Vancouver FIR

2026 Q3 Staff Meeting

Meeting minutes | Public Release

Opening

Basile opened the meeting on 29th of October 2026 at 03:20 (zulu) on the Vatcan Teamspeak. ZVR3 is taking notes and presiding in the absence of ZVR1 and ZVR2.

Attendance:

Present: ZVR3 - Basile Papillon; ZVR4 - Sean Davis; ZVR5 - Adam Krichbaum, ZVR6 - Spencer Parkinson; ZVR7 - Bill While.

Late: ZVR1 - Joshua Jenkins.

Regretted: ZVR2 - Alessio Orlando; ZVR8 - Joline Kapferer.

Facility Engineer: Sean

- Ops updates are coming out on time.
- Sean is always open for suggestions to improve the current sectorfiles setup.
    - Basile's suggestion on a timer plugin has been developed. It is now ready for testing and should be out in the next AIRAC if nothing major comes up.

Webmaster: Spencer

- Spencer has ideas for updates concerning quality of life improvements, but is waiting on a meeting with Alex.
- [Redacted] Discussion regarding the possibility of formation of a new Web Team. Further discussions to be had after the creation of an official job description by the current Webmaster.

Event Coordinator: Adam

- Worldflight is around the corner. Even if it's at an unusual time, staffing doesn't appear to be too short.
- New event coming on November 7th with ZEG. The format is the following: One way CYEG -> CYVR, 3hs, themed on a hockey game between the two cities happening on that day. Negotiations on timing have proven themselves tedious.
    - If this edition is a success, other similar events could be organised with both Edmonton and Calgary.
- Beside these two events, nothing is set in stone due to difficult cross FIR communications. Adam reinstates the common concern of low turnout during recent events, both on pilots and controllers side. Adam notices the trend is felt in VAs and other affiliate organisations as well, but is hopeful for the rest of the calendar.
- Event Team: Adam has received a request from a potential new Team member which he declined. He is however reconsidering the offer, given the general lack of activity both on the network and within the Event Team.

    - Basile suggests defining hard deadlines for every job so nothing falls into the cracks and last minute preparation is avoided.
    - Basile suggests assigning specific jobs to specific members of the team so nobody is left behind doing nothing.
    - [Redacted] Basile suggests Adam to host an Event Team meeting to explain all sides of the job quickly to every member so members are more versatile.

Chief Instructor: Basile

- SOPs have been completed for more than a month and have been quite well received.
- Basile explained the waittime of the waitlist increase by recent instructors' partial resignations ([Redacted]) as well as general down in instructors' availability.
- Basile emphasized that online presence is usually driven by new students and students working on their rating. Basile noted how more instructors' availability as well as general staff presence would be beneficial to bring back FIR's activity on the network.
- Basile hasn't been so available recently, but will start again on instructing and working on the CI agenda.
    - Radar sweatboxes are next, followed by local sweatboxes.
        - [Redacted]

Assistant Chief Instructor: Bill

- Real life commitment will most likely make Bill less available after March 2027, but is interested to stay in the team until then.
- Bill has worked on CBTs recently and is almost ready to present CYYJ and CYVR local ones.
    - Basile will review the work in the following weeks.

FIR Chief: Josh

- vATIS has been updated. Some real life NOTAMs are now being displayed automatically.
    - Josh is opened for public feedback concerning extending the automatic NOTAMs with runways and approaches assignment.
- Much of Josh's work has been focused on back and forth talks between ZVR and Vatcan HQ.
- Controller bookings should be due to be reviewed.
    - Basile suggests reducing the booking restriction to 1h prior to the booking instead of 4hs.
        - Josh likes the idea and is interested in the feasibility of having the bot check if a position is staffed before a booking within a certain time. The bot would then block the booking to avoid controllers kicking eachother out.
- Activity wise, Vatcan was one of two AMAS divisions who noted an increase in activity for Q3. However, Josh notes an overall down in ZVR's activity.
    - Josh reminds that controller activity is partially driven by Staff and Exec's own

presence on the network and encourages other staff to be more online. “If you staff it they will come!”

Miscellaneous

- Basile suggests officializing an every-other-quarter staff meeting.
    - Josh and Basile agree on trying to have an Exec meeting every quarter and a staff meeting every other quarter. Next meeting planned for February or March.
- Spencer suggests an Event Team meeting, Adam agrees and will reach out to the team.

Closing

- Next meeting planned for February or March.
- Basile and Josh thank every staff member for their attendance and the prompt meeting. They close the meeting at 04:19z.

Approval

- Minutes submitted by: ZVR3 - Basile Papillon
- Minutes approved by: ZVR1 - Josh Jenkins