Summary

Established in November of 2010, the purpose of the weekly Atikokan Amateur Radio Club (AARC) VHF net is to:

- Create and maintain a sense of community among AARC members,
- Encourage members to get on the air,
- Enable members to learn and practice net procedures,
- Allow members to share radio-related information,
- Allow the club executive to pass information and reminders to members.

Net Times and Frequency

The net will convene every Monday at 7:30 pm, except those Mondays when a club meeting is scheduled (typically the first Monday of each Month).

The net convenes on the VE3RIB repeater, 147.120 +.

Net Control

Ideally, net control will rotate among club members. The purpose of this is to allow all members to learn and practice effective net control practices. Net control operators for the month will be determined at each regular club meeting, and published on the club website www.ve3rib.ca.Where necessary, net control operators will be determined at the end of a net.

It is the responsibility of the net control operator of a given week to ensure that a net control operator has been selected for the following week.

If the assigned net control operator has not started the net by five minutes past the designated hour, then any member on frequency may start the net.

The net is deliberately informal, but should have enough structure to familiarize operators with general net procedures.

During the net, the net control operator will drop the IRLP link, for two reasons:

- To free the other stations from listening to our chatter,
- To enable net control operators to practice controlling the repeater.

For the safety of travelers near Upsala, the link to VE3UPP will not be dropped.

Net Procedures

7:25   **Net Control will ID and state that the net will begin in five minutes:**
         "This is VE3XYZ. The Atikokan Amateur Radio Club net will begin in five minutes."

7:30   **Net Control will ID and disconnect from IRLP Reflector 9002.**
"This is VE3XYX disconnecting from the IRLP Reflector."
Key '73' to drop the link[i]. The repeater will echo: "Reflector 9002 link clear."

Net Control will initiate the net with the following preamble:
"This is VE3XXX, net control for the weekly Atikokan Amateur Radio Club Net. The purpose of this net is to enable Atikokan amateurs to get on the air, share information, and to practice effective net procedures. While this net is intended primarily for Atikokan Amateur Radio Club members, any other amateurs on frequency are welcome to check-in."

"We will pause now for anyone requiring the repeater for emergency purposes."

Net Control will now take check-ins for the net.
"Does anyone wish to check-in and leave early, please call now."
Anyone wishing to leave early should check-in by stating their callsign. Net control will acknowledge any such check-ins and thank them.

"We will now take general check-ins. Callsigns only please."
Anyone wishing to check-in should state their full callsign, which net control will record.

Once people have given their callsigns, Net control should acknowledge them by reading back the callsigns that have been recorded. Net control should then make further calls for check-ins until there are no further check-ins.

Net Control will now take information from check-ins.
Net control will cycle through the check-ins asking each if they have any traffic for the net.

"VE3ABC, do you have any traffic for the net?"
"VE3XYZ this is VE3ABC. Good evening. I have no traffic for the net tonight."
"OK, thank you for checking-in tonight. VE3DEF do you have any traffic for the net?"

The net will proceed as above. If there is traffic for net, net control will respond accordingly. Likewise, if two participants need to interact *briefly*, net control should call for the two to talk, then return control to net control. Extended interactions by a small group should be left until after the net.

End   **Net Control will end the net.**

"That concludes our net for this evening. Our Net Control Operator next Monday will be VE3GHI. (Or, do we have any volunteers to act as Net Control next Monday?) I will now reconnect to the IRLP reflector, after which the repeater will be open for general traffic.

Key '9002' to link to Reflector 9002[ii]. The repeater will echo: "Welcome to the Vancouver Reflector Channel two."

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[i] Press the PTT button on your handheld radio or microphone, then, while holding it, press 7 3.
[ii] Press the PTT button on your handheld radio or microphone, then, while holding it, press 9 0 0 2.