

CANDIDATE STATEMENT



Dear RASC Members, my name is Viktor Zsohar and interested to be re-elected to the national board of the RASC where I have been serving as a director since 2022. I understand the eligibility requirements and I meet these requirements. I agree to abide by the RASC Directors and Officers Code of Conduct.

Born and raised in Hungary, I graduated in Metallurgical Engineering (M.Sc., 1996), and worked in the industry until I arrived at Canada in 2003. I went back to school and became a nurse in 2012.

Beside my professional career, I have been an observing amateur astronomer for more than 30 years, of which also a member of RASC for 10 years. Besides stargazing, I also enjoy building telescopes and teaching others about our universe and the night sky.

A founding member of the Yukon Astronomical Society (2015), and RASC Yukon Centre (2016). Served as society treasurer (2015-2017), president (2017-2021), and vice president 2021-2025).

I dreamt that the Yukon should have its first public Astronomical Observatory, which came true in 2018 by Yukon Government's CDF Funding. The dedication and work of society volunteers and contractors, with my lead made the completion of this project possible.

During my leadership, the Yukon Astronomical Society received a commendation from the Yukon Legislative Assembly, recognizing our work for the community.

Outreach and popular-astronomy education has always been in my heart. I organized and contributed organizing several public outreaches for all ages. Our programs drew hundreds, if not thousands of Yukoners to look into a telescope and discover celestial objects for the first time in their lives. Partnered with Parks Canada, the RASC Yukon Centre established the Kluane Northern Nights - Dark Sky Festival, in 2016. This event is always our largest event every year. I taught astronomy workshops for adult members of the RASC Yukon Centre for years. In addition, reached out to schools, and as a result, hundreds of students, cadets, girl guides, cubs enjoyed astronomy curriculum and night sky presentation programs. I also teach a non-credit continuing education course in Astronomy at Yukon University since 2017. As a public speaker at RASC, I enjoy talking about the Auroras, the Life of Stars and Telescopes 101.

Being a founding member of RASC's Inclusivity and Diversity Committee, I participated in "The Stars Belong to Everyone" education video created by Charles Ennis, to help promote inclusivity and diversity within the RASC.

I fully support the Strategic Plan of the RASC, and also fully support the mandate and vision of the RASC. I want to continue to contribute to RASC's success, where I can. I am confident that I have the experience to continue participating in the work of the National Board of RASC and want to do so with the best of my ability if re-elected.

Thank you for considering my application and I wish clear skies to all,

Viktor Zsohar
RASC Yukon Centre