



THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

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ANNUAL MEETING
RÉUNION ANNUELLE

2019

Agenda

Election of the Board of Directors
Election of Auditor

ANNUAL REPORT
RAPPORT ANNUEL

2018

President's Message
Executive Director's Report
Secretary's Message
Treasurer's Report
Auditor's Report
Balance Sheet/Statement of Changes in Net Assets
Statement of Revenue, Expenditure
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Annual Meeting Minutes—2018
Centre Financial Reports for Fiscal 2018
Donations Report

RÉUNION ANNUELLE 2018—ORDRE DU JOUR

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA



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Réunion annuelle 2019

La Réunion générale annuelle des membres aura lieu le dimanche 2019 Juin 16,
de 09,00h à 11,00h EDT à York University, Toronto, Ontario.

Ordre du jour

1. Procès-verbal de la Réunion annuelle 2018

publié dans la version électronique du rapport annuel 2018 qui se trouve dans la section réservée aux membres du site web de la SRAC (www.rasc.ca/annual-meeting-minutes)

2. Rapports des Officiers

Président	(Dr. Chris Gainor)	États financiers	
1ère Vice-Présidente	(Robyn Foret)	Motion pour accepter les états financiers	
2e Vice-Présidente	(Charles Ennis)	Directrice exécutive	(Randy Attwood)
Secrétaire/rapporteur	(Roger Nelson)		
Trésorier	(Catherine Carr)		

3. Rapports des comités permanents

Astroimagerie	(Tenho Tuomi)	Membres et croissance	(Roland Dechesne)
Constitution	(Robyn Foret)	Nomination	(Charles Ennis)
Collecte de fonds	(Catherine Carr)	Observation	(Blair Stunder)
Éducation	(Curt Nason)	Prix	(Colin Haig)
Finance	(Catherine Carr)	Publications	(Robyn Foret)
Histoire	(Randall Rosenfeld)	Réduction de la pollution lumineuse	(Robert Dick)
Inclusivité et Diversité	(Charles Ennis)	Technologie de l'information	(Roger Nelson)

4. Rapports des autres programmes

Programme de Conférencier	(Charles Ennis)	Programme de Projets Spéciaux	(Katrina Ince-Lum)
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5. Les Résultats de l'Élection du Conseil d'administration

6. Élection d'un Vérificateur

7. Autres questions

8. Clôture

ANNUAL MEETING 2019—AGENDA

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA



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Annual Meeting 2019

The Annual Meeting of members will be held on Sunday, 2019 June 16
from 9:00 to 11:00 EDT at York University, Toronto, Ontario.

Agenda

1. Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting

Published in the on-line version 2018 Annual Report, and located on the Members-only section on the website
(www.rasc.ca/annual-meeting-minutes)

2. Reports of Officers

President	(Dr. Chris Gainor)	Financial Statements	
1st Vice-President	(Robyn Foret)	Motion to approve the financial statements	
2nd Vice-President	(Charles Ennis)	Executive Director	(Randy Attwood)
Secretary/Recorder	(Roger Nelson)		
Treasurer	(Catherine Carr)		

3. Reports of Permanent Committees

Astroimaging	(Tenho Tuomi)	History	(Randall Rosenfeld)
Awards	(Colin Haig)	Inclusivity and Diversity	(Charles Ennis)
Information Technology	(Roger Nelson)	Light-Pollution Abatement	(Robert Dick)
Constitution	(Robyn Foret)	Membership & Development	(Roland Dechesne)
Education	(Curt Nason)	Nominating	(Charles Ennis)
Finance	(Catherine Carr)	Observing	(Blair Stunder)
Fundraising	(Catherine Carr)	Publications	(Robyn Foret)

4. Reports of Other Committees

Public Speaker Program	(Charles Ennis)	Special Projects Program	(Katrina Ince-Lum)
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5. Election of Board of Directors

6. Election of Auditor

7. Other Business

8. Adjournment

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada marked its sesquicentennial in 2018 with a year-long celebration that will be remembered for years to come.

