

Fellowship Award

Peter Jedicke

The award of Fellow of the RASC is to recognize the long-term and on-going contributions of members whose service to the Society has been exemplary and substantive for an extended period of time. Such contribution will far exceed the level required for our Service Award.

Nominees may already hold the Service Award, but it is not a prerequisite for Fellowship. This is a major, and senior, national award. It is intended to be the Society's most senior award and the highest honour the Society can pay to a member. Candidate's service and contributions to the Society must have had a significant positive impact on the work of the Society over an extended period, and must have contributed to the Society's success in attaining its stated objectives, mission, and vision. Such contributions can be at both the Centre and national level, but at least half of the service contribution must have been rendered at the national level.

Although many of the London Centre did not meet Peter until the early 1990s, it became quickly evident that Peter already possessed a long history of contribution to the RASC, a passion for the Society, and a vast knowledge of the inner workings of the RASC at both the National and Centre levels.

Soon after joining London Centre in 1974 Peter became a member of the Centre's Executive Council. Peter served as London Centre President from 1978–1980. During that period, Peter single-handedly chaired and organized the 1979 General Assembly in London. Peter also rewrote the London Centre Constitution and Bylaws and obtained the Centre's non-profit status that continues to this date. Peter obtained government grants which were used to run summer astronomy programs, and was instrumental in having telescope trade tariffs removed. In 1980 Peter began his long period of service to National Council as the London Centre National Representative.

In the mid '80s, Peter set up a speaker's exchange program with other centres in Southern Ontario. In 1986 and 1987 Peter again served as London Centre President. In 1996 Peter was appointed Honorary President of London Centre. As Honorary President Peter continuously mentors new members, attends Executive meetings, assists in finding Guest Speakers, and performs Public Outreach at Cronyn Observatory.

Peter again acted as Chair for the 2001 General Assembly, which was held at Fanshawe College in London. This resulted in yet another well-received GA, cementing London's reputation for entertaining and innovative GAs.

Peter continued his involvement with National Council, serving in various capacities until becoming National President in 2004 to 2006. While Peter was President he visited and attended as many Centre meetings across Canada as possible. Peter continues to attend National Council meetings via Webex and is a regular attendee of General Assemblies.

In 2015–2016, Peter acted as co-chair for the 2016 General Assembly held in London, Ontario, the third London GA Peter had been involved in organizing. This particular GA was special as it was combined with the Canadian Vendor Show AstroCATS, an RASC first!! As a GA organizational veteran, Peter is a sought after and willing counsel to other Centres' GA committees.

Peter has been instrumental in the Asteroid Names with a Canadian Connection program. Many

Canadians and RASC members now have an asteroid named after them, thanks in part to Peter's efforts.

Peter has demonstrated a life-long commitment to and passion for the RASC. Over 44 years he has tirelessly served both London Centre and the Society. Peter has put the RASC in the forefront of his life, resulting in a long-lasting, positive and measurable impact on the RASC at both the National and Centre level. His achievements and hard work speak for themselves.

There can be little doubt that Peter deserves consideration for the Fellowship Award of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

Submitted by:

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