



Bulkley Valley Amateur Radio Society

Affiliated with Radio Amateurs of Canada

Amateur Radio Service Basic-Level Certification

The Bulkley Valley Amateur Radio Society (BVARs) is offering a course for anyone wishing to obtain their Basic Level (or Basic Level with Honours) Amateur (aka "Ham") Radio Certification from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED, [Info document](#)). There is no minimum age or other restriction. **There will be a fee of \$20**, which includes the multiple-choice exam (ISED accredited examiner) and a 2018 membership in the BVARs. **The fee will be waived for members of emergency response organizations (e.g., Search and Rescue, Emergency Social Services, Fire, etc.). Note that the Amateur Service Certificate does not authorize radio use outside Amateur Service frequencies and uses.** The Amateur Service does, however, provide a sophisticated supplemental volunteer communications service to emergency response authorities and NGOs and radio-related technical expertise.

The classes will be held over two weekends: February 24,25 and March 10,11 (09:30 to 16:00) with some additional self-study. Classes will focus on exam topics, but with additional demonstrations and practical 'tips'. If there is sufficient interest, we will consider an option for attending the classes on-line for those for whom attendance in person is infeasible. The final class session will include the ISED exam (100 multiple choice questions), although other exam sessions (including a free re-take) and further mentoring will be scheduled if needed. If you are interested in trying a practice exam or viewing the entire question bank, go to [ISED web site](#), or the Radio Amateurs of Canada [ExHammer](#) tool is very useful (includes explanation of answers and tracking of results).

The course will include hand-outs covering all exam topics. Students may wish, at their own expense, to do additional self-study with either of the well-known manuals or on-line courses (<http://wp.rac.ca/study-guides-2/>). Typically, students with little or no radio background require 20-30 hours of study to be successful.

The Basic level certification allows operation (for authorized non-commercial purposes) on all amateur modes/bands in the VHF and higher frequency allocations, including the hill-top voice and data repeater system maintained by the BVARs and other amateur groups. Basic with Honours (an exam score of 80% or greater) also allows operation on High Frequency ('short-wave') bands and modes. While our main target audience are those interested in radio communications and electronics for hobby purposes as well as public service, we welcome anyone interested in radio communications generally or seeking better understanding of radio systems and the capabilities of the Amateur Service.

INFORMATION/REGISTRATION: Email ve7rbh@rac.ca or phone 250-847-4469 prior to Monday February 12th, 2018. Class-room sessions will be held at the SAR Hall, Basement of Ranger Park Bldg., Smithers.