

**RASC Halifax Centre Board of Directors Meeting**  
 Tuesday, November 2, 2021: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM  
 Via Zoom - Meeting ID 918 4027 6272

<b>Agenda Items</b>				
<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Support Documents / Notes</b>
7:00 PM	1. Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of Agenda</li> <li>• Review Action List</li> <li>• Approval of Previous Minutes of Meeting</li> </ul>	Information Approval	Judy Black	Pre-circulated: Agenda: Nov 2, 2021, corrected agenda for Sept 28/21 Minutes: Sept 28, 2021
<b>ONGOING ITEMS</b>				
	2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2021 Meeting date confirmation &amp; approval</li> <li>b. Confirm Members' Meeting agenda</li> <li>c. Zoom/SMU Bookings</li> <li>d. Guest Speakers &amp; Ideas for Future Presentations</li> </ul>	Ongoing Discussion Approval	Judy Black	<b>Refer to Agenda Note #1 and Agenda Note #2</b>
	3. Report from National Council Representative	Information Discussion	Judy Black	<b>Next Meeting December 5, 2021</b>
	4. Education & Public Outreach (EPO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach Requests (if applicable)</li> </ul>	Discussion Decision	Paul Heath	n/a
	5. RASC Halifax Centre Website & YouTube	Discussion Decision	Judy Black	<b>Refer to Agenda Note #3</b>
	6. Financial Update	Discussion Decision	Gregg Dill	n/a
<b>UPDATES / REPORTS</b>				
	7. SCO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade Status</li> </ul>	Discussion Decision	John Liddard Gregg Dill	n/a
	8. Member Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reposting</li> <li>• Updating Announce List</li> </ul>	Discussion Decision	Judy Black Pat Kelly	n/a – <b>Email Sept 28/21</b>  <b><a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BN85HLZ">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BN85HLZ</a></b>
	9. Astroimaging Contest	Information Discussion	Judy Black	n/a
	10. Snapping Turtle Nest Protection	Information Discussion	John Liddard	n/a
<b>GOVERNANCE</b>				
	11. SCO Use Guideline	Information Discussion	Judy Black	Website shows as of July 16/21: <a href="https://halifax.rasc.ca/images/documents/2021-07-16_Use_of_SCO_during_COVID-19.pdf">https://halifax.rasc.ca/images/documents/2021-07-16_Use_of_SCO_during_COVID-19.pdf</a>
	12. AGM - Reports	Information Discussion	Judy Black	n/a
	13. 2022 Nominations	Information Discussion	Peter Hurley	<b>Refer to Agenda Note #4</b>

NEW BUSINESS				
	14. 2024 Solar Eclipse	Information Discussion	Judy Black	<b>Refer to Agenda Note #5</b>
9:00 PM	Adjournment (Next meeting: Nov. 30, 2021)			

### RASC, Halifax Centre – Members’ Meeting

Saturday, November 6, 2021: 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Via Zoom – Webinar ID [952 0470 4077](#)

Agenda Items		
Time*	Item	Responsibility
1:00 PM	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> - Photo Montage	Judy Black Paul Gray
1:10 PM	<b>1. Presentation:</b> <i>Dave Lane – The Mini-Robotic Observatory (MRO)</i>	Dave Lane
1:45 PM	<b>2. Presentation:</b> <i>Lisa Ann Fanning – The link between Animal Behaviour and Astronomical Events</i>	Lisa Ann Fanning
2:20 PM	<b>3. Presentation</b> <i>Chris Young – Astronomy Lore</i>	Chris Young
3:00 PM	4. Food for the Soul	Paul Heath
3:10 PM	5. What’s Up? (November)	Dave Chapman
3:35 PM	6. News from the Board	Judy Black
4:00 PM	7. Adjournment	
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<i>Astro-Chat</i>	

\* Times are for Board of Director information only and for informing presenters of the length of their presentations; they will not be published on the Halifax Centre website. Times will be adjusted for each meeting.

## Halifax Centre Board of Directors - Minutes of Meeting November 2, 2021 - 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Present:** Judy Black, Peter Hurley, Tim Doucette, Paul Heath, Kathy Walker, David Hoskin, Gregg Dill, Matt Dyer, Pat Kelly, Lisa Ann Fanning, John Liddard (joined at 7:20pm)

**Regrets:** Wayne Harasimovitch, Mary Lou Whitehorne

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Judy called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and welcomed members.