The anniversary came as the RASC continues to grow to more than 5,200 members, most of them affiliated to one of our 28 Centres across Canada. Each Centre actively promotes astronomy among its membership and with the general public, including young people. We are Canada's premier organization of amateur astronomers.

In June 2018, the RASC obtained official recognition in the form of two commemorative stamps issued by Canada Post and a commemorative coin created by the Royal Canadian Mint that includes a piece of a meteorite. The stamps featuring our Canadian skies have proven popular with astronomers and collectors alike, and the anniversary coin sold out within hours of going on sale. Much of the credit for this recognition goes to our Executive Director, Randy Attwood, who persuaded both the Mint and Canada Post to include our 150th anniversary in their 2018 programs.

The RASC had two national star parties in 2018, the first one in January carried live in a nationwide webcast. Members across Canada contributed astrophotos, sketches, and other artwork to the RASC's *Imagining the Skies* website, and early in 2019 an expert panel of judges had the difficult task of choosing winning entries. Members from coast to coast proudly wore our RASC 150 logo on shirts, caps, and other items. RASC History Committee chair Randall Rosenfeld and Board Member Heather Laird created a great set of podcasts on our shared history in RASC.

The RASC's General Assembly in Calgary was made more memorable by a sesquicentennial seminar called *A Shared Sky: The RASC 1868-2018*. The papers exploring RASC history that were presented at that seminar are now being prepared for publication in a book to be published by the Society.

Even more important, the Calgary GA began with an opening ceremony at the Rothney Observatory featuring speakers and dancers from the Treaty 7 First Nations. The RASC's acknowledgement of our First Nations heritage is particularly relevant since I know that many RASC members are working with First Nations from around Canada to learn about how they visualize the skies. This work is a powerful reminder that the history of astronomy in Canada goes back centuries before the first Europeans, Asians, and Africans arrived in North America.

The RASC Victoria Centre and the National Research Council of Canada marked a more recent anniversary in May 2018 at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory (DAO) on Little Saanich Mountain in the suburbs of B.C.'s capital. The great 1.83-metre Plaskett Telescope at the DAO saw first light 100 years previously, and for a few months in 1918 it was the largest working telescope on Earth.

Peter Broughton, a former RASC President, RASC historian, and active member of our History Committee, added to DAO centennial celebration by publishing his landmark biography of John Stanley Plaskett, the driving force behind the DAO, *Northern Star*. As part of the celebration, the Canadian Astronomical Society / Société Canadienne d'Astronomie (CASCA) held its Annual General Meeting in Victoria with strong participation by RASC members.

Amidst the anniversaries and historical discussions, the RASC is maintaining its focus on the future. Canada is changing, and the RASC must change with it. Late in 2018, the RASC Board of

Directors approved the creation of the Inclusiveness and Diversity Committee that has already begun its work of representing and advocating for members who come from non-traditional backgrounds. We must be welcoming to people regardless of where they come from or what their identity might be if we are to continue as a society and if we hope to open more eyes to the wonders of the Universe.

At the Calgary GA we enjoyed a lineup of female headline speakers, including Planetary Society Senior Editor and Planetary Evangelist Emily Lackdawalla, our Helen Sawyer Hogg Lecturer, Plaskett Medal Lecturer Dr. Frenshteh Rajabi of the University of Waterloo Institute for Quantum Computing, and Dr. Tanya Harrison of the University of Arizona's NewSpace Initiative.

The RASC in 2018 took a big step forward toward stronger financial sustainability. The previous year, the RASC hired a professional fundraiser, Lisa Di Veto, to bring our fundraising activities into the 21st century. Her work bore fruit with a major increase in fundraising revenues for the RASC that will support our educational, outreach, and research work. We are raising more funds than ever through individual contributions and grants that have allowed our National Office to do a better job of supporting Society activities.

