

## CHMR 2006 Fall Report

This semester is looking to be one of the most promising for CHMR in recent years.

On Sept 19<sup>th</sup> the staff of CHMR trained a class of 30 potential new announcer/operators (all Memorial University under-grads). Since that date 10 individuals have completed and passed written tests and are currently practicing to get ready for their performance on-air evaluations.

On Friday Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, another 30 are expected to attend a training board class. This class will also include a number of interested community members.

Our News Department involvement has also increased dramatically. CHMR currently has 20 volunteer readers and writers. The bulk of these volunteers are also MUN undergrads. Newsbreaks are now included from 8 am to 8 pm on weekdays and are either pre-recorded or live to air. Students have also been concentrating on "on-campus" news events and stories using CHMR-FM's newly acquired digital recorder. This digital recorder was purchased with grant monies from Student Affairs and Services last year. It is hoped that CHMR can obtain another similar unit as the interest in news coverage is increasing daily.

The Fall Programming Schedule is now 24 hours a day. CHMR's overnight programming is pre-recorded and pre-programmed. As more potential hosts pass their tests, more live shows will be booked during these pre-recorded time periods. As of Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, live hosts are broadcasting till midnight and beyond.

As per our license, CHMR is featuring music programs in all genres. We currently have on air the following types of music: Traditional, Folk, Rock, Country, Blues, Jazz, World, Dance, Hip Hop, Industrial, Metal, Classical and Reggae.

CHMR has some new additions to its' schedule this semester. Three days a week we now present a Newfoundland traditional program called "Newfoundland's Own". This show is generating quite a buzz and is receiving quite a high number of requests from the community.

Other shows of interest include:

"Collective Voice", a syndicated program originating from CHMR and fed to 7 other campus/community stations in Canada and the United States.

"Shrink Wrap With Dr. Matt" an unconventional, quirky journey which dispels the myths and the stigmas attached to mental illness. This show is hosted by Dr. Matt Lilly.

"Ring Rust" Atlantic Canada's only source for wrestling news on the radio.

CHMR-FM fundraising ventures are continuing this year. These include recycling, candy sales, soap sales, CD sales as well as non-student membership fees. So far this fiscal year, CHMR-FM has raised \$833 in recycling and candy alone. CHMR is planning its yearly soap sale for November as well as a new venture called, "The Funky Things" sale which is tentatively scheduled for November as well.

Other fundraising notes include: grant applications to the BIS and upcoming CHMR social poker nights. Last year we held one game per semester and the volunteers loved it. Plans are in place to hold another event like this sometime during the fall semester.

CHMR-FM recently revamped its website with a brand new layout and updated content. This site is now available at [www.chmr.ca](http://www.chmr.ca) CHMR's website and audio streaming is accessed throughout the world and we are constantly receiving emails and notes from national and international listeners.

This semester CHMR-FM worked in conjunction with Universal Records Canada to release a CHMR-FM CD sampler entitled "Back In Session Fall 2006". This promotion was done without any cost to the station and included the stations logo, frequency and website address directly on the CD cover. CHMR acquired 1000 discs and has been handing them out to prospective volunteers, tour groups and board class attendees.

Speaking of CDs, CHMR-FM is now receiving music product at an all-time high. We now receive approximately 15 to 20 CDs a day from companies and artists all around the world. Once again, this product is totally free of charge to the station. Double copies are collected for our fundraiser and extra product is also used for on-air contests and giveaways.

Another exciting venture for CHMR this term is our partnership with Aliant TV. Aliant has expanded their selection of radio stations to include content from Newfoundland and New Brunswick (new markets where their service has been launched). CHMR is now available for Aliant subscribers at channel 825. Once again, this added coverage of CHMR was a no cost venture for the radio station.

CHMR recently began an advertising contract with Rogers Cable (Sept – Oct). This package will bring in approximately \$3000 for CHMR. Some show hosts are currently looking into show sponsorships for this semester, which may bring in small additional amounts of advertising revenue.

CHMR is currently in the process of hiring three MUCEP students to work this term at the station. Two will be working within the News Department conducting interviews and features for the morning show and the third will be working to

organize this years CD sale as well as helping with general clerical work around the stations music library. Further to this, CHMR-FM will once again be employing a high school student from Holy Heart Of Mary to work as an assistant through the Cooperative Education Program. This program has proved beneficial for both the student and CHMR.

On the down side, CHMR-FM's automation software is old and totally unsupported. This has recently been causing problems as the computer program crashes and programming is lost. Increased station membership and activity has caused this program to be used beyond its capacity and original design. CHMR is in desperate need to upgrade both its computers and the software needed for automation. This is a top priority for the station.

The CHMR logging and security system is also in desperate need of replacement. Video logging is archaic and the 3 VCRs are all experiencing problems. This is of great concern as it is a CRTC legal requirement that the tapes record 24 hours a day of on air programming. Many times the machines stop or slip into error mode. CHMR needs to purchase a brand new security/logging system as soon as possible. The cameras are also in bad shape so reviewing tapes has been a security concern for station property, equipment and personal volunteer & staff safety.

In conclusion, apart from the equipment issues, CHMR's future looks very promising for this year. Volunteer and training numbers are up, incoming product is at an all time high, and the programming is blocked with good quality and entertaining broadcasts.

Respectfully Submitted (September 21, 2006)

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