



<Facsimile/Email/letter etc Message>

To: <media name>
Attn.: <contact name>
From: <Coordinator Name>
Subj.: International Astronomy Day 2000
Date: <publication date>

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT *FOR RELEASE BEFORE <date of Events>* **INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY DAY**

International Astronomy Week 2000 will be hosted by the <Centre Name> of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada ("RASC") at two locations. Exhibits and demonstrations can be seen at the <location of demonstrations> between <date and times>. To complete the events a <Star Party or other event> will convene <location and time of event>. For additional details and location maps visit the Centre's web site <Centres' web site>.

Astronomy Day occurs each year between mid April and mid May on a Saturday near or before the 1st quarter Moon. Astronomy Week starts the Monday before Astronomy Day and ends the following Sunday. Now celebrated throughout the world as an International event, Astronomy Day was first held in California in 1973, to recognize and promote Amateur and Professional astronomy.

The <Centre Name> of the RASC has over <number> members, including many junior members, coming from diverse backgrounds but all with a common interest in Astronomy.

Monthly meetings <held when> held at <location>, afford wonderful opportunities to discuss recent activities and to hear host speakers covering many aspects of Astronomy, including astro-photography, telescope building, Observatory construction, visits to special events etc. (Visit the Centre's web site for examples - <Centres' web site>). Membership is not required to attend these meetings and there is no age limit, children are welcome to participate.

The **<Centre Name>** will set up its display stand, exhibits and demonstrations **<describe location>**. This years events include mirror grinding demonstration, display of our Solar System, Extra Terrestrial Rocks - bring your "strange rocks" for evaluation, a 3D constellation experience, examples of various telescopes, children's crafts, computer simulations, video presentations and many other activities.

Join us at the **<location>** for a look into the world of Astronomy. Continue into the evening at our Public Star Party at **<Star party location>**; an opportunity to experience the fascination of looking up into the heavens, and at the same time looking back to the beginning of our Universe, through home built and commercial telescopes supplied by members of the **<Centre Name>**.

The Centre wants to thank the **<Mall location>**, **<other sponsors>** for their support of this year's event. For more information contact the Centre's information line **<contact telephone number>** or www.conveyor.com/rasc

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CONTACT: **<Coordinator Name>**
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EMAIL **<email address>**

Kind Regards
<coordinator>

Astronomy Day Coordinator - **<Centre Name>** - Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