We face many challenges in 2019. We are a Society of volunteers, and our national committees are in need of rejuvenation and reorganization, a task that has become a major focus of work by the Board of Directors. We will have to pay more attention to our volunteer base as the Society undergoes generational change.

Second is our online presence. Our rasc.ca website must cope with major new demands that are being put upon it to serve our members and others who want to learn about astronomy. Our National Office Staff and Information Technology Committee are taking up a major challenge of rejuvenating our website.

Our publications exist in a very challenging environment. As Canada's only popular science publication, *SkyNews* has been a valued membership benefit for RASC members for more than two decades, and in 2015 we purchased the magazine. Now the team that runs *SkyNews* is working with the RASC Board of Directors to ensure that the magazine and the skynews.ca website operate on a sustainable basis. This work will also involve changes to the *Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society*.

Our publications such as the *Observer's Handbook*, supplemented by a United States edition created specially for our American friends, and our *Observer's Calendar*, continue to be widely praised and popular publications, along with the *National Newsletter*, the *Bulletin*, and our *Annual Report*. All depend on outstanding volunteers. We are looking forward to publishing new books such as the upcoming autobiography of one of our most prominent members, *David Levy, A Nightwatchman's Journey*.

As is well known, we RASC members like nothing better than to look up. In 2018, the RASC did just that by purchasing a remote robotic telescope located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California and we have been raising funds to get this telescope operational. Our RASC team has made great progress on this telescope, but a great deal more work needs to be done in 2019 to make it available to members and for public outreach. The first images from this telescope already show great promise.

Our 2019 General Assembly at York University will be notable for several reasons. It will be the first GA in more than a decade to take place in the Toronto area. It will be a joint meeting with American

Association of Variable Star Observers, and it will feature presentations to mark the 50th anniversary of *Apollo 11*'s historic landing on the Moon.

We also anticipate using our growing charitable contributions to enhance our work of bringing the heavens to other Canadians. Our National Office has expanded and opened its archives, and we anticipate even further expansion in the coming year.

Our Centres offer many public activities, some of them through their own observatories. We continue work with national and

provincial parks around Canada to develop Dark-Sky Preserves, and our work of combatting light pollution continues.

If you are not yet a part of RASC, please join us at rasc.ca or drop by one of our many Centre activities. Thanks to our many members and volunteers, we are building on our storied past to create an even more exciting future.

Christopher Gainor, Ph.D.
President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

During 2018, we celebrated the Society's 150th anniversary. Our President, Chris Gainor, has produced an excellent summary of the year's activities in his report. I would like to thank the 150th anniversary working group members for all their hard work in making the celebrations happen: chair Randall Rosenfeld and members Laurie Roche, Heather Laird, June MacDonald, Jim Hesser, Paul Delaney, and Robyn Foret. The 150th anniversary resources are still available on our website at <https://rasc.ca/2018>.

We opened our new History Centre on May 12 with an Open House attended by many Society members and the local Member of Parliament, James Maloney. Many of the Society's priceless artifacts are now on display. The room is very impressive. Plan to visit the office any time you are in Toronto.

The Special Projects and Public Speaker Programs have brought benefits to many Centres. Using donated funds, these programs bring speakers to Centres and finance special projects to improve the ability of Centres to conduct public outreach. Thanks to the Special Projects Program trustees Katrina Ince-Lum (Administrator), Charles Ennis, and Howard Trottier. Thanks also to the Public Speaker Program trustees Charles Ennis (Administrator), Heather Laird, and Bruce McCurdy.

In last years' report, I announced a 150th anniversary fundraising project to acquire a robotic telescope. Early in 2018, the Society purchased a fully operating robotic telescope and hired Paul Mortfield as Program Manager. We formed teams to manage the operation of the telescope, and astrophotography and science programs. Unfortunately, the weather at the telescope's site in California was horrendous over the winter—the clear California weather took a turn to clouds and snow. This delayed training the teams who will operate the telescope to produce all the data for members' use. Paul has done an excellent job building and training the teams. Hopefully, by early summer, we will be able to fully rollout the Robotic Telescope Program to the membership.

