ATIKOKAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MEETING MINUTES
02 MAY2011

Meeting convened at 7:30 pm at VE3FYN's QTH.

Present: Warren VE3FYN, Vic VE3AKX, Paul VA3JSV, Cliff VA3CEP, Chris VA3UOD, Nick VE3SEF, Lucas VE3LKP

1. VE3AKX reported that there may be an opportunity for the Atikokan and Lakehead clubs to provide communications and APRS for a planned bike race in NWO being planned by Larry Hebert.
2. VE3FYN will contact Fire Chief Garth Dyck regarding our location at Town Hall.
3. VA3UOD reported that he has a Windows XP operating system for the VA3EOA station computer. VE3FYN will assemble computer components for VA3UOD to setup a new computer.
4. Weekly nets will resume Monday on the VE3RIB repeater at 7:30 pm local.
    a. See the net manual online: http://www.ve3fyn.ca/ve3rib/AARCweeklynets.pdf
    b. VE3FYN will be net control initially, and will call for volunteers for future nets.
    c. VE3FYN and VE3AKX will draft a constitution shortly.
5. VE3FYN demonstrated APRS and its uses.
    a. Some notes are attached.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

APRS INFORMATION

FREQUENCIES

- North American APRS frequency is 144.390

UI-VIEW

- This is the software for sending and receiving APRS beacons and messages on your computer.
- A radio connected to your computer is an asset, but not required.
- Download 32full203.exe from www.ui-view.org.
- Register at: http://www.apritch.myby.co.uk/uiv32_uiview32.php?lang=english

APRS.FI

- www.aprs.fi
- Allows you (and unlicensed people) to view APRS activity by callsign or area.
- Allows you to track a person's movement over time.
- Saves beacon data for later retrieval.

APRS HANDHELD RADIOS

- Yaesu VX8-GR, with built-in GPS, about $395 (durable, water resistant)
- Yaesu VX8-DR, with optional external modem, about $460 (durable, waterproof)
- Kenwood THD72a, with built-in GPS, about $530 (most features, larger than the Yaesu)

APRS MOBILE RADIOS

- Yaesu FTM350AR, about $580
- Kenwood D710, about $590

OTHER APRS HARDWARE OPTIONS

- Tiny Trak: www.byonics.com
  - TinyTrak4 with GPS, display, keyboard socket, about $190 plus a radio
- TNC-x plus Tracker add-on board: about $80 plus a GPS and radio