

British Columbia Amateur Radio Coordination Council

President's Report – May 30, 2010, Annual General Meeting

Welcome to the 16th Annual General Meeting of the B.C. Amateur Radio Coordination Council, and thank you for attending. I also welcome the presence of representatives of Amateur Radio emergency communication groups, here to inform us about their concerns regarding assignment of simplex frequencies for inter-municipal emergency communication.

This report is going to sound very much like last year's report. Not a great deal has changed, for which we are fortunate. As usual, we have delegates here from many parts of the province, including Vancouver Island and the interior. I want to specially acknowledge those delegates who have travelled long distances to attend, and to show our appreciation for their dedication to this organization

We have not had any serious coordination issues to report during the past year. We are lucky to have such a dedicated group of coordinators who are able to resolve many issues themselves. With their help we have gained the respect of most of the amateur radio community. As a result, our advice and recommendations usually are accepted without dispute.

Based on our MOU with Industry Canada, and thanks to the continuing good cooperation we receive from the Regional and District offices, we are fortunate to have seen no reported cases of deliberate interference on our voice repeaters during the past year.

Although many people contribute to the success of BCARCC, once again I wish to specially thank Ed Frazer, our very efficient secretary; Brian Summers, who continues to amaze me with his ability to stay on top of the minutia of the treasurer's task; and George Merchant, the "Eveready Bunny" who serves us as chief coordinator. My thanks to those three, and to all the others of you who have contributed in various ways throughout the past year.

I did have the best of intentions regarding better communication with the members and directors this year, but I am sorry to say that I fell short of my goal. In particular, the role of the directors suffers when we do not get together as we should. There are some policy issues ahead of us, not the least of which is the issue of assigned use of simplex frequencies for inter-municipal emergency communications and associated exercises. You will hear more about that following the formal AGM, and I hope both member clubs through their delegates, and the directors, will consider the issues carefully and come to thoughtful decisions. And, of course, I hope the emergency groups involved will respect those decisions made in the best interests of the Amateur Radio community as a whole.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as the president of BCARCC during the past year.

Bill Tracey, VE7QQ
President