Our *SkyNews* crew continues to produce a high-quality magazine that is beautiful and packed full of information every issue. Congratulations to the editorial, production, and marketing team.

Thanks to the hundreds of RASC volunteers who give their time and skills to make the Society a success year after year. This includes members of Centre Councils and Committees as well as Centre members who help run the Centres and their various programs. It also includes members of the various Society committees who

oversee our publications, finances, and other programs that help us fulfill our mandate of public outreach and education.

In late 2017, the Society hired Lisa Di Veto as our Fundraising Consultant. Lisa has brought many talents to the Society and has increased our annual fundraising income tenfold. By obtaining various grants, we can expand the services we bring to the Centres and fulfill our education mandate. Thank you to everyone who donated to the Society in 2018. A special thank you to those who supported the Robotic Telescope Project. A list of donors appears in this report, in the Extended Annual Report, and on our website at <https://rasc.ca/donate>.

A grant from the Trottier Family Foundation made it possible to hire a Youth Outreach Coordinator in 2018. Jenna Hinds joined the Society in October and dove right into reaching out to youth members. She formed a Youth Committee, and there are plans for youth programming in 2019. Jenna is also an expert in producing videos on observing specific events such as lunar eclipses. She is planning a series of introduction-to-astronomy videos this summer.

We are excited to be hiring a new Assistant Executive Director this spring to help with the day-to-day tasks and implementing new programs to benefit members, our Centres, and committees, and to support our public outreach programming.

I continue to be amazed by the Society staff. Our accounting manager, Renata Koziol, handles all the day-to-day finances. Her contributions to the Society span all areas, and many of the improvements we see in Society operations are due to Renata's suggestions and direct involvement. As noted above, Jenna is a wonderful new addition to our staff. She helps out in various areas in addition to the Youth Outreach Program and is always suggesting improvements where needed. Julia Neeser, our marketing and membership coordinator, left the Society in late 2018. We thank her for all her work for the Society and wish her well with her new job. Madison Chilvers was hired to replace Julia and has fit right into her role, assisting Renata and handling requests from members and customers.

I look forward to seeing many members at the Annual General Assembly at York University in June.

Clear skies in 2019!

Randy Attwood
Executive Director

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

The Board met 14 times in 2018: 12 times via WebEx; once at the GA in Calgary; and again in Toronto face to face. An increasing amount of Board business is conducted through email exchanges and votes but the value of periodic face-to-face meetings was confirmed by the experience of the productivity achieved at the meeting in October.

Changes to the Policy Manual are given as follows:

- 5.5 G24 Anti-Harassment Policy
- 5.6 G24 Anti-Harassment Policy,
Add Committee chair provision to Committee Terms of Reference.
- 5.7 Travel Expenses for driving
- 5.8 G26 Special Projects Program; (Approved BOD 18-9)
G24 Anti-Harassment Policy; (Approved BOD18-14)
G23 Conflict and Complaint Resolution;
(Approved BOD18-14)
G13 Society Discussion Lists and Social Media;
(Approved BOD18-14)
Reformatted to incorporate a proper Table of Contents
Added C15 Inclusivity and Diversity Committee;
(Approved BOD18-13)

As the National Secretary, focus was placed on improving communications between Centres, National Council, and the Society Office, including looking at options for replacement or improvement of the Society's Communications and Information Technology used for this purpose. The work on this has only just begun and we can expect to see changes and improvements over the next few years.

We offer condolences to the families of the following members who passed during 2018: Mr. Keith Janke (Edmonton), Mrs. Ruth Hicks (Kingston), Mr. Peter Fenety (New Brunswick), Mr. Donald R Austin (Toronto), Mr. Scott Drabin (Toronto) and Ms. Norma Tose (Unattached).

