

Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club

President

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Secretary

Vice-President

Treasurer

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brian Gorgeatt VY2BG

Minutes of February 3rd, 2026 meeting

Bill VY2WM called the meeting to order at around 7:00 PM.

Members present were:

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Brent Taylor VY2HF

Charles Easter VY2CE

Ricardo Angel VY2AN

Lowell Sweet VY2OX

Selina MacArthur VY2OL

Bill Glydon VY2LI

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Bruce Maclean VY2BM

Ron MacKay VE1AIC

Richard Burke VY2RB

Graeme Brown VY2WT

Joe Nicholson VY2JTN

Charlie Mullen VY2KC

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brian Gorgeatt VY2BG

Mike McNeill VY2MG

Tyler MacNeill VY2TM

Darrell MacArthur VY2OM

Micah Gallant VY2MIC

Fraser Ashworth VY2FA

Nathan Strongman VY2OE

Aaron Boeker VY2EK

Chris VanHorn VY2HC

Paul Maxan VY2PM

Rick Hews VY2WTF

Derek Campbell VY2DCR

Guest: Michael Morrison VY2CO

Sick and Silent Keys:

It was noted that Hal Rodd VE1LV who had passed away on January 16th, 2026, was originally from Charlottetown.

Announcements:

None noted

Minutes of January 6th, 2026 meeting:

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

Moved by Bill VY2WM, seconded by Rick VY2WTF to approve the minutes as circulated. All approved, motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

None noted.

President Report:

Bill VY2WM reported that he had printed all of the members' call signs but was still in the process of assembling them. He brought some of them with him to the meeting. Bill said he wasn't 100% happy with the way they assemble, and so if anybody would like him to re-do theirs, he would try a different method. Members can donate toward their tags at the next meeting if they'd like.

Treasurer Report:

Brian VY2BG reported that the transfer from Charles VY2CE to him had been smooth. The receipt of e-transfers also works perfectly. Brian reported that there had been 13 renewals up until the day of the meeting. Some additional e-transfers had come in on the day, and some people had paid their dues in cash before the start of the meeting. Donations during January were \$50, giving a total bank balance of \$6,851.14.

Brian said he was still in the process of setting everything up including e-receipts. He would prefer if people paid their dues by e-transfer, noting their name and call sign in the message box. Julia VY2JA is to send a reminder email out to all members.

Moved by Brian VY2BG, seconded by Tyler VY2TM that the financial report be approved. All in favour, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Training/Education:

Mike VY2MG reported that January had been a quiet month and that he had nothing new to report.

Brent VY2HF reported that there had been no exams in January. He also mentioned that COAX had about 200 copies of their study guide left in their warehouse.

Repeater Update:

Ron VE1AIC reported that all the repeaters were doing well. On January 25th the Belfast repeater briefly recorded below 0°C inside but recovered very quickly.

Ron is looking at a couple of sites west of Charlottetown (Summerside and Cavendish); he's not sure if he's going back to Glen Valley. He currently has four repeaters that could be installed, but controllers cost around \$500 each. Ron said that it's difficult to find sites that are free of charge - some want insurance, others monthly rent. He may have to find people to have a repeater in their garage.

Correspondence:

Julia VY2JA reported that she had received the RAC insurance policy for the club. It was with a new insurer (Intact), and there was no mention of the City of Charlottetown being a Named Insured. Julia has written to Adam from the RAC to ask about that and will report back.

New/Ongoing Business:

Summerside Club (SPARC):

Aaron VY2EK reported that they had a new ham: John Dalton VY2SL.

He also said that their next basic licensing course would start at the end of March 2026 and run for 16 nights (8 weeks) until late April/early May. The teaching nights will be Mondays and Thursdays. The location for the course will be the club house.

Aaron said that they would be using the new RAC study guide; however, if we would like to sell them our old COAX study guides they would be happy to buy them off us. SPARC currently has

6-7 potential students; Mike VY2MG might have some more on his list who might want to join the Summerside Spring course.

Update of Teaching Slides for Basic Licensing Course:

Aaron VY2EK explained that the current teaching slides don't match the layout of the new RAC study guide. The two options are to either adjust the slides to fit the new book or to find the sections in the book that match the slides. Aaron would prefer to adjust the slides and hopes that CARC can help them. SPARC has purchased two copies of the new RAC study guide off Amazon.CA at \$65 each (incl. tax). Aaron suggested that CARC should also buy two copies to help with the process of updating the slides. Brent VY2HF mentioned that Al Penney VO1NO, the author of the original teaching slides, was still using the COAX study guide and so hadn't updated his slides yet.

Moved by Bill VY2WM, seconded by Graeme VY2WT that the club be authorized to purchase two RAC study guides for ~\$130 from Amazon.CA. All in favour, motion carried.

EMO Meeting:

Bill VY2WM reported that the EMO January meeting had to be cancelled due to bad weather. The meeting is re-scheduled for February 20th, 2026. Bill will give a WINLINK presentation using Ron's gateway.

Brent VY2HF mentioned that the Nova Scotia ham community had invited some RAC representatives to S.M.A.R.T. this year. They're hoping that they can put pressure on the government to fund the radio community as we provide vital infrastructure during emergency situations. Ontario has already done so. Perhaps we can do the same.

Search for Club Station:

Michael VY2CO updated the club that the city of Stratford had received \$10m in federal funding for the new wellness centre, which means that the project can now go ahead. He suggested reaching out to the mayor again about a club station. The mayor had previously told Michael that he could not offer us a home for our club unless and until the city had secured federal funding for the project, which has now happened.

Field Day 2026:

Mike VY2MG reported that through a friend he now has a government contact who deals with day parks. Mike hasn't spoken to the person yet but will do. This may allow us to have Field Day in a provincial park this year.

Information Exchange: Brent VY2HF gave a presentation on his trip to Brazil for the IARU Region 2 General Assembly.

Bill VY2WM adjourned the meeting at 8:29 PM.

Julia Ashworth
Secretary

Bill McMaster
President