

QcPOTA 2021



What is QcPOTA?

- Amateur Radio operating event from April 1 until December 31 2021, in commemoration of RAQI's 70th anniversary
- Purpose:
 - to 'draw attention to the importance of protecting nature, and to encourage the development of radio skills, especially in portable operations'.
 - The event encourages amateur radio operators to "activate" (operate portable from) designated parks in Quebec, and in turn generate attention for these areas, whilst providing the amateur radio community an interesting and rewarding activity.
- Hams around the world are invited to activated parks and will qualify for QcPOTA "chaser" awards.
- QcPOTA-eligible parks also qualify for the international POTA program
 - QcPOTA-to-POTA park designator cross-reference list is available on the wiarc.ca website file downloads area <https://wiarc.ca/document-archive/>

Eligible Parks

- There are 231 eligible parks:
 - 41 SEPAQ-operated Quebec National Parks
 - 190 regional parks
- List of all eligible parks (incl. many in Montreal Area) can be found at <https://www.qsl.net/v/ve2pij//quebec/qcpota.ca/parks-lookup/parks-sites/index.html>

Park #	Type	Name and address of parks
QC001	NP	Parc National d'Aiguebelle - 2373 Rang Hudon, Rouyn-Noranda, QC J0Z 2Y0
QC002	NP	Parc National d'Anticosti - Route de l'île d'Anticosti
QC003	NP	Parc National du Bic - 3382 Rte 132 O, Le Bic, Quebec G0L 1B0 + 30 Route du Cap à l'Original, Saint-Fabien, QC G0L 2Z0
QC004	NP	Parc National du Fjord-du-Saguenay - 91 Rue Notre Dame, Rivière-Éternité, QC G0V 1P0
QC005	NP	Parc National De Frontenac - 177 Route du Parc-de-Frontenac, Adstock, QC G0N 1S0
QC006	NP	Parc National de la Gaspésie - Route du Parc de la Gaspésie, Cap-au-Renard, QC G0E 1C0



A Few of the Rules

- Full rules at:
<https://www.qsl.net/v/ve2pij//quebec/qcpota.ca/rules/index.html>
- QSOs (simplex contacts) made on **all** Amateur Radio bands and modes are permitted.
 - Cross-band QSOs, QSOs made through remote stations, repeaters, digipeaters, Echolink, or IRLP will not count
 - Exceptions: QSOs through the recognized Amateur Radio satellites, the International Space Station and EME are eligible
- Chasers may work any park once on each of the 3 modes (CW, PHONE, DATA), on each band for QcPOTA credit.
- The exchange is RST plus the Quebec parks identifier (e.g. “QC001”).

- Valid Park Activation

- Portable and mobile operations are permitted
- The Activator and all components of the Activator's station must be physically present on the property of the claimed park
 - If that's impossible, within 100 yards/meters of the gate, trail or site is acceptable
 - Activations from parking lots, visitor centres and other park property are acceptable.
- The Activator must make a minimum of **ten (10)** QSOs during their activation.
 - If the Activator fails to make the required 10 QSOs for a valid activation, any QSOs made will still count for the Chaser stations that worked the Activator.
- Activators must upload their logs to the QcPOTA web site as soon as practical.
 - Chasers are not required to submit their logs
 - All logs to be submitted no later than January 31, 2022.
- DX cluster spots and web page listings of activations is permitted.
- Each UTC date is considered a separate activation attempt for a give park
- Activators should secure documentation to verify the operation did indeed take place at the claimed park an date, such as:
 - Photo of the Activator in front of the park's main sign or distinguishing landmark.
 - Image of GPS latitude/longitude coordinates.
 - Park receipt.

- Miscellaneous Rules:

- Park entrance fees are the responsibility of the Activator
- Activators must present themselves to park officials (if available) and explain their activities.
 - Printable Introduction to Park Staff letters are available on the QcPOTA web site.
- Obey all park rules (e.g. do not touch trees or leave traces)
- Activator QSOs made with a club call sign count for the club and for the operator
 - WIARC MEMBERS TAKE NOTE:
 - You may activate a QcPOTA Park the the VE2CWI call sign, with permission from the club
 - All COVID-19 public health regulations, park rules and amateur regulations must be followed
 - Contact Tino VE2GCE at secretary@wiarc.ca for written permission to use VE2CWI on a specific date
 - Contact webmaster@wiarc.ca to advertise your activation on the club website
 - See Awards section below for WIARC Activator Award

- QcPOTA/POTA Combined Activation

- Why not kill two birds with one stone by advertising your activation on www.pota.us? This will attract many more chasers.
 - Register with <http://parksontheair.com>
 - add the POTA number as part of your exchange? Ex. 59 QcPOTA #QC001, POTA #VE-0491
 - Then upload your activation log to k2@parksontheair.com

Certificates Available (for downloading and printing):

1. QcPOTA Activator Award

- Any Amateur who makes a minimum of one accredited operation from a park. The total number of qualified activations will be printed directly on the certificate.

2. QcPOTA Chaser Award

- Any amateur registered with QcPOTA who makes QSOs with activators. The total number of parks contacted will be printed on the certificate

3. QcPOTA “Five Star Activator”:

- Activators who a minimum of **five** items on the Five Star Activator list and provide documentation (photos, video, electronic media, etc) of those activities to RAQI upon request. Five Star Activator actions include:
 - Public Information Table**
 - Youth/Scouting Involvement:** Activate a park with a youth group or Scouting program.
 - Radio E-Message:** Transmit at least one electronic message via Amateur Radio to a third party. Any digital messaging format may be used to earn this bonus. The message must leave the park via RF on an Amateur Radio frequency.
 - Digital Modes:** Demonstrate Amateur Radio using any of the digital modes available to radio amateurs to an audience of at least one person not familiar with the digital modes.
 - Satellite Contact:** Make a minimum of one QSO through an Amateur Radio satellite or the ISS. QSOs must be between two Earth stations.
 - Green Power:** Make a successful Activation using solar, wind, water or non-fossil fuel power. Includes batteries charged using “green” power.
 - Battery Power:** Make a successful Activation using battery power. Batteries may be charged using commercial mains.
 - Social Media:** Promote your activation, post video or photographs of your activation on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or any other social media platform (not your website)
 - Intrepid Traveler:** Activate at least five different parks.
 - Share The Mike:** Have a non-ham or new ham make a contact.

- WIARC Awards:**

- WIARC Activator Award**

- WIARC will issue a certificate to any WIARC member who makes at least one QcPOTA activation using the VE2CWI call sign (with permission from vp@wiarc.ca)
 - The number of VE2CWI activations will be indicated on the certificate.

- WIARC Chaser Award**

- WIARC will issue a certificate to any WIARC member who makes at least one QSO with a QcPOTA park activated with the VE2CWI call sign.

More Info:

- QcPOTA:

- <https://www.qsl.net/v/ve2pij//quebec/qcpota.ca/rules/index.html>
- <http://qcpota.ca> (active soon?)
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/QcPOTA>
- https://www.raqi.ca/bulletin_no_9
- March-April edition of RAC's *The Canadian Amateur*

- POTA:

- <http://www.parksontheair.com>
- <http://pota.us>