Roger Nelson
National Secretary

Note: The complete Annual Report is available on-line at:
www.rasc.ca/annual-report-2018-extended

Should you encounter any problems with logging in, read this page:
www.rasc.ca/login-assistance

The extended version includes the following:
2018 Annual General Meeting Minutes
2018 Annual Reports from Centres
2019 Award Winners
2019 Centre Addresses and Executives
2019 National Council

Membership Statistics 2008-2018

Centre	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Belleville	31	26	28	33	28	31	30	31	37	26	32
Calgary	460	458	421	460	434	381	336	282	271	300	317
Charlottetown					7	13	20	19	25	24	24
Edmonton	325	332	302	294	274	277	229	235	260	257	258
Halifax	160	172	164	172	170	169	153	154	159	155	157
Hamilton	123	113	111	116	109	103	78	61	66	70	76
Kingston	60	64	67	65	72	75	66	66	74	90	98
Kitchener-Waterloo	142	135	114	126	130	109	115	106	115	116	118
London	116	115	119	124	129	110	126	104	118	97	101
Mississauga	180	183	170	179	188	168	132	123	120	127	120
C.F de Montréal	18	18	20	17	18	16	18	20	22	24	23
Montréal	169	143	135	126	117	109	110	91	87	103	107
New Brunswick	103	108	91	88	77	66	68	68	66	75	79
Niagara	98	95	88	78	73	62	69	69	71	82	97
Okanagan	141	133	133	122	124	115	106	92	116	103	88
Ottawa	387	372	358	361	343	319	325	328	370	389	410
Prince George	78	92	99	76	57	66	63	69	64	64	79
Québec		13	15	15	18	16	20	20	17	17	35
Regina	84	78	88	111	94	80	75	62	62	52	48
St. John's	74	60	61	58	57	58	47	44	45	48	47
Sarnia	16	11	15	14	20	12	11	15	15	19	24
Saskatoon	83	85	83	75	73	68	70	70	72	71	71
Sunshine Coast	57	72	65	69	50	43	32	38	35	32	
Thunder Bay	45	45	46	49	45	51	50	46	46	44	37
Toronto	803	824	860	904	869	782	611	573	554	502	506
Vancouver	262	254	236	254	217	198	226	228	244	251	263
Victoria	276	257	235	216	202	176	163	164	166	185	173
Windsor	104	116	106	107	96	84	90	100	96	96	98
Winnipeg	222	240	214	228	221	210	178	180	168	162	169
Yukon	34	32	44								
Unattached	402	432	413	429	431	428	446	435	434	459	530
Honorary	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
	5066	5093	4916	4981	4760	4410	4077	3908	4010	4055	4216

Membership by Type

Type	Number	% of Total
Ordinary	3837	75.7
Family	775	15.3
Life	284	5.6
Youth	156	3.1
Honorary	(14)	.3

Membership by Country

Country	Number	% of Total
Canada	4916	97.0
USA	131	2.6
Other	19	.4

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

With most discussions of a financial nature, the mind's eye turns first to the overall results and so I usually begin with the bottom-line up front. For the fiscal year ended 2018 December 31, the Society saw an excess of expenses over revenue for the year to the tune of \$137,018.

Membership-fee revenue was down very slightly compared to 2017. However, this was more than offset by the strong success in fundraising efforts led by the Society's fundraising consultant, Lisa di Veto. Donation and grant revenues increased by \$164,145 compared to 2017—a testament to Lisa di Veto's extremely valuable contribution to our purpose. The contribution by the Society's publications was also net positive (\$110,251 for 2018). Publications are expected to make a positive contribution in 2019 as well.

Most expenses were stable year over year, with a slight increase in compensation, and an increase in Marketing expense, which represents the hiring of our fundraising consultant. In 2018, the Society did not receive a cost recovery from SkyNews, whereas in

2017 the amount recovered was \$52,000. New expenses related to the Robotic Telescope were offset by targeted donations.