The meeting agenda was reviewed. Peter asked that the cost of shipping calendars to the USA be added to the agenda and it was agreed that it should be discussed during item 6 the Financial Update.

#### **211102MN-Mot01**

It was moved by Paul Heath and seconded by David Hoskin to approve the November 2, 2021, Board of Directors meeting agenda, as amended.  
CARRIED.

The Action Lists were reviewed.

#### From January 2020

**Action 5:** Closed. There was some discussion of what to do with this item, as there has been no progress. It was concluded that John should contact Ian Anderson and involve him in this.

#### **211102MN-Act01**

John Liddard, in consultation with Ian Anderson and Gregg Dill, to establish the value of Halifax Centre capital equipment.

#### From January 7, 2021

**Action 7:** Open. Gregg needs Judy's signature on the documents.

#### From June 1, 2021

**Action 2:** Open.

#### From September 7, 2021

**Action 8:** Closed. David Shuman has agreed to speak about NASA programs at our March 5, 2022, Member's meeting. Randy Atwood has also agreed to make a presentation at our March 5, 2022 meeting on the 2024 solar eclipse. This will be discussed further under Item 2.

**Action 10:** Open.

**Action 12:** Closed.

#### From September 28, 2021

**Action 1-5:** Closed.

**Action 6:** Open.

**Action 7-8:** Closed.

**Action 9:** Closed. John has the receipt and has not been reimbursed for the electric heater purchase.

**Action 10:** Closed. Same as last year.

**Action 11:** Closed.

**Action 12:** Closed. Not posted.

**Action 13:** Closed. Draft was circulated and will be discussed under Item 11.

**Action 14:** Open. John got a single copy of the key because he used a new source and wanted to make sure the copy would work. He will get another four keys cut.

**Action 15:** Open.

**Action 16:** Open. Two have said yes but Judy has not heard back from two.

**Action 17:** Open. Change date of action to November 6, 2021.

**Action 18:** Open.

The minutes of the September 28, 2021, Board of Directors meeting had been circulated by email by

Peter on October 28, 2021. No changes were proposed.

### **211102MN-Mot02**

It was moved by David Hoskin and seconded by Gregg Dill to approve the September 28, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting minutes, as circulated.

CARRIED.

## **ONGOING ITEMS**

### **2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers**

#### *a) 2021 Meeting date confirmation and approval*

Judy pointed out that the meeting dates are listed in Agenda Note #1. Next Board meeting is November 30, 2021.

#### *b) Confirm Members' Meeting agenda*

Judy pointed out that our next Members' meeting is on November 2, 2021, with the agenda presented in Agenda Note #1. Paul indicated that he would have a poem prepared for Food for the Soul. There are three presentations scheduled by Dave Lane "The Mini-Robotic Observatory", Lisa Ann Fanning "Animal Behaviour and Astronomy Events" and Chris Young with his next installment of "Astronomy Lore". There were no suggestions for changes to the program.

#### *c) Zoom/SMU Bookings*

There has been no change with respect to meeting space at SMU.

#### *d) Guest Speakers and Ideas for Future Presentations*

Phil Groff will be the main presenter at the AGM meeting on December 4, 2021. Blair MacDonald has agreed to present on "Pandemic Astrophotography" at the next meeting on January 8, 2022, and Chris Young will present another "Astronomy Lore". Keegan Oickle has agreed to present on activities of the RASC Youth Committee at the February 5, 2022, Member's meeting and, thanks to Mary Lou, Dr. Jennifer West from U of T will present her work on the "Magnetic Tunnel Project". Pat has arranged for David Shuman to present on NASA Programs at the March meeting and Randy Atwood has been given a list of dates to choose from to speak on the 2024 Solar Eclipse. In Agenda Note #2, Dave Chapman has suggested a series of short talks that could be used to fill in spaces as needed, perhaps to alternate with Chris Young's Astronomy Lore talks.

The first meeting of the new Board would be January 4, 2022, assuming we agree to the same schedule as this year, and Members' meeting dates in 2022 will need to be approved then. Judy mentioned listening to the Astronomy by the Bay broadcast where Lisa had been a speaker, and also Karim Jaffer who talked about student use of the RASC Robotic Telescope. Judy suggested inviting him and his students to speak to us in May or June. Following on a thread on the RASC Presidents' discussion list, Judy suggested asking Dr. Samantha Lawler of U Regina to speak on her work on Starlink issues.

