

**RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2022  
MINUTES**

1. **Meeting called to order** at 7:30 pm EDT by President Phil McBride, VA3QR.

2. **Present – Directors** Keith Witney, VE7KW, Directors BC, Yukon  
Stephen Lee, VA6SGL, Director, AL/NWT/NU  
Ed Richardson, VE4VT, Director Midwest  
Barry Brousseau, VE3SLD, Director Ontario South,  
Guy Richard, VE2XTD, Director Quebec  
Al Penney, VO1NO, Director Atlantic

**Deputy Directors** Joe Earles, VO1BQ, Deputy Director Atlantic

- **Officers** Phil McBride, VA3QR, President  
Allan Boyd, VE3AJB, Vice-President  
Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB, International Affairs Officer  
David Goodwin, VE3KG, Regulatory Affairs Officer  
Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT, Community Services Officer  
Margaret Tidman, VA3VXN, Treasurer  
Alan Griffin, MarCom Director

- **Excused** Pat Dobson, VE3VC, Director Ontario North East  
Marcel Mongeon, VA3DDD, Honorary Legal Counsel  
Jeff Dale, VA3ISP, Chief Technology and Information Officer  
Al Masse, VE3CWP, Corporate Secretary

3. **Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion was made by Barry Brousseau, VE3SLD and Seconded by Guy Richard, VE2XTD, to adopt the agenda as presented.**

**Amendment to the Minutes:** New Business – Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB, referred to the recent Proposal No. 263 of the Executive Committee of IARU Region 1 that the Sudan Amateur Radio Union (SARU) be elected to membership to represent the Amateurs of Sudan. Phil McBride, VA3QR, asked for an Amendment to the Agenda to include it under New Business.

**The motion to Adopt the Amended Minutes was carried.**

4. **Approval of previous Minutes**

**Motion was made by Barry Brousseau, VE3SLD and Seconded by Joe Earles, VO1BQ, to accept the Minutes of the March 24, 2022 Board Meeting as presented. This motion was carried.**

## 5. Business arising from the Minutes.

- a) **Preparations for the RAC Annual General Meeting and Conference on September 18, 2022.**  
Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT, indicated that he and Alan Griffin (MarCom Director) had begun preparations using a similar structure as the previous year's Conference. This year's Conference is tentatively set to have five different time slots and additional information will be presented to the Executive at the next meeting.
- b) **RAC Planning Meeting:** Phil McBride, VA3QR, reported that a location and host for a Planning Meeting in October 2022 had not been found and that it may not be possible this year, but he would follow up with Al Penney, VO1NO, Atlantic Director, about the Halifax ARC. In the future Conferences and AGMs would most likely be held as hybrid events – with both in-person and online attendees – and Planning Meetings would be in-person events.
- c) **Policy – Surplus Funds** – no further discussion.

**Order of business was closed.**

## 6. New Business

- a) **Motions of changes for 2023** – Change of the Sectional system currently in place under the RAC Field Services.

“It is moved that, with the exception of the province of Ontario, a Section under the RAC Field Organization will consist of a province within Canada as follows:

- Newfoundland and Labrador (NL)
- Nova Scotia (NS): note the Maritime Section (MAR) will be abolished
- Prince Edward Island (PE)
- New Brunswick (NB): note: the Maritime Section (MAR) will be abolished
- Quebec (QC)
- Manitoba (MB)
- Saskatchewan (SK)
- Alberta (AB)
- British Columbia (BC)

The province of Ontario will retain 4 sections: Ontario North (ONN), Ontario South (ONS), Ontario East (ONE) and the renamed Golden Horseshoe (GH; formerly the GTA Section).

The Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory and Nunavut Territory will be combined into a new Territories Section (TER),

The above changes will take effect on January 1, 2023.

**Motion was made by Stephen Lee, VA6SGL and seconded by Barry Brousseau, VE3SLD.**  
**This motion was carried.**

**b) Standing Committee –**

“It is moved that RAC will appoint a Standing Committee to oversee the Field Organization called the Field Services National Advisory Committee (FSNAC). This committee will be chaired by the Community Services Officer and a member of the Board of Directors will be required to sit on the committee.”