I would like to note that the National Finance Committee and Board of Directors are committed to returning the Society's overall financial condition to one of long-term sustainability. We have seen a net deficit in three of the past five fiscal years, and we are unfortunately forecasting a deficit in 2019. The Finance Committee is dedicated to finding efficiencies as well as identifying key new initiatives in order to curtail recurring deficits and protect long-term viability. I'd also like to thank all the members of the Finance Committee, as well as our Accounting Manager, Renata Koziol, and our Executive Director, Randy Attwood, for their valuable assistance in helping me achieve this goal.

Catherine Carr
Treasurer

Financial Statements of

**THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL
SOCIETY OF CANADA**

**LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE
DU CANADA**

December 31, 2018

D C Tinkham FCPA FCA CMC LPA
P J Brocklesby CPA CA LPA
M Y Tkachenko CPA CA
M W G Rooke CPA CA LPA
A C Callas CPA CA
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of
**The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada /
La Société Royale D'Astronomie Du Canada**

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada / La Société Royale D'Astronomie Du Canada ("the Society") which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2018, and the statements of revenue and expenses, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at December 31, 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many charitable organizations, the Society derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible of satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Society and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation revenue, excess of revenue over expenses for the year, assets or unrestricted net assets.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report thereon

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report of the Society but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Annual Report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditor's report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information, and in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

TORONTO, Ontario

March 23, 2019



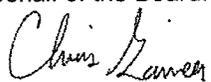
Licensed Public Accountants

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA
Balance Sheet

As at December 31	2018	2017
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 137,341	\$ 77,436
Accounts receivable	59,877	36,990
Receivable from SkyNews Inc. (note 5)	-	9,628
Inventory	22,007	17,608
Prepaid expenses	22,662	23,340
	241,887	165,002
Investments (note 4)	670,261	859,942
Investment in SkyNews Inc. (note 5)	198,737	215,238
Capital assets (note 6)		
Tangible assets	52,771	6,786
Intangible assets	27,403	41,455
	\$ 1,191,059	\$ 1,288,423
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 56,308	\$ 29,434
Deferred revenue		
Membership fees for ensuing years	136,659	123,662
Journal subscriptions	21,351	18,918
Unamortized life membership fees (note 7)	18,552	21,202
	232,870	193,216
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	462,243	542,097
Internally restricted (note 9)	495,946	553,110
	958,189	1,095,207
	\$ 1,191,059	\$ 1,288,423

Commitment (note 8)

On behalf of the Board:



President



Treasurer

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIETE ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Years ended December 31	Internally Restricted (note 9)	Unrestricted	2018	2017
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 553,110	\$ 542,097	\$ 1,095,207	\$ 1,138,525
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	-	(137,018)	(137,018)	(43,318)
Transfers (note 9)	(57,164)	57,164	-	-
Balance, end of year	\$ 495,946	\$ 462,243	\$ 958,189	\$ 1,095,207

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Years ended December 31	2018	2017
Membership fee revenue	\$ 209,637	\$ 212,743
Publication revenue		
Observer's Handbook	127,099	121,033
Observer's Calendar	34,230	35,249
Journal	30,322	35,467
Shipping and handling	26,248	35,354
Other Publications	4,540	7,436
Educational aids	4,180	4,055
	226,619	238,594
Miscellaneous income		
Donations and grant	185,565	21,420
Other income	14,951	12,363
Promotional products	7,053	33,381
SkyNews Inc. (note 5)	(16,501)	2,683
	191,068	69,847
Investment income (net)		
Gain (loss) on investments	(22,532)	25,287
Interest and dividends	18,378	19,879
Investment manager fees	(8,758)	(11,658)
	(12,912)	33,508
Total revenue	614,412	554,692
Publication costs		
Journal	45,367	47,699
Freight and handling costs	34,080	38,072
Cost of publications sold	32,153	34,696
Observer's Handbook	4,768	2,614
	116,368	123,081
Operating costs		
Office salaries and employee benefits	209,440	190,694
Membership services	94,245	92,717
Advertising and marketing	67,919	13,289
Occupancy	54,801	28,680
Office expenses	53,869	34,950
Services	41,349	37,769
Amortization of capital assets	29,303	25,539
Committees	28,975	48,007
Travel expenses	28,458	41,592
Robotic telescope	24,254	-
Cost of promotional items sold	2,449	7,667
Strategic planning	-	6,150
Recovery of office salaries and rent (note 5)	-	(52,125)
	635,062	474,929
Total expenses	751,430	598,010
Excess of expenses over revenue for the year	\$ (137,018)	\$ (43,318)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

