• TCC Mandate
• Participation
• Recent Changes
• BTAC Vs. RABC
• Current Activities
• Future Issues
TCC Mandate

- Make your job easier
- The mandate is to assist private broadcasters in technical and engineering dealings with government, standard-setting bodies and like-minded associations.
- Provide timely information concerning technological and regulatory developments.
- Liaison with Canada’s regional broadcast engineering associations (CCBE and WABE).
Participation

- All TCC activities are coordinated through the Main Committee and/or the Radio/TV subcommittees, depending upon the issue.
- TV Subcommittee is chaired by Bruce Cowan of Corus Entertainment
- Radio Subcommittee is chaired by Wally Lennox of Bell Media
- Participation is open to all CAB members
Recent Changes

- Industry Canada dissolved the Broadcasting Technical Advisory Committee after its last meeting in October 2013.
- Industry Canada activities are now coordinated through the Broadcasting Committee of the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC).
- The CAB is an active member of the RABC.
- I am also the Chair of the RABC Broadcasting Committee.
• BTAC provided an open dialogue between the Department, broadcasters and engineering consultants.
• The process is now more formalized through RABC.
• But, RABC is also a unique and efficient vehicle to liaise with IC compared to other countries.
• RABC is an association of associations.
• Funded through membership fees plus an annual government grant.
Current Activities

- CRTC Radio Review
- BPR-1
- BETS-7
- Health Canada Safety Code 6
- Emergency Alerting
- White Space Devices
- C Band Satellite Interference
- Tower Lighting & Standard 621
- Tower Siting Requirements
- National Radio Systems Committee (US)
BNC 2013-572; policy review included two technical issues;

- Conversion of low power unprotected stations to protected status,
  - TCC recommended that CRTC should only consider if affected broadcasters in same or adjacent markets are given opportunity to file competing applications
- Possible use of HD Radio technology in Canada
  - TCC advised that hybrid HD Radio on AM and FM bands should be permitted on a voluntary, not mandatory basis.
  - TCC responded to technical questions posed by CRTC
  - A supporting report, “Practical Considerations to Implement HD Radio in Canada” was submitted
- TCC also supplied comments supporting use of nested FM repeaters for AM stations
• Broadcast Procedures and Rules, Part I, General Rules
• Updated to align with pending Health Canada revision of SC6
• Section 8 deals with the prediction, analysis and assessment of exposure to RF energy
• AM; new methodology to predict required distance from AM towers.
• TCC, through the RABC Working Group provided input to all sections of the document.
BETS-7

• Broadcast Equipment Technical Standard 7 “Technical Standards and Requirements for Radio Apparatus Capable of Receiving Television Broadcasting”
• TB-1 “Information Relating to the Regulation of Radio Apparatus Capable of Receiving Television Broadcasting
• Input was provided via a Working Group of the RABC Broadcasting Committee
• The current draft incorporates the TCC recommendations that all receivers with displays must include both analog and digital reception, and mobile digital television is out of scope
• A new “cable compatible” definition aligns with FCC rules
Safety Code 6

• Health Canada: “Limits of Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Energy in the Frequency Range From 3 kHz to 300 GHz – Safety Code 6”
• Last updated in 2009
• Last year, substantial effort and cost to analyze all sites to meet anticipated 2013 levels
• Health Canada asked the Royal Society to review and initiated a public consultation.
• HC may adopt the revised 2014 levels this Fall, and broadcasters will be required to comply immediately.
• Industry Canada will then publish an update to GL-01
Emergency Alerting

• CRTC Broadcasting Regulatory Policy 2014-444
• TCC Working Group established to;
  – Identify and correct technical and operational issues for
    the successful deployment, distribution, broadcast and
    testing of emergency alerts
  – Share information and solutions with CAB members
  – Liaise with Environment Canada and other alerting
    agencies as needed
  – Collaborate with equipment manufacturers to ensure
    workable solutions
  – Contribute to Common Look and Feel Guideline update
White Space Devices

- Track 1; WSD equipment standards,
  - New RSS-222
- Track 2; WSD separation distances, TV protection criteria and coordination
- Track 3; WSD database administration procedures
- Track 4; Rules for interference protection from WSD for licence-exempt Low Power Apparatus
  - Updated Client Procedure Circulars (CPC) and RSS
- IC expected to publish documents this Fall.
- Target deployment in early 2015.
C Band Satellite Interference

- Industry Canada consultation on 3500 MHz; DGSO-003-14
- Proposes to add “mobile” as co-primary in band 3475-3650 MHz to Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations
- Studies show potential interference to C Band satellite reception in 3700-4200 MHz
- C Band is heavily used for TV and Radio distribution and program acquisition
- TCC indicated its disapproval with comments to Industry Canada as part of the RABC response to the consultation
- Waiting for Industry Canada response
• New “Aeronautical Assessment Form for Obstruction Marking and Lighting”
• Standard 621; Obstruction Marking and Lighting
  – Section 4.7 requires that tower lighting is monitored
    • Visually every 24 hours on all operating intensities, or
    • Automatic monitoring system: For remote monitoring, communication status and operational status of lighting is confirmed every 24 hours
  – All sections now being updated
Tower Siting

• CPC-2-0-03 Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems

• Process Requirements;
  – Investigating Sharing or using existing infrastructure
  – Contacting the local Land Use Authority
  – Public notification and addressing relevant concerns
  – Satisfying Industry Canada requirements
  – Completing construction

• Exclusions;
  – New antenna systems less than 15 m. in height
  – Change to existing antenna systems; height increase < 25%
  – Temporary antenna systems
• MDCL; Modulation Dependent Carrier Level
  – Evaluating IBOC compatibility
• FM Multiplex Task Group
  – Single Side Band stereo evaluation
• RBDS Usage Guidelines;
  – New version G-300B includes security recommendations
  – Work starting on version C; PI codes for translators, RBDS emergency alerting, RBDS/SCMO crosstalk
Future Issues

• Emergency Alerting Working Group
• White Space Devices
• HD Radio
• MDCL
• BPR Updates
• Transport Canada Standard 621
Thank you!