



May 10, 2022

BC Amateur Radio Coordination Council
Attention: Ed Frazer VE7EF

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

Updated RIC-1 – Guide for Examiners Accredited to Conduct Examinations for Amateur Radio Operator Certificates

Radiocommunication Information Circular (RIC)-1 has been updated in March, 2022 to reflect the changes made to the [Radiocommunication Regulations](#), specifically the rescinded ISED examination fee for Amateur Radio Operator Certificates. Other editorial changes that were made to the current issue include the removal of all three annexes for simplification, and the conversion of annex A – Application for Accreditation and Examiner Attestation into an electronic form, which is now available on the [Amateur Radio Operator Certificate Services](#) website for easy access.

RIC-1 (Issue 7): <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01007.html>

Updated RIC-3 – Information on the Amateur Radio Service

RIC-3 has been updated in March 2022 to reflect the changes made to the [Radiocommunication Regulations](#), specifically the removal of certificates that are no longer issued by ISED.

RIC-3 (Issue 5): <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01008.html>

Amateur Radio Communications – Data Transmissions

ISED recognizes the amateur radio community's need for alternate emission modes to support advances in digital technology. One of these alternate modes which the department supports, includes transmitting data within the 5 MHz band as per operating provision C21 in [RBR-4](#). However, there are limitations to what an amateur operator can transmit within the amateur radio service. For instance, according to section 47(c) of the [Radiocommunication Regulations](#), a person who operates radio apparatus in the amateur radio service may only be engaged in communication that does not include the transmission of,

- (i) music,
- (ii) commercially recorded material,
- (iii) programming that originates from a broadcasting undertaking, or
- (iv) radiocommunications in support of industrial, business or professional activities.

This means that viewing internet content is permitted so long as there are no activities, such as streaming video, that could fall under one of the above listed activities. Sending and receiving email would be permitted, for example so long as it doesn't contravene 47(c)(iv); and radio



transmissions in the amateur service must remain open and interoperable and not contravene section 47 (b) of the Regulations.

Interference

ISED received several interference complaints involving amateur radio stations both causing and receiving interference. 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 identify the source of the interference and find a suitable solution to mitigate the interference. While ISED can provide advice on identifying sources of interference, ISED will not normally investigate interference to amateur radio operations. ISED may however, at its discretion, investigate complaints of interference.

Amateur radio repeater operators should periodically verify that the station's transmitting frequency is correct, the bandwidth is within operating limits and the station's cables, antenna and ground system are in good condition. For amateur radio repeaters located in difficult to access areas, it is advisable to implement a remote shutoff system in case it is found to cause interference.

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.

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Contacts

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RIC-66 – Addresses and Telephone Numbers of District Office
<https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01742.html>