

Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club

President

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Secretary

Vice-President

Treasurer

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG

Minutes of June 2nd, 2026 meeting

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

Members present were:

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG

Charles Easter VY2CE

Darrell MacArthur VY2OM

Selina MacArthur VY2OL

Dave Cosh VY2DAC

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Aaron Boeker VY2EK

Michael Morrison VY2CO

Arthur Smith VY2BIT

Micah Gallant VY2MIC

Bruce Maclean VY2BM

Rodney Mann VY2CGA (virtual)

Joe Nicholson VY2JTN (virtual)

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Mike McNeill VY2MG

George Meggison VY2GM

Ron MacKay VE1AIC

Devin Garlick VY2DFG

Fraser Ashworth VY2FA

Charlie Mullen VY2KC

Andrew Jorgensen VY2HZ

Richard Greaves VY2TO

Nathan Strongman VY2OE

Timothy Connor VY2MV

Ricardo Angel VY2AN (virtual)

Rick Hews VY2WTF (virtual)

Tyler MacNeill VY2TM (virtual)

Bill Glydon VY2LI sent his regrets.

Sick and Silent Keys:

It was noted with great sadness that our dear friend and longstanding club member Brent Taylor VY2HF passed away on May 21st, 2026. There were moments of silence held on the 80m net on Thursday, May 21st, and the 2m breakfast net on Saturday, May 23rd. The members present at this meeting signed a sympathy card to be sent to Brent's widow Janice and his son Neil. His cousin Glenn VE9GJ will be dealing with the equipment, although we will still offer to dispose of it.

Another Silent Key was noted: Barry Murphy of Stratford. He used to hold the call sign VE1APQ. His wife Bev was VE1AEO.

It was also noted that Richard Burke VY2RB had been having breathing difficulties in recent weeks.

Announcements:

There will be a Celebration of Life for Brent VY2HF that is open to all held on Saturday, June 20th, 2026, from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. Location: Loggieville Recreation Center (Miramichi), 15 Highfield Street, Loggieville, New Brunswick. Julia VY2JA is to send an email to all members with the details.

Minutes of May 5th, 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. Julia VY2JA informed the club she had been made aware of a small error in last month's minutes which she would correct.

Moved by George VY2GM, seconded by Mike VY2MG to approve the minutes as circulated. All approved, motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

None noted.

President Report:

Bill VY2WM reported that the EMO had reached out to him about a question asked at a recent public safety meeting in Alberton. What would it take to set up a public broadcasting station (e.g. an AM station) that would work when all other stations are down? Brian Chesley VE1BAC, a broadcast engineer in Saint John, NB, told Bill VY2WM that the city of Saint John was

currently doing the same thing, setting up an emergency broadcast station. Brian has contacts in ISED. He has sent the details to Bill to share with the EMO.

Ron VE1AIC commented that the weather transmitters would have worked. He also advised against using AM. Ron explained that the CBC has the equipment for emergency broadcasting. There is also a repeater at each end of the island. It would make sense for the CBC to be broadcasting during emergencies when all other stations are down. Bill VY2WM said he would pass it along to the EMO.

Rick VY2WTF added that the Belfast Council was having the same conversation at the moment.

Treasurer Report:

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG reported that banking fees in May were \$3.75. The bank balance at the end of May was \$6,933.32.

Moved by Brian VY2BG, seconded by Charles VY2CE that the financial report be approved. All in favour, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Training/Education:

Mike VY2MG reported that he had received three emails about our basic training course. Together with 8-9 inquiries from last year, we now have about 10 people interested in an in-person basic licensing course.

Repeater Update:

Ron VE1AIC reported that all was good with the repeaters. Dave VY2DAC informed the club that they had found a site for a repeater in Souris and were given permission to use it. All we need is a tower, at least 60-70 feet tall, ideally 100 feet. George VY2GM suggested the old RCMP tower. Dave VY2DAC is currently waiting on a quote for a new tower.

Field Day 2026:

Darrell VY2OM reported that Field Day would be taking place at Georgetown Civic Centre. Setup would start on Saturday, June 27th, 2026, at 9:00am. It's an indoor location, next door to the fire hall. There is grid power and space out back. There will be three stations.