- a. Committee members will be appointed by application, and approval of the Community Services Officer with the assistance of the Vice-President.
- b. The term for a member of the committee will be two years and no member shall serve more than three consecutive terms.
- c. The Field Services National Advisory Committee will consist of:
  - i. Deputy Community Services Officer
  - ii. National AuxComm Coordinator
  - iii. National Community and Youth Services Coordinator
  - iv. National Radio Traffic and Bulletin Service Coordinator
  - v. National Training Coordinator
  - vi. National Administration/Database Manager
  - vii. A member of the Board of Directors
- d. The Committee will meet monthly and additional members may be added if required in the future.
- e. All members of the Field Services National Advisory Committee will be members of Radio Amateurs of Canada and will adhere to the volunteer position description provided to them.

A discussion took place about the timing and the length of the term of the Section Manager and it was agreed that a Committee would work out the logistics required to ensure continuity while ensuring adequate turnover.

**Motion was made by Keith Witney, VE7KW and seconded by Barry Brousseau, VE3SLD. This motion was carried**

**c) Section Manager appointment process –**

“It is moved that Section Managers will be appointed by application to, and approved by, the Field Services National Advisory Committee. All newly appointed Section Managers will complete a training program, be members of Radio Amateurs of Canada, and complete an interview process prior to being approved by the Field Services National Advisory Committee. Those appointed will serve for a term of two years, and serve a maximum of three consecutive terms. The Field Services National Advisory Committee will update the Terms of Reference for Section Managers prior to the appointment of any new volunteers.”

A discussion took place about the logistics and it was agreed that the current elected Section Managers would complete their existing terms and then the new process involving the appointment of Section Managers would come into place. The existing Section Managers would be able to reapply if they wanted to be Section Managers.

**Motion was made by Joe Earles, VO1BQ and seconded by Ed Richardson, VE4VT. This motion was carried.**

- d) **Dayton Hamvention Update** – President Phil McBride, VA3QR, provided an update on the return to Hamvention. There was a good response to the new backdrop and banners in the RAC booth and the new livestream and chat feature went well. Phil commented that he would take more cameras next year.

Phil thanked everyone who attended and visited the RAC booth including the new President of the Radio Society of Great Britain who discussed possible future Youth On The Air initiatives in Canada.

Vice-President Allan Boyd, VE3AJB, commented on the great new booth display and thanked Alan Griffin, MarCom Director, and all those involved in its creation. He also indicated that he viewed several YouTube videos by other Amateur organizations and the RAC booth was featured very well.

- e) **IARU Proposal** – Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB, International Affairs Officer, provided an overview of the IARU Region 1 Proposal 263 to admit the Sudan Amateur Radio Union into the International Amateur Radio Union. As indicated in his Director’s report provided below, Serge voted “Yes” on behalf of Radio Amateurs of Canada.

**Motion was made by Ed Richardson, VE4VT and seconded by Guy Richard, VE2XTD. This motion was carried.**

7. **Director Reports** as submitted follow.

**Stephen Lee, VA6SGL, Director - AB, NWT, NU –**

Flea Markets

Flea markets took place in Calgary and Edmonton during April. The events organized by Calgary Amateur Radio Association and Quarter Century Amateur Radio Club were the first flea markets in the Province since 2019.

Both events brought the opportunity to speak with long-standing Hams, newcomers, and potential recruits.

WARD 2022

No operators in Northwest Territories or Nunavut responded to the invitation to operate VE8RAC and VY0RAC respectively. Of the three responses received from Alberta operators, all declined. I activated VE6RAC using FT8 when work permitted. I put the poor response down the WARD taking place on a weekday after the Easter long weekend.

Upcoming Events

The planning for the Central Alberta Amateur Radio Club 50th Annual Ham Picnic is well advanced. The event will take place over the Father’s Day weekend, June 17-19.

