



Aurora



Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Windsor Centre - January 2022

Flyer

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

via

**Online Zoom Meeting
starting at 7:30 P.M.**

Speaker: TBA

Topic: TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS

Last quarter Moon on Tues. January 25.

New Moon on Tuesday, February 1.

Jupiter will be 4°N of Moon on
Wednesday, February 2.

First quarter Moon on Tuesday,
February 8.

Moon will be 1.9°N of M35 on Friday,
February 11 at about 11 P.M. EST.

General Meeting Minutes From November 16, 2021

The monthly meeting of the **Royal Astronomical Society of Canada – Windsor Centre** was held via Zoom Online Meeting. Windsor Centre **President, Mahayarrahh-Starr Livingstone** chaired the meeting. Starr welcomed the members and guests and called the **meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.**

Starr invited members to review the **minutes of the October 13, 2021 general meeting** which was printed in the Aurora newsletter and displayed on screen. Michael Mastronardi noted that the proposed slate which he presented at that meeting was not displayed. A motion to **accept the minutes** with noted corrections was put forth by Susan Sawyer-Beaulieu and seconded by Tom Sobocan. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Proposed Final Slate created by Mike Mastronardi was displayed. **Motion to accept this slate** was put forth by Mike Mastronardi and seconded by Steve Mastellotto. No dissensions. **The slate stands as being approved.**

2022 Proposed Slate of Executive / Councilors / Appointed Positions

Windsor Centre RASC – November 10, 2021.

Executive

President – Mayhayarrahh-Starr Livingstone

1st Vice President – Open Position

2nd Vice President – Open Position

Secretary – Open Position

Treasurer – Laura Burgess

National Council Representative – Tom Sobocan

Councilors

Steve Mastellotto

Steve Pellarin

Paul Preney

C. Joady Ulrich

Michael Mastronardi

Sandy van Gaalen

Brian Simpson

Appointed Positions

Honourary President – Dr. Willian Baylis

Past President – Michael Mastronardi

Alternate National Council Representative – Open Position

Librarian – Open Position

Recording Secretary – Open Position

Director of Public Education - Mayhayarrahh-Starr Livingstone

Director of Public Relations – Tom Sobocan

Directors of Observing – Open Position(s)

Light Pollution Abatement Director – Mayhayarrahh-Starr Livingstone

Hallam Observatory Director – Brian Simpson

Aurora Editor – Open Position

Web Master – Open Position

Announcements

Starr stated that the display of our members astronomy images are still available for viewing at the Leamington Arts Centre until Sunday, November 21st. Steve Mastellotto reminded us that the partial Lunar Eclipse will reach its maximum at 4:03 a.m. Friday morning. The earth's shadow will cover up to 97% of the illuminated portion of the lunar surface. Steve also noted there will be a double shadow transit by two of Jupiter's Galilean moons, Gyanamede and Callisto. The show will begin just after 6 p.m. and by 7:45 p.m. the Great Red Spot will also begin to rotate into view. It was decided that there will not be a December Social gathering this year due to lack of response.

Director of Observing Report: Juliana Grigorescu

Juliana presented extremely clear and colourful images of Jupiter and Saturn taken by Mike Pataky. The detail captured on Jupiter revealed the dark bands known as belts as well as the white zones and the Great Red Spot. Art Rae's image of Mercury seen above some prominent orange skyglow reminds us of the ever-present light pollution from greenhouses in the ESE. Pete Barbaro shared a serene view of Mercury below the waxing crescent moon with clear earthshine as they both hovered above a colourful horizon. Randy Drumm presented his work on NGC 281 also known as the Packman nebula. The eye-catching shapes seen in this nebula are sculpted by the energetic solar winds from massive stars. Starr Livingstone found the alignment of Jupiter,

Saturn, Venus and the moon. His photograph provided a ‘visual’ of the ecliptic. Nancy Ng grabbed a lucky shot of Canada Geese flying in V formation above the crescent moon. Juliana encourages us to look for the partial Lunar Eclipse on the evening of Friday the 19th. Maximum will occur Saturday at 4:03 a.m. when the Earth’s shadow will cover 93% of the illuminated surface of the moon. We are able to view Mars 1½ hours before sunrise in the SE on December 2nd. The moon will be close to Mars at 41 arcminutes to the north. On Dec. 6th in the early evening sky the moon will now pair up with Venus at 1.9 degrees south of the bright planet. During the second week of December the Earth will pass through the debris left behind by the asteroid 3200 Phaethon. Meteor showers usually occur as Earth passes through the debris left behind from a comet so this makes the Geminids meteor shower special. Look for meteors late into the evening of Dec. 13th and before sunrise on the 14th. The Winter solstice will occur on Dec. 21st when the days will begin to last longer. Juliana displayed the close conjunction of the Moon, Mars and the orange star Antares which will be visible in the SE before sunrise on Dec. 31st. There will be a short window of time to see these celestial objects. By 6:30 a.m. all three will be 5 degrees above the horizon. However they will be lost to the glare of the advancing sun within 45min. Once again all eyes are on the James Webb Space Telescope. The launch date of Dec. 18th could change, the name of the telescope may change but we stay hopeful in anticipation of the discoveries that lay ahead.

Clear Sky Night Report - Art Rae

The most recent Clear Sky Night Report data from Art is in! It is rendered below in the chart with the 2021 data being the leftmost, orange bars; the 2020 data being the middle green bars; and the 17-year (2005 to 2021) average data being the rightmost, light blue bars in each month.