### **3. Report from National Council Representative**

Judy indicated that there was nothing new to report from the National Council. The next Council meeting will be held the day after our AGM so she won't have anything to report until the new year.

### **4. Education and Public Outreach**

Paul indicated that he hadn't received any requests, there had been several queries from teachers, but class restrictions precluded being able to put anything together. He has received 50 copies of the latest SkyNews issue and reminded us that they were available for outreach activities. He also indicated that he was looking for presenters to answer questions from Youth Groups during Black History month.

### **5. RASC Halifax Centre Website**

Judy indicated that changes made to the website were listed in Agenda Note #3. In addition, Bylaw G1 and G2 have been added to the Policy webpage, the link on the Home Page for the next meeting has been corrected, and the email address and date for the Astroimaging contest have also been corrected. With respect to Dave Lane's retirement in December, it is anticipated that there will be no changes to the website management, but we will have to wait and see how things unfold with the new person. Judy had posed a question in the agenda note about the Centre YouTube channel. There was considerable discussion about how it worked and what might be the best way to present material there. It was agreed

that having the *What's Up?* session from the most recent Member's meeting come up first might be the best approach, with the remaining materials presented as playlists.

**211102MN-Act02**

Judy Black to explore with Jerry Black whether the most recent *What's Up?* could come up first when one accesses the Centre YouTube channel.

**6. Financial Update**

Gregg reported his frustration with the new *Driven!* platform that RASC National has rolled out. Since our last meeting, he is still unable to determine the breakdown of funds that are deposited into our bank account by National office. He had a meeting with Jenna Hinds to discuss his issues and she has a meeting with staff at *Driven!* scheduled to try to address his issues. He did indicate that he was very impressed with Jenna's abilities and that he hoped that the problems could be worked out.

Gregg reported that there was presently \$5,646 in the bank account with outstanding expenses of \$489. RASC fees had contributed income of \$3,293, very similar to last year. Judy summarized that there was a healthy balance and that there was no need to look at the GICs at this time. Gregg indicated that those totaled \$8,000 and would be due in June 2022, and it was likely that we should just strip off the interest and renew them again at that time, same as this year.

Lisa had asked a question in an email in June about the cost of a 2022 RASC calendar shipped to the USA ordered from our Centre compared to one ordered from National office. Peter indicated there had been difficulties getting a price from National office because of staff changes there and issues with the functionality of the new RASC e-store, but he had finally obtained a price from National office of \$36.74CDN shipped to an address in New York. Last year, we had agreed we would sell and ship calendars to USA addresses for \$25USD but the exchange rate has changed since then. Wayne had determined our shipping cost and Gregg provided the exchange rates for both years. But Gregg has still not received an invoice from the printer for the calendars we received this year, so it isn't possible to give a final price from our end yet.

**UPDATES/REPORTS**

**7. SCO Upgrade Status**

John reported that he had obtained a quote of \$1,450 from the electrician Donnie McKinnon to run power to the storeroom/toilet and to install the electric heater in the warm room. John indicated that this was higher than he had expected and that he had questioned the quote and got the impression that the electrician was busy now and that the price might come down at a slower time. Judy pointed out that we did not have that amount in the fund at this time. Alternatives were discussed, such as using an extension cable or running a cable through the conduit ourselves. This would require using a plug in the warm room because we would need an electrician to install another breaker in the panel. John pointed out that we had confirmed that Superior Propane would buy back propane remaining in the tank so we could have the tank refilled, if needed, without additional cost implications. John recommended that we take whatever action before the frost sets into the ground or wait until the spring. It was agreed that we should wait until the March Board meeting and review the situation and funds available then.

**211102MN-Act03**

Peter Hurley to add review the power upgrade on the March 2022 Board meeting agenda.

John reported that he had examined the observatory layout and space with respect to the possibility of accommodating a large refractor telescope that had been offered to the Centre. He indicated he thought it might fit into the space but that because of its large size it would require a permanent installation, that might have an impact on other use of the observatory. There was some discussion and it was agreed that it would have an impact on present use of the observatory. There was a query whether the current owner might allow the Centre to facilitate sale of the telescope. Tim indicated that he would be interested in acquiring the telescope for his Dark Sky Eye Observatory. It was agreed that would be a better use of the telescope. Tim would be using it for outreach whereas the Centre doesn't presently use SCO for outreach. Pat agreed to contact the owner and pass on contact information for Tim Doucette if the owner still had the telescope and was interested in that route.

