

2 Meter Etiquette

I have been meaning to comment about this for a while, and I feel this is as good a time as any.

Most of the 2-meter repeaters in the Lethbridge area are quiet most of the time. The silence is only broken by the repeater identification and the occasional QSO shared with the Calgary repeaters.

It has become the standard for individuals to call out on the repeater using just a callsign and nothing else. So what does this mean; let me show you:

Station calling:

VE6??? Then nothing

1. What is the caller doing, testing out his callsign to see if it still works after keeping it in the cupboard for a while?
2. Making a call for the ham with that callsign?
3. Identifying to satisfy the Industry Canada regulations?

Just what is he doing, no wonder he gets no reply. Now how about this for a radical idea, call CQ so that everyone knows what you are doing. Yes I know, somehow hams have acquired the erroneous idea that you do not call CQ on a 2 meter repeater. This is right there with the stuff on the cow shed floor.

Give it a try, call **“CQ 2 meters, this is VE6?? Calling CQ and standing by for a call”** and see what happens. If nothing else, someone is sure to come back and say “You don’t call CQ on a repeater”. If he does, it proves that CQ works!

Call CQ, and make it known that you want to talk.



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