven difficult for one person to coordinate all programs across the province. The need to retain the existing relationship between ARES Districts and EMO Sectors should continue to be respected. Finally, the task force recognizes that VPFS has instituted an advisory Council composed of the Section Managers to coordinate Field Organization activities nationally.

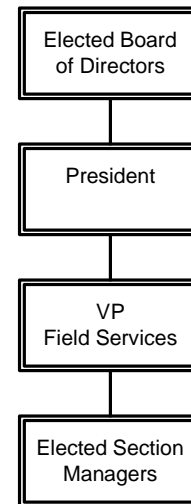


Figure 1 National Organization

Figure 2 is the provincial model that the Commission proposes to recommend. The number of Sections would be increased from the existing one to four in total. Shown are the three Sections where the proposed Districts correspond to the EMO Sectors, and, in the Greater Toronto Area, the Districts remain based on municipal boundaries. The Toronto District

ARES Coordinator would retain responsibility for the operation of the ARES station within the Provincial EOC.

The Commission recommends that the four Ontario SM's would meet in the form of an Ontario Council to coordinate activities. Selecting from amongst them a Chairman, the Council would be responsible for the Field Organization administrative functions that sensibly belong at the provincial level. The Ontario Council would appoint an appropriately qualified Amateur to represent the Council to provincial government authorities, non-government organizations (NGO) and external agencies within the authority vested in the Field Organization.

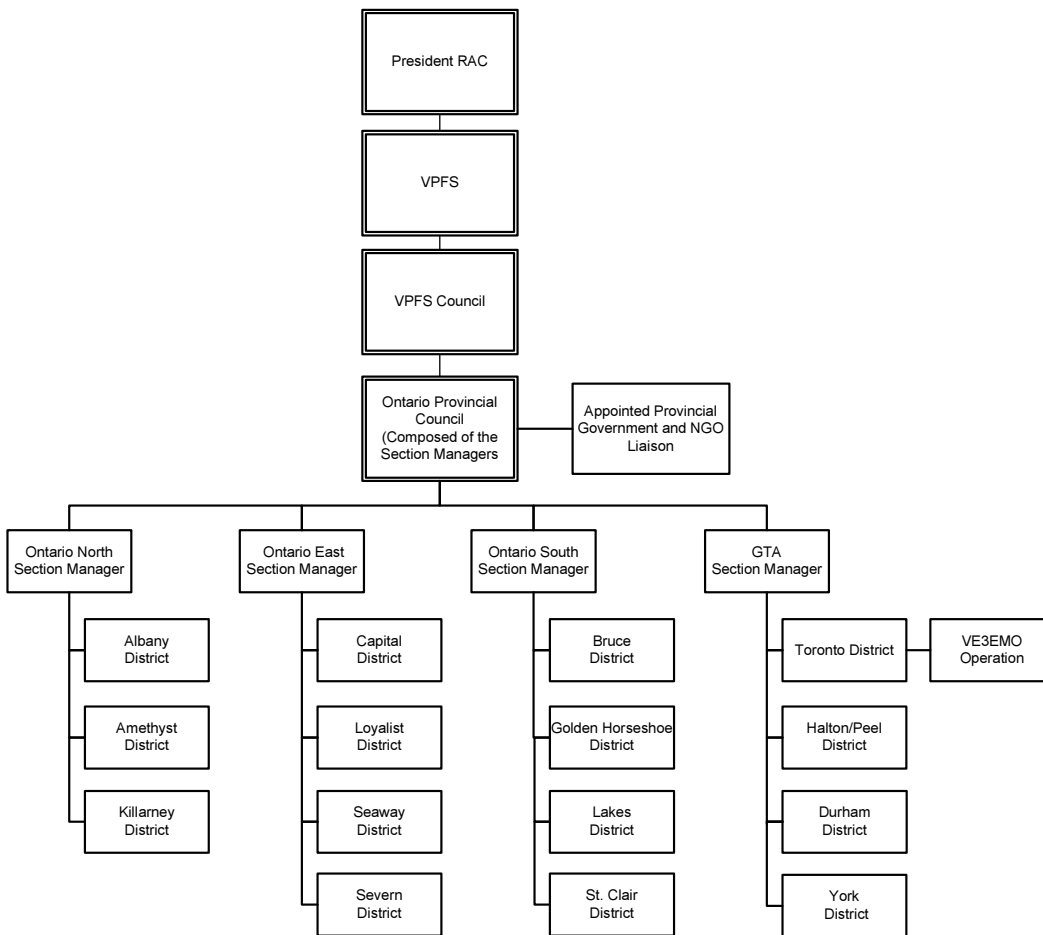


Figure 2 Proposed Ontario Section Model

It is proposed that initially the new SM's will be appointed by VPFS from qualified persons recommended by the membership. The SM terms would be staggered so that two are elected each odd year and the other two in even years. (Each SM term of office is two years.)

The entire committee hopes that Amateurs from across Ontario will be willing to volunteer their time and expertise to ensure the Ontario Field Services is strong and vibrant.

The committee will monitor this new arrangement and reconvene in 2 years to ensure the new Section Model continues to meet the needs of all Ontario Amateurs.

Bill Unger VE3XT  
Chair, Ontario Restructuring Commission