



May 25, 2021

BC Amateur Radio Coordination Council
Attention: Ed Frazer VE7EF

Information Update for the British Columbia Amateur Radio Coordination Council (BCARCC) Annual General Meeting

Canadian Amateur Radio Satellite Rescued

In January of 2021 Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) actioned an urgent request to assist with the rescue of an amateur satellite named DESCENT operated by York University in Toronto. The earth station located at York University had failed and they had lost all communications with the satellite. With days left to rescue the mission, ISED received an urgent request to authorize an earth station located at the University of Alberta to attempt to regain communications with the satellite. ISED managed to process the authorization within hours and the team at the University of Alberta was able to establish communications with the satellite. Amateur radio satellites and frequencies are also coordinated with the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). Please see the following link for more information about this rescue: <https://www.ualberta.ca/folio/2021/02/u-of-a-satellite-team-pulls-off-space-rescue-mission-in-the-nick-of-time.html>

CPC-2-0-03 Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems

ISED recently concluded a consultation on proposed changes to CPC-2-0-03. The proposed changes included implementation of official language requirements for the public consultation process, updating references relating to environmental considerations and updating references to aeronautical safety responsibilities. Any changes adopted will be reflected in the next issue of this document. For more information regarding the proposed changes please see the website: <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf11666.html>

For all new installations or modifications to existing antenna support structures, amateur radio operators need to follow the consultation requirements in [CPC 2-0-03](#) unless specifically exempted. It is a good practice to consult with neighbours prior to erecting antennas and address any reasonable and relevant concerns.

Amateur radio operators with antenna support structures are required to follow, on an ongoing basis, the general requirements in section 7 of [CPC-2-0-03](#), including compliance to radio frequency exposure limits and radio frequency immunity criteria.

Amateur Radio Communications

ISED routinely hears concerns regarding amateur radio operators transmitting profane and obscene messages over amateur radio frequencies. Prohibitions regarding the use of obscene or profane language were removed from the Radiocommunication Regulations in 2011. As such, ISED does not normally investigate complaints in this area. However, ISED may investigate issues according to the over-all impact to the radio frequency spectrum and the applicable Radiocommunication Regulations, subject to priorities and resources available to

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the Department. Matters regarding alleged contravention of Federal or Civil law should be pursued through the appropriate Civil or Criminal court system.

Interference

ISED received several interference complaints from amateur radio operators regarding other amateur operators interrupting their communications or occupying a particular channel for an extended period of time. All amateur frequency bands are to be used on a shared no-interference, no-protection basis. If an interference issue or conflict arises, amateur operators should work with the parties involved to find a suitable solution to mitigate the interference. While ISED can provide advice on identifying sources of interference, ISED will not normally investigate interference complaints of this nature.

Callsigns

During the previous year, ISED received inquiries as to the number of callsigns an amateur radio operator may have issued. Current policies do not limit the number of 3 letter callsigns that can be issued to an amateur radio operator, however a fee is charged for all additional callsign requests beyond the first one. Each amateur radio operator may only have a single 2 letter callsign issued to them. For more information, refer to RIC-9 – Call Sign Policy and Special Event Prefixes : <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf02102.html>

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an update to the BCARCC on matters related to amateur radio. Please contact the amateur radio service centre or your local district office if you have any questions.

Kasun Somaratne
Spectrum Management Officer
VA7AGI

Contacts

Amateur Radio Service Centre
ic.spectrumamateur-spectreamateur.ic@canada.ca - 1-888-780-333
RIC-66 – Addresses and Telephone Numbers of District Office
<https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01742.html>

Bernie Ries - District Manager, Coastal District (Victoria)

Arthur Lo - District Manager, Coastal District (Surrey)

Russ Hamilton – District Manager, Coastal District (Surrey)

Mike Amyotte - District Manager, Interior BC and Yukon District (Kelowna)

Brad Davis - District Manager, Interior BC and Yukon District (Prince George)

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