

Vancouver FIR Town Hall Meeting Minutes

Held on: 2024-09-21



1.0 Opening and attendances

Opened at 1815z. Present staff were the following:

- Joshua Jenkins ZVR1
- Rocky Bozark ZVR2
- Isaac Zhang ZVR3
- Basile Papillon ZVR5

2.0 FIR Review (ZVR1):

Traffic comparison to last year has seen an overall decrease. Why? Main reason: less staffing. “Staff it and they will come” ... less staffing, less traffic. Overall increase in traffic, but not proportional to the network wise increase.

Refer to appendix a1.0 for various statistics.

3.0 Sam FE ZVR4:

Here are the items worked on at the moment:

- A new interactive CYVR Terminal map featuring all airspace variations. Sections could be toggled to facilitate the comprehension.
- New VFR procedures for CYVR Terminal.

Staff Team is looking to encourage the use of Vatcan SITU plugin and is considering to eventually make it the default scope for controlling in the FIR.

4.0 Alex WM ZVR6 and the Web Team:

Welcome to Alex in the staff team!

Here are the items worked on by the Team at the moment:

- A V2 of the CZVR Controller Plugin v2. Planned to be adding, but not restricted to, the following features: NOTAMs, taxiway restrictions and closures.
- A controller booking system hosted on the website where controllers could book some ATC positions during non-event times on. A page to display bookings would also be implemented.
- A completely new training portal with, but not restricted to, the following features: checklist for each training step, consolidation hours system, training notes, calendar & instructing sessions, view for student.
- And more!

5.0 Basile EC ZVR5 and the Event Team:

What are events? Events are a selected time and location where pilots and controllers sign on to experience busier environment than usual. For controllers, events are a great opportunity to training under different conditions with busy airspaces, extensive coordination & planning and special procedures. Everyone is welcome to participate. West Coast Weekends are a great start.

The decision on West Coast Weekends' new time will be revealed soon. Stay tuned. **Edit: West Coast Weekends will be hosted starting at 0100z (18PST/21EST).**

Refer to appendix a3.0 for event calendar.

6.0 Isaac IC ZVR3 and the Training Team:

Thanked instructors and mentors for their continued support.

Thanked students for their patience in the waitlist and training process.

The Training Team is looking to involve mentors in training sessions. They would, for example, manipulate aircrafts during sweatbox sessions to facilitate the session's flow. Senior mentors could also potentially help with the visiting controllers' training.

Looking to create a ZVR Cheat Sheet with various practical information for controlling in the FIR.

Refer to appendix a2.0 for various statistics.

7.0 Josh FC ZVR1 and Rocky DC ZVR2:

Here are the items worked on by the Team at the moment:

- Various Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) updates including, but not limited to, Terminal and Center.
- Various new exams for the Training Team including, but not limited to, an instructor and mentor knowledge check to be taken every year.
- New CYVR Arrivals Computer Based Training (CBT)

A new FSS training day is being planned to train interested controllers to the position. Stay tuned.

Tips of the Week are planned to be continued, but more like every month. Staff more than welcomes suggestions.

7.1 Reminders

- Don't hesitate to contact your instructors for sessions, go ahead and contact them
- Long connections are permitted. However, after 4h, controllers should send an @atc_online ping to notify they can be replaced.

- Team Speak (TS) etiquette: In lounge channels like *Lion's Gate*, controllers are not required to monitor all other controllers in the voice chat. However, in other special channels reserved to a certain position like *Vancouver Arrivals*, they should always monitor all other controllers present.
- Reminders on Vatsim Code of Conduct (CoC) (summarized):
 - o A1: Courteous and respectful to one another (on the network and on discord)
 - o A17: Re-creation of real-life events + restricted callsigns.
 - o B3(b): Connection should not be unattended more than 30 min.
 - o B6: If you have an emergency, you have no priority on other pilots on the network. 7500 squawk is banned.
 - o B8: Don't hesitate to use wallop, but only use it if necessary.
 - o C1: Make sure you are familiar with what you are controlling/piloting before signing on.
 - o C5: Positions are on a "first come" basis, beside training sessions and events.
- Vancouver FIR Discord server, TS and others fall under the Vatsim CoC. If the said policies are not followed, CZVR Staff will have to take action on the situations possibly resulting in suspensions or bans from the FIR. See A1.

