



Celebrating 100 years of Marine Communications
on the Great Lakes

*Thunder Bay, Ontario
Friday, October 1, 2010*

Historical Time line

November 1910 ó Marconi Staff arrive Port Arthur to start work at MUG/Port Arthur Wireless Station

December 1910 ó First maritime distress call worked by MUG/Port Arthur

February 1913 ó Marconi station land deeded to King George V and MUG becomes VBA/Port Arthur as a Dominion Wireless Station (Government run)

Summer 1937, radiotelephony in use by Canadian Great Lakes stations

1962 ó Merging of Marine and Air Radio

1985 ó Marine and Air Radio separate

1986 - Winnipeg & Churchill stations shut down & combined into Thunder Bay CGR via remote controlled equipment.

1997 óWarton (VBC) & Sault Ste Marie (VBB) CGR stations integrated into VBA, Coast Guard Radio changes to Marine Communications and Traffic Services Center

November 1998 ó ðAs of 4 NOVEMBER 1998, radiotelegraph services have ended and the handkeys at Thunder Bay/VBA will become silent. The staff wishes you fair winds, smooth seas, and bon voyage. 73.ö

October 2010 ó MCTS Centres are digital workplaces, electronic charting, satellite ship tracking, digital calling via radio and computerized log keeping.

Order of Service

11:00 am

Words of Welcome ó OIC Michael King

11:05 am

Blessing ó Reverend Swayze

11:10 am

Thunder Bay MCTS Today ó OIC Michael King

11:20 am

VBA100 Historical Presentation ó MCTSO Erin O'Brien

11:30 am

Remarks ó Assistant Commissioner E. Wade Spurell then Assistant Commissioner & MCTSO Robert Mazur unveil 100th birthday commemorative plaque.

11: 40 am

Presentation of Departmental Recognition Certificates to: MCTSOs Erin O'Brien, Charmaine Barton & Robert Mazur for their collective work on the VBA100 project.

Closing Remarks ó OIC Michael King

Conducted Tours

12:00 pm

Refreshments