#### **211102MN-Act04**

Pat Kelly to contact the large refractor telescope owner and then put him in touch with Tim Doucette if he was interested in that outcome.

### **8. Member Survey Reposting**

Judy reported that Jenna Hinds hadn't responded to her earlier request until well after the last Members' meeting. Jenna indicated that the SurveyMonkey posting was still open and could be used again, and Judy has confirmed that she had found it. She suggested that we post it again on November 6, 2021, the day of the next Members' meeting to close on November 14, 2021. All agreed.

#### **Updating Announce List**

Judy indicated that she had added this to the agenda because she knew Pat had experienced some issues with updating the Announce List and wondered if the problem had been resolved. Pat indicated that he had identified that the issue was an expired internet web certificate that was triggering a web security device. He said it is a well-known issue and that he would let us know in a day or two when he had found a solution.

#### **211102MN-Act05**

Pat Kelly to let Judy Black know when he has been able to update the Centre Announce List mailing list.

### **9. Astroimaging Contest**

Judy indicated that this was just an update. She has now heard back positively from 3 of the 4 adjudicators, Blair MacDonald, Tim Doucette and Fiona Morris, and is just waiting for an answer from Andrea Misner. Jerry Black had reported that, as of this morning, he had not received any images yet. Judy will include the contest in News from the Board during the Members' meeting on November 6, 2021, and in the email reminder about the survey.

### **10. Snapping Turtle Nest Protection**

John reported that he had not had an opportunity to approach anyone in NS Department of Lands and Forests about a turtle conservation contact. He pointed out that we had plenty of time until the matter required attention in the spring and that, at a minimum, we had construction plans for turtle nest protection boxes which were effective, inexpensive and easy to assemble, so we did at least have a contingency plan for next spring.

#### **211102MN-Act06**

Peter Hurley to provide John Liddard with contact information for the turtle conservation group in Nova Scotia.

## **GOVERNANCE**

### **11. SCO Use Guidelines**

Judy indicated that the Centre website still shows the guidelines developed in July. There had been email discussion of changes but nothing new had been posted since then. Wayne had posed a question about bringing a guest and had suggested text to address the question. Kathy indicated that there had been an email exchange about implementation of Stage 5 protocols and proof of vaccination although there hadn't been an opportunity for much discussion. She indicated that she supported the substitution of the text that Wayne had proposed. There was considerable discussion, and it was agreed that we didn't want to get into policing.

#### **211102MN-Mot03**

It was moved by Kathy Walker and seconded by David Hoskin that we adopt the new draft text regarding proof of vaccination as presented at this meeting, into the SCO Use Guidelines.  
CARRIED.

#### **211102MN-Act07**

Judy Black to post the new SCO Use Guidelines on the Centre website, include them in News from the Board during the Members' meeting on November 6, 2021, and send them out on the Centre Announce List.

## **12. AGM – Reports**

Judy reminded members that the AGM was scheduled for December 4, 2021, and that Annual Reports are required from each of the Executive and the appointed positions. Judy offered to send individuals a copy of the appropriate report that was submitted last year as a model, if they request it. She would like the Reports sent to her by November 28, 2021, so that she can post and distribute them to members with other AGM materials on November 29, 2021. She pointed out that the agenda hasn't changed much from last year, and we would follow the abbreviated format we had used successfully last year, where materials are collated and pre-circulated. We will discuss this further at the November 30, 2021, Board meeting.

### **211102MN-Act08**

Executive members and appointed positions to send their Annual Reports to Judy Black by November 28, 2021.

### **211102MN-Act09**

Peter Hurley to add review of AGM agenda items on the November 30, 2021, Board meeting agenda.

## **13. 2022 Nominations**

Judy indicated that the Nomination list prepared by the Nomination Committee is presented in Agenda Note #4. All Board members had agreed to re-offer their names; however, Judy reported that in a discussion with Wayne Harasimovitch before the meeting, he had indicated that he was withdrawing his name because of commitments to other organizations. There is now one director position open. Nominations close November 3, 2021, and the list will be distributed on the Centre Announce List on November 13, 2021. The Board will be approving the Nomination list by email and the election will occur at the AGM. Nominations for the appointed positions are also listed in Agenda Note #4. Chairs of the Observing Committee and of the Dark-Sky Preserve Committee remain open. Peter indicated that he was still waiting to hear back from Tony Schellinck and Dave Chapman before listing himself and Tony Schellinck as co-chairs of the DSP Committee. Judy pointed out that we had forgotten to include the 2022 Auditor in the list and Gregg offered to contact Ian Anderson to enquire if he would accept again. Judy pointed out that the Nominations Committee Chair had also been left off the list. Judy indicated that Wayne had also withdrawn his name as Librarian.

