

Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club

President

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Secretary

Vice-President

Treasurer

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brian Gorgeatt VY2BG

Minutes of August 4th, 2026 meeting

Bill VY2WM called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Members present were:

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Brian Gorgeatt VY2BG

Charles Easter VY2CE

Nathan Strongman VY2OE

Doug Silliker VY2DS

Fraser Ashworth VY2FA

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Aaron Boeker VY2EK

Michael Morrison VY2CO

Arthur Smith VY2BIT

Micah Gallant VY2MIC

Bruce Maclean VY2BM

Rodney Mann VY2CGA

Joe Nicholson VY2JTN

Selina MacArthur VY2OL

Jamie Cross VY2JGC

Omair Imitaz VY2PE

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Mike McNeill VY2MG

George Meggison VY2GM

Ron MacKay VE1AIC (virtual)

Steve Hutchings VY2SH

Devin Garlick VY2DFG

Jamie Cross VY2JGC

Andrew Jorgensen VY2HZ

Ricardo Angel VY2AN

Lowell Sweet VY2OX

Arden Gallant VY2ALG

Paul Maxan VY2PM

Tyler MacNeill VY2TM

Darrell MacArthur VY2OM

Timothy Connor VY2MV

Gordon Bernard VY2GB

Sick and Silent Keys:

Bill VY2WM informed the members present that Ron VE1AIC was unable to attend in person due to a sore throat.

Joel VY2KW was able to get in contact with William Caw VY2CAW. William has been in and out of hospital due to diabetes-related issues with his legs. He was overjoyed that we have been asking after him. Joel will share William's home phone number with Julia VY2JA so she can email it to all club members. That way others can check in with him too.

Joe VY2JTN has been reaching out to Gerard Gaudet VY2GG who has been having issues with his legs and so hasn't been on the air. Joel VY2KW suggested maybe we can bring his equipment upstairs from the basement to make it easier for Gerard to connect.

Announcements:

Fraser VY2FA had brought some of Syd MacDonald VY2MAC's gear to the meeting for people to go through and take if they wanted anything. Michael VY2CO also had some items to pass on to club members.

Bill VY2WM announced that he had some items left over from the sale of Brent VY2HF's and Bill Perry VY2BP's equipment which he would bring in next time.

Jamie VY2JGC ran into some trouble in Summerside getting a callsign licence plate as they were unaware of the new rules. Rodney VY2CGA said to contact either him or Dave VY2DAC to verify that someone is actually a licensed radio operator, after which there should be no more problems at Access PEI. He added that the cost was \$20 for a callsign licence plate and not \$100 as for a vanity plate although both use the same application form.

Minutes of July 7th, 2026 meeting:

Bill VY2WM advised that since the minutes for the last members' meeting had been emailed to all members there was no need for the secretary to read them.

Moved by Bill VY2WM, seconded by Arthur VY2BIT to approve the minutes as circulated. All approved, motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

Nothing at this time.

President Report:

Bill VY2WM reported that he would be meeting with a new EMO contact this Friday, August 7th, 2026, to discuss our emergency preparedness for the upcoming hurricane season. Bill will report back next month.

Treasurer Report:

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG reported that during July he had received \$20 for a membership renewal. Banking fees in July were \$3.75. The bank balance at the end of July was \$7,015.82.

Brian will present the final report on the flea market at the next meeting.

Moved by Brian VY2BG, seconded by Bill VY2WM that the financial report be approved. All in favour, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Training/Education:

Mike VY2MG reported that he had received two new inquiries in July, taking the number of names of individuals who may be interested in a basic licensing course up to 16.

Aaron VY2EK's new study guide website is looking great; he has put 800 hours in so far.

The Summerside self-study / study group course format worked well for them. They went over eight chapters in eight weeks, once a week for two hours. The students were expected to have studied the content beforehand in their own time. There was also an introductory evening and a final recap night before the exam. The Summerside club did not charge for the course, but students had to buy their own study guide and pay \$10 for the exam. They were not given one year free membership like in the year before, but it didn't seem to make any difference in terms of retention.

Repeater Update:

Nothing this month.

Flea Market Report:

Bill VY2WM reported that this year's flea market had been very well attended with 64 attendees. The location at the Cornwall Civic Centre was a great success with good parking and easy access for anyone coming from further away. There were a lot of people from off-island. It was recommended to have a later start time next year, either 10:00am or 10:30am for buyers so

that visitors from further away wouldn't need to leave home too early. We have access to the hall until 4:00pm.

Bill VY2WM reported that the cash box started with a float of \$100 and now has \$650 in it, so we made \$550 at the door. We spent \$100 on gas cards. The last Retivis handheld was given away this year so we will have to buy more for next year. The venue will have cost \$115 after the return of our \$100 security deposit. Bill donated \$45 for Tim Horton's coffee to the club. He thanked Selina VY2OL, Mike VY2MG, Ricardo VY2AN, and his own wife for preparing and providing food for the event.

For next year, we will have to decide if we may want to spend \$50 on renting the kitchen for the day so that we can prepare our own tea and coffee like last year.

The question of having a 50/50 draw next year came up. Selina VY2OL said that a licence would be needed but for a total prize value of \$5,000 or less the licence would be free.

Bill VY2WM reported that he was able to sell most of the equipment from Bill Perry VY2BP's estate at the flea market for \$430. The family wants to donate the proceeds to the club to help support new hams. Bill managed to sell a large portion of Brent VY2HF's equipment on behalf of the family. He will be transferring \$7,100 to Brent's wife Janice.

Correspondence:

Nothing to report this month.

New/Ongoing Business:

CBL Callsign:

Bill VY2WM reported that Brent's son Neil and his cousin Glenn Taylor VE9GJ had agreed to release the callsign VY2CBL to the club. Bill managed to unlock and gain access to the QRZ page for VY2CBL.

Summerside Club:

Aaron VY2EK gave a shout-out to all the hams who have activated their radios in public spaces or have been involved in public radio events. It often garners a lot of interest in the hobby.

Lighthouses:

Bill VY2WM will be activating Cape Bear Lighthouse on August 15th, which is during the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (ILLW). The Lighthouse has renovated the Marconi station and will be holding a public event on that day. All are welcome to join him.

Doug VY2DS will be activating Westpoint Lighthouse on August 15th-16th. He will be confirming this week that he definitely has permission to camp there. His plan is to set up on Friday and stay till Sunday. All are welcome to join him.

Doug VY2DS is also planning on activating Seacow Head Lighthouse on August 29th-30th. He owns the callsign VY2SHL which can be used by anyone, but it's best to reach out to Doug first. Superstore is donating a cake for the event, and for marketing, Doug VY2DS is planning on shooting a video for Facebook. All are welcome to join him at Seacow Head. Doug is hoping that the location may be a suitable site for field day as it has great facilities.

Repeaters up west:

Rodney VY2CGA announced that all repeaters in western PEI now need 100 Hz tone.

Bill VY2WM adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.

Information Exchange:

Meshtastic Networks and Devices Short Question and Answers - Ricardo VY2AN

Julia Ashworth
Secretary

Bill McMaster
President