

Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club

President

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Secretary

Vice-President

Treasurer

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG

Minutes of January 6th, 2026 meeting

Bill VY2WM called the meeting to order at around 7:25 PM.

Members present were:

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brent Taylor VY2HF

Richard Burke VY2RB

Charles Easter VY2CE

Mike McNeill VY2MG

George Meggison VY2GM

Tyler MacNeill VY2TM

Ricardo Angel VY2AN (virtual)

Darrell MacArthur VY2OM

Selina MacArthur VY2OL

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG

Andrew Jorgensen VY2HZ

Fraser Ashworth VY2FA

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Nathan Strongman VY2OE

Bruce Maclean VY2BM

Aaron Boeker VY2EK

Ron MacKay VE1AIC

Chris VanHorn VY2HC

Alan Beck VY2XU

Paul Maxan VY2PM

Rodney Mann VY2CGA (virtual)

Tracey Allen VY2TAZ (virtual)

Joe Nicholson VY2JTN (virtual)

Bill Glydon VY2LI sent his regrets.

Sick and Silent Keys:

Charles VY2CE noted that William Terry Jones VE1APC of Cornwall PE passed away in December 2025.

Announcements:

None noted

Minutes of December 2nd, 2025 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 George VY2GM to approve the minutes as circulated. All approved, motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

None noted.

President Report:

Bill VY2WM reported that the presentation we had planned to give at the Senior College on January 14th, 2026 had been cancelled by the college due to not enough interest.

Bill also reported that he had printed all of the members' callsign tags. He showed the members a sample tag - orange writing on black background. Bill has all the pins; the tags just need assembling. Bill will bring the finished callsign tags to the February meeting. There will be a donation bucket rather than a set charge.

Treasurer Report:

As the outgoing treasurer, Charles VY2CE reported that in December there had been one prepaid membership for 2026. The number of prepaid members for 2026 is now seven with an income of \$160.

December expenses included \$649.64 for RAC liability insurance and \$6.75 in bank charges.

Moved by Charles VY2CE, seconded by Bill VY2WM that the financial report be approved. All in favour, motion carried.

At this point the members of the club thanked Charles VY2CE for his long service to the club, both as secretary and treasurer for over 20 years. Thank you, Charles!

Committee Reports:

Training/Education:

Mike VY2MG reported that he currently had eight names on the interested list for another basic licensing course. One student from the Fall 2025 course deferred her enrollment to the next course. Yesterday, another potential student reached out to Mike.

Bill VY2WM suggested offering public presentations about ham radio at the local library. The library would promote them for us. We could also advertise such presentations / introductory courses in the Buzz.

Brent VY2HF reported that only one student from the Fall 2025 course felt ready to write the exam on December 20th, 2025. Paul Maxan passed with flying colours and is now VY2PM.

Congratulations Paul!

Brent continued saying that someone had reached out to him about sitting the exam after self study. Brent has arranged an exam date for Friday, January 9th, at the Stratford library.

Aaron VY2EK reported that he would hold an exam session in Summerside on Saturday, January 10th. Three people had reached out to him about sitting their basic exams after self study.

Brent VY2HF reported that the RAC Basic Study Guide was out now. It follows the exam structure with some added explanations. At the moment, the content is still a work in progress. As the book is continuously being worked on and printed only when ordered, we would have a much improved version if we chose to order these books for the next basic licensing course in the fall. We would have to update the course slides slightly to work with the new study guide, but that wouldn't be a problem. The COAX study guide is no longer being printed and has not been updated for the new exam questions. Brent VY2HF suggested donating a copy of the COAX study guide to the Charlottetown library. Fraser VY2FA suggested taping some info about the club and how to get licensed on the inside of the book. Mike VY2MG suggested using the club's brochure.

Repeater Update:

Ron VE1AIC reported that the Belfast repeater was doing well thanks to Rick VY2WTF looking after it. The Cape Bear repeater, currently in Tyler VY2TM's garage, is working well as well. Ron suggested moving the Cape Bear repeater to the lighthouse during the summer months. Ron is still looking for a site on the northside near Morrell or St. Peter's Bay to put a repeater. He is in talks with two sites, but it's slow going. If anyone has a place on the northside to host a repeater, please let Ron know.

Correspondence:

Julia VY2JA reported that a former student had reached out about introductory courses, exactly as Bill VY2WM had suggested the club might want to offer.

New/Ongoing Business:

Summerside Club:

Aaron VY2EK reported that the Summerside club had not had an official meeting since November 2025 so there were no updates. However, Aaron told the Charlottetown club that he may have a suggestion for us to find a club station. The Summerside Club recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Summerside to provide emergency communications for the city in exchange for a club house. There are many cities in PEI that have a requirement to have provisions for emergency communications in place including Cornwall, Stratford, and Charlottetown. Aaron suggested that this could be a potential angle for us to find a club station.

Aaron VY2EK confirmed that the Summerside club would be offering a Spring 2026 basic licensing course.

Winter Field Day:

Winter Field Day is scheduled for January 24th-25th, 2026. Ideas and discussion will take place on Discord.

EMO Meeting:

Bill VY2WM reported that he had attended another EMO-NGO meeting in December 2025. There had been a big shuffle in personnel with a new manager for the EMO, Adam Upward, now in place. Adam is very interested in deeper discussion with CARC and what we can provide. Bill VY2WM and Brent VY2HF attended a meeting with him and gave him a two page document. A lot of good questions were asked. The next meeting is scheduled for January 22nd, 2026 at the EOC in Charlottetown (6th floor of the National Bank Building). Bill will give a WINLINK presentation using Ron's gateway.

2026 Membership fees are now due:

Membership dues for 2026 have not changed: they are \$20 for the year for RAC members, and \$30 for non-RAC members. They are payable before March 31st, 2026. Payments can be made via e-transfer to treasurer@charlottetownarc.com or in cash to Brian VY2BG at the club meetings. When paying by e-transfer, please put your callsign and what it is for in the message field. Julia VY2JA will be sending an email with this information to all members.

Information Exchange: Brent VY2HF's presentation was postponed to next month due to the projector being broken.

Bill VY2WM adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.

Julia Ashworth
Secretary

Bill McMaster
President