

2018-07-06

Meeting With Honourable Senator Lucille C. Moe.

Hello All Club Radio Members and Friends,

I hope all is well with everyone. I made a request on Thursday 28th of June to meet with The Honourable Senator Lucille C. Moe.

The very next morning, I received a call directly from The Honourable Senator Lucille C. Moe, requesting a meeting that said day.

We made arrangements to meet at a specific time, after which I invited Mr. Randy Chandler 8P6PZ to attend the meeting also.

The Honourable Senator Lucille C. Moe and The Director of Public Affairs, Ms. Patricia Parris met with us for what I would call an extremely productive, informative and friendly meeting which lasted for almost 3 hours.

I must say that despite my prior knowledge about Senator Lucille C. Moe's involvement in Communication, I was immensely impressed about her vast expertise in the communication field.

This made it perfect for the aspects of what we had planned for our agenda, since she could have directly relate to what we wished to express.

Mr. Chandler and I brought to her attention a number of items, including my intention to build and commission a new Amateur Radio Repeating Station and EchoLink/IRLP in Barbados, ideas regarding enhancement of emergency communication, challenges facing the growth of Amateur Radio in Barbados, our plans for the future and how we can better help in any way she sees fit and productive within the Amateur Radio Service and the BCBRA's Emergency Service.

The key points Mr. Chandler and I expressed were well illustrated and acknowledged by The Honourable Senator Lucille C. Moe. She took three pages of notes personally, which is quite admirable and which further reinforces the fact that she has seriously taken what we expressed.

I brought to her attention the time it has taken for the amendment of the Amateur Radio Examination Regulations to be read in Parliament and asked for her assistance to have the submission put into effect.

The Honorable Senator Lucille C. Moe has graciously agreed to look into this, so that it can be expedited for the benefit of the certification of Amateur Radio Candidates locally.

I am quite sure that Peter Cross WOSA, will be pleased to see his efforts pay off with regards to the draft he prepared regarding this.

Mr. Chandler expressed a few issues which affects the BCBRA and their Emergency Communication Operations.

He made mention of the fact, that the new Traffic Act which has outlawed the use of any hand held devices while driving, severely affects their ability to communicate, conduct and render assistance during times at which they are mobile.

One such example is during marathons, when they will have to either drive behind or alongside the race while reporting any emergencies.

He also spoke about two submissions regarding the BCBRA vehicle identification stickers, awaiting written approval from the Ministry. He was given a verbal approval but wishes that he receives a written approval regarding this.

This will validate their purpose and also serves as their Emergency Identification for their vehicles. This will ensure that the Police and other Security officials recognize them officially as Emergency Facilitators, giving them the means and access to conduct their operations without any restrictions.

I will post updates on my website as we progress forward, I am extremely confident that we will be successful with all the plans we have and the aspects which were outlined during our meeting.

I would like to say a special thanks to The Honourable Senator Lucille C. Moe and The Director of Public Affairs, Ms. Patricia Parris for facilitating the meeting, their willingness to meet and assist us.

73 to all and do keep the airwaves active with RF.

Raphael Ivan Ready.

VA3RIR/8P6RR