### **211102MN-Act10**

Gregg Dill to contact Ian Anderson to confirm that he will accept a nomination as 2022 Auditor for the Centre.

Judy pointed out that nominations re-open at the AGM and close again at the end of the meeting for the appointed positions which will be approved by the incoming Board at their first meeting on January 4, 2022 and will be announced at the Members' meeting on January 8, 2022. There was a question whether any of the youth members would be eligible for election and Judy pointed out that there was a requirement that Directors be 18 years of age.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **14. 2024 Solar Eclipse**

Judy indicated that Agenda Note #5 includes an email from Randy Atwood requesting a volunteer from each Centre to serve as a liaison to the 2024 Solar Eclipse RASC Task Force to assist with coordination tasks such as determining how many solar viewers would be required by RASC. There was some discussion of the eclipse that will be 94% in Halifax. There was a suggestion that Paul Gray would be appropriate, given his history of involvement in previous eclipses.

### **211102MN-Act11**

Judy Black to ask Paul Gray if he would consider acting as Halifax Centre liaison to the 2024 Solar Eclipse RASC Task Force.

There was discussion of activities with the Discovery Centre during the 2017 solar eclipse and Peter volunteered to contact them to indicate our interest in collaborating with them again.

### **211102MN-Act12**

Peter Hurley to contact staff at Discovery Centre to indicate that we have started to make plans for the 2024 solar eclipse and would be interested in collaborating with them again.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Judy adjourned the meeting. She pointed out that the next Board meeting is scheduled for November 30, 2021.

Adjournment at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Peter Hurley, Secretary

### **ACTION LIST (as of November 2, 2021):**

<b><i>From January 7, 2021</i></b>		
210107MN-Act07	<b>Gregg Dill</b> to submit annual requirements to NS RJSC.	Open
<b><i>From June 1, 2021</i></b>		
210601MN-Act02	<b>Judy Black</b> to contact Phil Goff to indicate that Halifax Centre will continue to use its own discussion list for Centre communication and request that they inactivate the Halifax Centre forum on the National site.	Open
<b><i>From September 7, 2021</i></b>		
210907MN-Act10	<b>John Liddard</b> to get a price quote to have the propane furnace and tank removed and the electric heater installed in the warm room.	Open
<b><i>From September 28, 2021</i></b>		
210928MN-Act06	<b>Gregg Dill</b> to verify that Superior Propane will buy back unused propane in the tank.	Open
210928MN-Act14	<b>John Liddard</b> to get 5 copies of the SCO key cut.	Open
210928MN-Act15	<b>John Liddard</b> to contact Department of Natural Resources and report back next Board meeting about the type of protection required.	Open
210928MN-Act16	<b>Judy Black</b> to confirm that the adjudicators agree with the process and the dates.	Open
210928MN-Act17	<b>Judy Black</b> to announce the contest process and dates at the Members' meeting on November 2, 2021.	Open
210928MN-Act18	<b>Tim Doucette</b> to contact Phil Groff, with a copy to Judy, for input from RASC about hosting a future General Assembly at a location in southwest Nova Scotia.	Open
<b><i>From November 2, 2021</i></b>		
211102MN-Act01	<b>John Liddard</b> , in consultation with Ian Anderson and Gregg Dill, to establish the value of Halifax Centre capital equipment.	Open
211102MN-Act02	<b>Judy Black</b> to explore with Jerry Black whether the most recent What's Up could come up first when one accesses the Centre YouTube channel.	Open
211102MN-Act03	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to add review the power upgrade on the March 2022 Board meeting agenda.	Open