Calgary Amateur Radio Association (CARA) is supporting the Canadian Rally Championship Rocky Mountain Rally. The event takes place May 27/28 in the Kananaskis area of Alberta.

Cold Lake Amateur Radio Society will be supporting the Cold Lake Air Show, July 16 & 17.

The AR100 event celebrating 100 years of Amateur Radio in Alberta is scheduled for the last weekend of July (29-31).

**Ed Richardson, VE4VT, Director Mid-West**

1. Attended several local group online meetings to provide a RAC attendance.
2. Canadian Prairie QSO Party Occurred May 14. We had at least 38 in-province participants. More details on the webpage [www.cpgp.ve6hams.ca](http://www.cpgp.ve6hams.ca)
3. The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club ham fest with flea market and technical presentations is scheduled for Sunday June 5. The Brandon Amateur radio group is hosting an event on Aug 13 in Austin Manitoba.
4. The local ARES group is still a very integral part of the local weather office operation especially during the summer storm season.
5. Several MB ARES groups have been involved in the flood operations in southern Manitoba this spring. Their respective reports being submitted for TCA will provide more details.

**Guy Richard, VE2XTD, Director Quebec**

. Since our last Board, the RAQI affiliation agreement with RAC was signed on March 30.

Already concrete actions have been taken. As for the payment to RAC for the sale of online amateur radio courses outside Québec and part of the IARU dues, payment should reach RAC in the coming days.

With preparations for the RAQI AGM keeping busy, registration of RAQI member clubs to RAC will take place as soon as possible.

With the end of sanitary measures, the resumption of Ham fest has started significantly over the past month and others are to be announced shortly.

**Al Penney, VO1N), Director Atlantic.**

Most pandemic restrictions in the Atlantic Provinces have been lifted, and club activities are resuming. Most clubs already have, or soon will, resume in-person meetings. Ham fests, Field Day outings and other gatherings are being scheduled.

I represented RAC at the recent Symposium for Maritime Amateur Radio Technicians (SMART). People generally seem satisfied with the path that RAC is taking. I presented the family of Jack Leahy VE1ZZ with his CARHOF plaque at the 18 May meeting of the Halifax ARC.

The latest RAC Online Basic Course is underway, with 136 students registered. To date, approximately 1380 candidates have taken the course. Registration for the next course will start in September.

Finally, operations by unlicensed / non-qualified fishers have been observed on the 2M band around PEI. Amateurs in the province are concerned, and would like ISED to take enforcement action.

**Keith Witney, VE7KW Director BC Yukon**

Keith Witney VE7KW attended the Maple Ridge ARC swap meet with a display table. This turned into the largest event held in BC in the past 10 years.

Keith Witney VE7KW attended The Surrey ARC ARDF meeting.

Keith Witney VE7KW attended the British Columbia Repeater Coordination Council AGM and gave a brief RAC update.

Keith Witney VE7KW gave a presentation to the Langley ARA.

**8. Officer Reports submitted follow:**

**Dave Goodwin, VE3KG, Regulatory Affairs Officer** – As indicated in his report he attended a meeting of the Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board (CARAB).

**Jason Tremblay, Community Services Director**

Beyond Can Warn event was held on May 18 and was a success. Jason to provide information on ACS Meeting with Phil and Al Boyd

**Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB, International Affairs Officer**

- With the COVID-19 variant cases continuously declining and general restrictions being relaxed in the Americas and Europe, there has been an increase in the number queries received by RAC from both domestic and international amateurs seeking information on operating either in Canada or abroad. I expect that these types of inquiries will continue to increase throughout 2022.

**Margaret Tidman, VA3VXN, Treasurer**

Margaret has been without power and therefore has to re-schedule the A & F meeting to a date and time after she has reviewed the material to be received from Adam.

9. **Date & Time of Next Meeting – July 21, 2022 – 7:30 PM EST.**

10. Adjournment

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm EDT on a motion made by Keith Witney, VE7KW and seconded by Ed Richardson, VE4VT. This motion was carried.**