Correspondence:

Julia VY2JA reported that a lot of notes and messages came in for and about Brent VY2HF. He was very loved by everyone.

New/Ongoing Business:

CARC 2026 Flea Market:

Bill VY2WM reported that St Marks was not available this year. Over the last week, Ricardo VY2AN and others looked at many alternative sites. Bill VY2LI suggested the Cornwall Civic Centre which is attached to the curling club. They charge \$215 for the day, but \$100 of that is a refundable deposit, so all going well, it would cost us \$115 for the day. It was agreed that it was a great spot. There is a kitchen and parking across the street. There are a few steps to get to it, but they also have an elevator. There are also tables and chairs for us to use, plus there is an EV charging station. Cornwall is a great location to get to for anyone from away.

Moved by Bill VY2WM, seconded by Mike VY2MG to approve the expenditure of \$300 for the venue and door prizes. All approved, motion carried.

It was agreed that the date for the flea market would be Saturday, July 25th, 2026. Doors open at 9:00am for sellers and 10:00am for buyers. Finish would be around 1:00pm. Prize suggestions are one Retevis handheld from last year, two bridge passes, and two \$50 gas cards. We'll charge \$5 to get in and \$10 for a table. Bill to check the table situation and confirm the site. Once it's confirmed, we'll advertise it.

Summerside Club:

Aaron VY2EK reported that they had successfully completed their Spring 2026 course. After exams the night before, there was a new ham on the island: Paul Schmelz VY2BQ, who passed with honours. Some of the others haven't sat their exam yet.

Aaron explained that this course had been a hybrid course: 8 hours of teaching with advance home study. It worked well.

Aaron told the club that he had been working on new study material using both the old COAX and the new RAC study guides. He's so far spent hundreds of hours creating teaching material with infographics. It will likely be over a thousand hours by the time he's finished. Aaron's plan

is to put it up on the internet for free public use, both as a teaching tool as well as a self study resource. He's looking for assistance, people to review his work and edit/refine it. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Bill VY2WM said that if anyone wanted to have a look at the new study guide to contact him.

Aaron also requested for someone else to become an examiner on the island, as he is now the two clubs' only examiner.

Aaron announced that the next Summerside club meeting would be held next Wednesday, June 10th, 2026, at 6:00pm at the Jade Garden Restaurant in Summerside. Please let Rodney VY2CGA know if you'd like to attend (email: secretary@summersidearc.com).

Syd VY2MAC [SK] Estate Cleanout:

Joel VY2KW reported that he and Charlie VY2KC had been able to take down the antennas. He will let us know when the remainder of the stuff is to be cleared out. It should take four people about one hour to do it all. Rick VY2WTF said if we needed storage space for anything, we could drop stuff off at the Belfast fire station.

Call Sign Licence Plates:

Dave VY2DAC informed the club that we could now apply directly to Access PEI for call sign licence plates. Go to Access PEI and apply as if it was a vanity plate but add that it's for amateur radio. They no longer confirm that the call sign is valid; they trust the applicant.

Brent's Call Signs:

Brent owns VY2HF, VY2VHF, and VY2CBL. George VY2GM asked if the club would like to own Brent's call sign. Ron said that as a club we can't own a two letter call sign. The family has one year to claim the call signs for themselves. We will ask the family.

Joel VY2KW suggested using VY2HF as a short wave listening station. We could ask Brent's cousin Glenn if he would give us permission to use Brent's SDR.

Bill VY2WM will look into the situation with VY2CBL as that was purchased for Cape Bear Lighthouse.

Nomination of Brent VY2HF [SK] to the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame:

Ricardo VY2AN has written up a nomination already. If we made the nomination as a club, it would carry more weight. Ricardo would be happy to apply on behalf of the club.

Moved by Bill VY2WM, seconded by Devin VY2DFG to approve the use of Ricardo's prepared nomination for the Radio Amateur Hall of Fame. All approved, motion carried.

Bill VY2WM adjourned the meeting at 8:31 PM.

Julia Ashworth
Secretary

Bill McMaster
President