

WORKING ON GETTING SOME HAMS WHO HAVE IMMIGRATED FROM UKRAINE SET UP IN CANADA

By Neil Brown VE6TCK

On a 2 degree October 22 Stanislav US4IPQ (who is studying for his exam) and I drove to Mundare to help Sviatoslav VA6FTF (formerly UR5FTF) install a VHF antenna. The first order of business was to remove the mast and the remaining half of a low band VHF TV antenna. There was a suspicion it was installed in the 50's based on the condition of the hardware. Stanislav got the mast loose and to the ground where I did the easy work with Sviatoslav. Stanislav reinstalled the mast in the tower and then was given the Diamond X500 VHF vertical which he attached to the mast and slid it up as high as it would go. The day didn't get any warmer and fortunately there was only a light breeze. A perfect day for antenna work. When we were done and on the trip home there was a light snow which was forecast hihi. With 100 ft of RG213 and 25w, we were able to raise VE6HM and VE6NHB. Both returned 2 segments on the LCD s-meter. The ridge that runs SE from Lamont was an issue as we expected it would be. On a happy note VE6QCR returned 4 segments and we were able to record and play back audio mostly because of its location and the available path. The distance from Mundare to QCR is just over 100KM and the terrain is an issue. Mundare is not on high ground. As always it's a starting point and in the spring work will be done with more and bigger antennas hihi. It's always nice when the club is involved in helping new amateurs get on the air. Too often we are involved in taking stations and antenna systems down.



Note: Stanislav and Sviatoslav both came to Canada from Kiev and Odessa, Ukraine. Sviatoslav has been here 4 months and Stanislav has been here only two months. Sviatoslav's main interest in the hobby is around VHF and UHF contesting. He has less interest in HF work at this time. Stanislav is an HF enthusiast and has spent time contesting and chasing DX. They both look forward to being active in the hobby and get set up as time, family and work commitments permit. They both donated/sold their stations and only brought dual band handhelds when they came to Canada. They are happy to be in Canada and the opportunities it presents for them and their families. Sviatoslav has a background in Internet Telecommunications. Stanislav worked as an electrician in industrial and commercial environments. As well as a great interest in the amateur radio hobby, both look forward to securing employment in similar fields in Canada.