211102MN-Act04	<b>Pat Kelly</b> to contact the large refractor telescope owner Joe Yurchesyn and then put him in touch with Tim Doucette if he was interested in that outcome.	Open
211102MN-Act05	<b>Pat Kelly</b> to let Judy Black know when he has been able to update the Centre Announce List mailing list.	Open
211102MN-Act06	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to provide John Liddard with contact information for the turtle conservation group in Nova Scotia.	Open
211102MN-Act07	<b>Judy Black</b> to post the new SCO Use Guidelines on the Centre website, include them in News from the Board during the Members' meeting on November 6, 2021 and send them out on the Centre Announce List.	Open
211102MN-Act08	<b>Executive members</b> and <b>appointed positions</b> to send their Annual Reports to Judy Black by November 28, 2021.	Open
211102MN-Act09	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to add review of AGM agenda items on the November 30, 2021 Board meeting agenda.	Open
211102MN-Act10	<b>Gregg Dill</b> to contact Ian Anderson to confirm that he will accept a nomination as 2022 Auditor for the Centre.	Open
211102MN-Act11	<b>Judy Black</b> to ask Paul Gray if he would consider acting as Halifax Centre liaison to the 2024 Solar Eclipse RASC Task Force.	Open
211102MN-Act12	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to contact staff at Discovery Centre to indicate that we have started to make plans for the 2024 solar eclipse and would be interested in collaborating with them again.	Open

#### MOTION LIST (November 2, 2021):

211102MN-Mot01	It was moved by Paul Heath and seconded by David Hoskin to approve the November 2, 2021 Board of Directors meeting agenda, as amended. CARRIED.
211102MN-Mot02	It was moved by David Hoskin and seconded by Gregg Dill to approve the September 28, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting minutes, as circulated. CARRIED.
211102MN-Mot03	It was moved by Kathy Walker and seconded by David Hoskin that we adopt the new draft text regarding proof of vaccination as presented at this meeting, into the SCO Use Guidelines. CARRIED.

### AGENDA NOTES

Agenda Item, Proposed By, & Date Proposed	Description Received (& Proposed Motion, if Applicable)
<b>Agenda Note #1 re: 2021 Meeting Dates</b>	<p><b>A) 2020 Approved Meeting Dates and Events</b>  <b>Board Meeting</b> dates were approved at the January 7, 2021, Board of Directors meeting. They have been posted on the RASC(HC) website.  November 30</p> <p><b>Members' Meeting</b> dates were approved at the October 28, 2020, Board of Directors meetings. They have been posted on the RASC(HC) website.  November 6      December 4 (AGM)</p>

	<p><b>B) Confirmed Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dave Lane (MRO),</li> <li>Lisa Ann Fanning (Animal Behaviour &amp; Astronomical Events)</li> <li>Chris Young (Astronomy Lore)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• December 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AGM</li> <li>Dr. Phil Groff</li> </ul> </li> <li>• January 8, 2022: <b>Board: Jan 8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blair MacDonald (Pandemic Astrophotography)</li> <li>Chris Young (Astronomy Lore)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• February 5, 2022: <b>Board: Feb 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Jennifer West* (Magnetic Tunnel Project) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Research Associate, Dunlap Institute for Astronomy &amp; Astrophysics, UoT</li> </ul> </li> <li>Keegan Oickle (Youth Committee &amp; Projects)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• March 5, 2022: <b>Board: March 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CONFIRMED - David Shuman (NASA Missions)</li> <li>?? Randy Attwood (2024 Total Eclipse)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• April 2, 2022: <b>Board: March 29</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>?? Randy Attwood (2024 Total Eclipse)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• May 7, 2022: <b>Board: May 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>?? Randy Attwood (2024 Total Eclipse)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>June 4, 2022: <b>Board: May 31</b>  September 10, 2022 (Labour Day = Sept 5) <b>Board: Sept 6</b>  October 1, 2022 (Thanksgiving = Oct 10) <b>Board: Sept 27</b>  November 5, 2022 <b>Board: Nov 1</b>  December 3 (or 10), 2022 <b>Board: Nov 29 (or Dec 6)</b></p> <p><b>C) Suggested Speakers</b></p> <p>Special Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr. Leslie Rogers &amp; Sara Seager</li> <li>○ Kaja Rotermund (formation of a high-redshift galaxy cluster)</li> <li>○ <a href="https://rasc.ca/find-speaker">https://rasc.ca/find-speaker</a></li> <li>○ Karim Jaffer (Montreal) re student research using RASC robotic Telescope</li> <li>○ Dr. Samantha Lawler: New to the U of R and very busy rebuilding the astronomy program. She also has her core research and took on a leadership role in the StarLink issues and lobbying the federal government about it.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Note #2</b> <b>re: 2021 Speakers</b></p>	<p>(October 19, 2021)</p> <p>Dave Chapman suggested a series of short talks that could be used to fill in meetings when needed. Each talk would deal with one category at a time, with examples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor and dwarf planets</li> <li>• Comets</li> <li>• Planetary satellites</li> <li>• Planetary features</li> <li>• Lunar features</li> <li>• Stars</li> <li>• Constellations</li> </ul> <p>It may sound a bit boring if done all at once, but Dave thinks he could make it interesting if they were short talks with amusing stories, e.g., minor planet 9007 Jamesbond, the moons of Uranus named after Shakespearean characters, etc.</p> <p>My suggestion to Dave was that perhaps this could be started in 2022 and on alternate months from the astronomy lore segment.</p>
<p><b>Agenda Note #3</b> <b>re: Website Updates</b></p>	<p><b>1. Website:</b></p> <p>The following have been added or modified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Added: Astronomical Connections (<a href="https://halifax.rasc.ca/index.php/about-us/6-benefits-of-membership">https://halifax.rasc.ca/index.php/about-us/6-benefits-of-membership</a>)</li> <li>2. Added: 4 sets of Board Minutes (<a href="https://halifax.rasc.ca/index.php/about-us/halifax-centre-board-minutes">https://halifax.rasc.ca/index.php/about-us/halifax-centre-board-minutes</a>)</li> <li>3. Added: DRAFT Minutes of 2020 AGM (<a href="https://halifax.rasc.ca/images/documents/minutes/2020_AGM_Minutes_DRAFT_web2.pdf">https://halifax.rasc.ca/images/documents/minutes/2020_AGM_Minutes_DRAFT_web2.pdf</a>)</li> </ol>