8.0 Appendixes

a1.0 Various FIR statistics

CZVR CONTROLLER STATS - Year to Date*				
2024 Stats				
Position (CYVR)	Hours	Up Time (%)		
CZVR CTR	866	13.71		
TWR	603	9.54		
GND	320	5.08		
APP + DEP	334	4.82		
DEL	65	1.04		
LCL (combined)	988	15.66		
2023 Stats				
Position (CYVR)	Hours	Up Time (%)		
CTR	1044	16.62		
TER	643	10.24		
twr	527	8.4		
gnd	393	6.25		
del	135	2.15		
LCL (combined)	1055	16.8		
OTS Stats				
2023	11	11		
2024	10	7		

CZVR CONTROLLER STATS - Year to Date*				
Total hours				
Year	Hours	Uptime (%)	Notes	
2024	2612	56.64	36% drop in activity	
2023	3988	63.53		
CYVR Hours				
2024	2188	49.85	20% drop in activity at cyvr	
2023	2742	43.66		
CYVJ Hours				
2024	240		78% drop in activity at CYVJ	
2023	1074			
CYLW Hours				
2024	184	2.94		
2023	172	2.76		

*2023 & 2024 stats are from Jan 1 to Sep 19 of their respective year

CZVR PILOT STATS - Year to Date*							
CYVR Stats							
Year	Departures	Arrivals	Total	Movements per Hour	Movements per Day	Rank	Notes
2024	7881	6256	14137	3.4	54.2	68	14% increase in traffic
2023	6714	5492	12206	2.9	46.8	66	
CYVJ Stats							
Year	Departures	Arrivals	Total	Movements per Hour	Movements per Day	Rank	Notes
2024	790	721	1511	0.4	5.8	-	20% decrease in traffic
2023	1085	823	1908	0.5	7.3	-	
CYLW Stats							
Year	Departures	Arrivals	Total	Movements per Hour	Movements per Day	Rank	Notes
2024	1111	1074	2185	0.5	8.4	-	
2023	1105	1096	2201	0.5	8.4	-	

a2.0 CZVR Training statistics

CZVR TRAINING STATS								
Students on Waitlist	S1 Trainees	S2 Trainees	S3 Trainees	C1 Trainees	Instructors	Mentors	Active Students & Controllers	Active Visitors
23	5	9	5	2	6	10	32	14

a3.0 Event Calendar for the end of 2024

September

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 WCW	2	3 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	4	5	6	7
8 WCW	9	10 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	11	12	13	14
15 WCW	16	17 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	18	19	20	21
22 SUPER WCW	23	24 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	25	26	27 ZLC FNO	28
29 WCW	30					

October

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	2	3	4	5
6 WCW	7	8 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	9	10	11	12
13 WCW	14	15 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	16	17	18	19
20 Thanksgiving in Paradise (PHNL to CYVR)	21	22 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	23	24	25	26
27 Westjet Link Celebration (WJL to CYVR)	28	29 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	30	31		

November

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 WCW	4	5 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	6	7	8	9
10 WCW	11	12 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	13	14	15	16
17 WCW	18	19 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	20	21	22	23 KSLC to CYVR?
24 WCW	25	26 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	27	28	29	30

December

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 WCW	2	3 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	4	5	6	7 Event?
8 WCW	9	10 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	11	12	13	14
15 WCW	16	17 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	18	19	20	21 Ending the Year in Paradise (West Coast to Honolulu)
22 WCW	23	24 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)	25	26	27	28
29 WCW	30	31 Northern Lights (ZEG) Tracon Tuesdays (ZSE)				

Future plans

- Tokyo?
- CTP
- ZVR LIVE?
- 24hs of Vatsim
- SFO/LA?
- Others?
- YYZ/YUL?
- ZVR Real Ops?