

430

FOCN45 CWWG 101300

SIGNIFICANT WEATHER DISCUSSION ISSUED BY THE PRAIRIE AND ARCTIC STORM
PREDICTION CENTRE OF ENVIRONMENT CANADA AT 7:00 AM CST SATURDAY
JANUARY 10 2015.

ALERTS AND STATEMENTS IN EFFECT...SNOWFALL WARNING FOR GRANDE
PRAIRIE AND WHITECOURT REGIONS.

SYNOPTIC OVERVIEW...UPPER RIDGE OVER YUKON TERRITORY AND LARGE
ARCTIC VORTEX CENTERED OVER NORTHERN HUDSON BAY PUTS MUCH OF THE
PRAIRIE AND NORTHERN REGION IN A STRONG NORTH TO NORTHWESTERLY FLOW
ALOFT. 995 MB SURFACE LOW OVER THE NORTHERN TIP OF QUEBEC WITH HIGH
PRESSURE DOMINATING WESTERN CANADA. LOW DEVELOPING OVER THE BEAUFORT
SEA.

DISCUSSION...

PRAIRIES...STRONG NW-SE BAROCLINIC ZONE IS PROVIDING LIFT ALONG A
RATHER NARROW BAND OVER WESTERN ALBERTA. MOISTURE ALOFT IS ENOUGH TO
PRODUCE HEAVY SNOW ALONG A LINE FROM DAWSON CREEK, BC
SOUTHEASTWARDS. GRANDE PRAIRIE HAS REPORTED 7 CM SO FAR. LOCAL TOTAL
SNOWFALL ACCUMULATIONS UP TO 15 CM IS POSSIBLE BEFORE THE SNOW
TAPERS OFF AND SLUMPS SOUTH TONIGHT. AMOUNTS UP TO 5 CM ARE LIKELY
ALONG THE EASTERN SLOPES OF THE FOOTHILLS TONIGHT AS DRIER ARCTIC
AIR INVADES THE PROVINCE FROM THE NORTH.

WIND CHILLS MAY REACH NEAR MINUS 40 THIS MORNING OVER SERN
SASKATCHEWAN AND SWRN MANITOBA JUST TO THE EAST OF THE SURFACE
RIDGE, BUT GENERALLY NOT ENOUGH TO ISSUE EXTREME COLD WARNINGS. THIS
AREA WILL ALSO HAVE NEAR-WARNING WIND CHILLS SUNDAY MORNING.

ARCTIC...THE BEAUFORT SEA LOW WILL BRING A CHANCE OF BLOWING SNOW TO
MANY WESTERN ARCTIC COASTAL COMMUNITIES TONIGHT. THE STRONGEST WINDS
ARE EXPECTED TO BE RELATIVELY SHORT LIVED SO SUSTAINED BLIZZARD
CONDITIONS ARE NOT EXPECTED AT THIS TIME. AT LEAST SOME BLOWING SNOW
WILL LIKELY PERSIST WITH THE SYSTEM INTO TUESDAY AS IT DRIFTS SLOWLY
TO THE SOUTHEAST.

END/SHAER/ROMBOUGH

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