	<p>4. Data Sets (SCO 360° panorama data sets for use with Stellarium or KStars (<a href="https://halifax.rasc.ca/index.php/links/64-data-sets">https://halifax.rasc.ca/index.php/links/64-data-sets</a>))</p> <p>5. Observing: The April session with Blair MacDonald has been deleted and a general statement about upcoming observing/education sessions remains.</p> <p>6. <b>Corrected:</b> Corrected links to go to appropriate location on the site vs. admin</p> <p>7. <b>Corrected:</b> Link to add submissions to Astroimaging Contest</p> <p><b>2. Website + RASC Discussion List via SMU:</b> I discussed with David Lane the potential repercussions of his retirement from SMU in January. If all goes according to the plans he discussed with SMU, there will be no changes. He leaves full time at the end of December and Jan-April is parttime to train the “new” person. He will have a better idea come December/January as to whether we need to make alternative arrangements for our website and the Centre’s Discussion List. Fingers crossed its status quo.</p> <p><b>3. RASC YouTube (<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0eaHd9ZkSOW-7I_cFMdbyw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0eaHd9ZkSOW-7I_cFMdbyw</a>):</b> When subscribers and non-subscribers log into our YouTube channel, “our most recent talk” is shown at the top. These same videos have been at the top for more than a year.</p> <p>a) As a non-subscriber, the 2017 video re a weekend Kejimikujik Dark Sky Preserve automatically starts.</p> <p>b) As a subscriber, the 2015 RASC GA video of Melanie &amp; Emma Seabrook’s presentation is at the top but does not auto-start.</p> <p>My question to the Board is should the “most recent” video section be:</p> <p>1- Deleted? or</p> <p>2- Changed every time a new video is added to the site (meeting, special presentation, educational video on equipment or observing, etc.)? or</p> <p>3- Another suggestion for revitalizing/refreshing this page on a more regular basis?</p>																																																																		
<p><b>Agenda Note #4 re: Nominations</b></p> <p><b>(Nominations for approval)</b></p>	<p>The members listed have agreed to have their names stand as officers, directors, and appointed positions. Further nominations will be accepted until November 3.</p> <p>Please note the vacant appointed position nominations.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="451 1039 1372 1953"> <thead> <tr> <th>Position</th> <th>Name</th> <th># Terms Office held (as of 2021)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>President</td> <td>Judy Black</td> <td>Year 2 of 3 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vice-President</td> <td>Patrick Kelly</td> <td>Year 1 of 3 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Gregg Dill</td> <td>Year 3 of 5 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary</td> <td>Peter Hurley</td> <td>Year 2 of 5 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Director</td> <td>Tim Doucette</td> <td>Year 1 of 10 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Director</td> <td>Matthew Dyer</td> <td>Year 2 of 10 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Director</td> <td>Wayne Harasimovitch</td> <td>Year 2 of 10 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Director</td> <td>Paul Heath</td> <td>Year 4 of 10 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Director</td> <td>David Hoskin</td> <td>Year 2 of 10 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Director</td> <td>Kathy Walker</td> <td>Year 1 of 10 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <th>Appointed Position</th> <th>Name</th> <th># Terms Office held</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Honorary President</td> <td>Mary Lou Whitehorne</td> <td>In office until December 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Auditor, 2021-2022</b></td> <td><b>?? Ian Anderson</b></td> <td><b>Year 1 of infinite number</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Council Representative</td> <td>Judy Black</td> <td>Year 1 of 5 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Co-Editors, Nova