

## Westman Communications Group Purchases Remaining Shares of Riding Mountain Broadcasting Ltd.

**Brandon MB, March 28, 2003** – Westman Communications Group announced today the acquisition of the remaining shares of Riding Mountain Broadcasting Ltd. which operates radio stations 880 CKLQ and 94.7 Star FM. With this purchase, which will be effective September 1, 2003, Westman Communications Group increases its ownership in Riding Mountain Broadcasting Ltd. from 40% to 100%.

"We have been very pleased with the success of the stations since our initial investment in 1998. We look forward to expanding our involvement with the stations and to serving their listeners throughout Western Manitoba" stated Dave Baxter, President & CEO of Westman Communications Group. With the launch of Star FM in June 2000, Riding Mountain now owns the two most listened to stations in the market. "We think the stations are a good fit for Westman as they serve our members and our communities throughout Western Manitoba. They will make a positive contribution to the future growth of the Cooperative."

In March 1998, a local group of investors headed by Don and Ron Kille and Westman Communications Group acquired Riding Mountain Broadcasting. "We have enjoyed our partnership with Westman over the past five years which made selling to them so much easier. We are pleased to see the ownership of the station staying local and that was very important to us", mentioned Ron Kille. "We are confident that Westman, which operates throughout Western Manitoba, will continue to build on that success".

Don Kille will continue as General Manager under Westman's ownership. "Don has been with the station for many years and he and his team have done a terrific job. By bringing together two successful local companies along with the continuity of management there can only be more opportunities for future growth," stated Dave Baxter.

The purchase is subject to CRTC approval, which is expected by August 31, 2003.

## **About Westman Communications Group**

Westman is a customer focused company providing leadership in communication and information technology products and services in cable TV, fibre optics, computer networks, data transport, internet, advertising and broadcasting. Operating throughout Western Manitoba, Westman is proud of its commitment to its customers and the communities it serves.

## **About Riding Mountain Broadcasting Ltd.**

Riding Mountain owns and operates two radio stations in Western Manitoba, 880 CKLQ and 94.7 Star FM and offers listeners a diverse line up of information and entertainment. Both stations are located at 624 – 14<sup>th</sup> St. E. in Brandon.

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