Notes</td> <td>Lisa Ann Fanning, John McPhee</td> <td>Year 1 of 5 possible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair, Observing</td> <td><b>vacant</b></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chair, Education &amp; Public Outreach (EPO)</td> <td>Paul Heath</td> <td>Infinite number has and can be served</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Librarian</td> <td>Wayne Harasimovitch</td> <td>Year 2 of 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SCO Manager</td> <td>John Liddard</td> <td>Year 2 of 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Chair, Dark-Sky Preserve (DSP) Committee</b></td> <td><b>Peter Hurley Tony Schellinck</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Position	Name	# Terms Office held (as of 2021)	President	Judy Black	Year 2 of 3 possible	Vice-President	Patrick Kelly	Year 1 of 3 possible	Treasurer	Gregg Dill	Year 3 of 5 possible	Secretary	Peter Hurley	Year 2 of 5 possible	Director	Tim Doucette	Year 1 of 10 possible	Director	Matthew Dyer	Year 2 of 10 possible	Director	Wayne Harasimovitch	Year 2 of 10 possible	Director	Paul Heath	Year 4 of 10 possible	Director	David Hoskin	Year 2 of 10 possible	Director	Kathy Walker	Year 1 of 10 possible				Appointed Position	Name	# Terms Office held	Honorary President	Mary Lou Whitehorne	In office until December 2023	<b>Auditor, 2021-2022</b>	<b>?? Ian Anderson</b>	<b>Year 1 of infinite number</b>	National Council Representative	Judy Black	Year 1 of 5 possible	Co-Editors, Nova Notes	Lisa Ann Fanning, John McPhee	Year 1 of 5 possible	Chair, Observing	<b>vacant</b>		Chair, Education & Public Outreach (EPO)	Paul Heath	Infinite number has and can be served	Librarian	Wayne Harasimovitch	Year 2 of 5	SCO Manager	John Liddard	Year 2 of 5	<b>Chair, Dark-Sky Preserve (DSP) Committee</b>	<b>Peter Hurley Tony Schellinck</b>	
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<p><b>Agenda Note #5</b> <b>re: 2024 Solar</b> <b>Eclipse</b></p>	<p><b>(From Randy Attwood (Oct 20/21)</b>          “As you know, the RASC has formed a Task Force to prepare for this once in a lifetime event - a major total solar eclipse passing through or near a large percentage of Canada’s population.</p> <p>For anyone who was at a centre public outreach event on August 21, 2017 - you know that many more people attended than expected. It was during the summer, the weather was good and the eclipse was well promoted in the media. Some centres saw ten times more people than they expected.</p> <p>Right now, we would like to hear from centres, especially those on or near the path of totality. Have you discussed the possibility of holding a public outreach event for the eclipse?</p> <p>There was a meeting this afternoon where we started to talk about how many solar viewers we need to order - for RASC centres, for sale through the RASC store and for inserting in to SkyNews.</p> <p>In the past, the National Office has made eclipse viewers available to centres to hand out to members of the public. We underestimated how many we would need in 2017. How can we predict the number we need for 2024?          And remember there is a partial eclipse visible across the country in October 2023 (more so in the west while the partial phases for 2024 are more visible in the east)</p> <p>The issue we have been discussing is that early April weather in eastern Canada is at best, cold and mostly cloudy.          The eclipse is on a Tuesday, totality is after school is let out.          A public outreach program could see thousands of people - or if it is cold and cloudy, a lot less.          All we can do is make plans and hope for the best.</p> <p>We are looking for one person from each centre to act as a liaison to the Task Force - as a conduit for information to and from the Task Force.</p> <p>Would you please send me a contact name and any information you have on your centre’s plans for the 2024 eclipse day. If your centre has an Education Committee contact, that would be ideal.</p> <p>It may seem way too early to start to discuss this, but I assure you it is not.”</p>
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