LA SOCIETE ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

Statements of Cash Flows

Years ended December 31	2018	2017
Cash provided (used) by operating activities		
Excess of expenses over revenue for the year	\$ (137,018)	\$ (43,318)
Charges not requiring a current cash payment or receipt		
Amortization of capital assets	29,303	25,539
Amortization of life membership fees	(2,650)	(2,650)
Loss (income) of SkyNews Inc.	16,501	(2,683)
	(93,864)	(23,112)
Changes in non-cash working capital components		
Accounts receivable and receivable from SkyNews Inc.	(13,259)	(15,500)
Inventory	(4,399)	13,560
Prepaid expenses	678	(3,819)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	26,874	(621)
Deferred revenue	15,430	6,705
	(68,540)	(22,787)
Cash provided (used) by investing activities		
Investments (net)	189,681	17,704
Purchase of capital and intangible assets	(61,236)	(34,375)
	128,445	(16,671)
Increase (decrease) in cash during the year	59,905	(39,458)
Cash, beginning of year	77,436	116,894
Cash, end of year	\$ 137,341	\$ 77,436

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2018

1 Organization

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada ("the Society") is a Canadian corporation without share capital and a registered charitable organization, incorporated for the purpose of stimulating interest in and promoting astronomy and related sciences. The Society is not subject to income taxes pursuant to exemptions accorded to registered charities in the income tax legislation.

2 Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

a) Cash

Cash includes cash on hand and deposits in financial institutions.

b) Investments

The Society has elected to value all investments, with the exception of the investment in SkyNews Inc., at fair value, which is based on quoted market values.

c) Investment in SkyNews Inc.

The Society purchased SkyNews Inc., a private corporation, on June 29, 2015 to further the Society's mission. SkyNews Inc. publishes a highly regarded magazine which provides an excellent source of educational information on astronomy and allied sciences to the public.

The Society owns 100% of the shares of SkyNews Inc., a profit oriented entity, and accordingly controls the corporation. The Society has elected to account for the investment using the equity method.

d) Inventory

Inventory is comprised of publications and promotional items for re-sale and is carried at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost is determined on an average cost basis.

e) Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Cost comprises the purchase price and any directly attributable cost of preparing the asset for its intended use.

A capital asset is tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that its carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized in the statement of revenue and expenses when the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the sum of the undiscounted cash flows resulting from its use and eventual disposition. The impairment loss is measured as the amount by which the carrying amount of the capital asset exceeds its fair value. An impairment loss is not reversed if the fair value of the capital asset subsequently increases. As at December 31, 2018, no such impairment exists.

Amortization is provided over the estimated useful lives of the assets using the straight-line basis as follows:

Tangible assets:	Telescope	7 years
	Computer hardware	3 years
	Office furniture	10 years
	Leasehold improvements	15 months
Intangible assets:	Software	5 - 10 years
	Website development	3 years, 1/2 in year of acquisition

f) Revenue recognition

i) Membership fees

Membership fees received in the first half of the year are recognized during the current year. Those received in the second half of the year are recorded as deferred revenue and recognized in the following year. The Society previously offered life memberships to members. Life memberships received in prior years were credited to unamortized life membership fees liability account, as described in note 7. The unamortized life membership fees are being recognized as revenue evenly over 10 years to 2025.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2018

2 Significant accounting policies continued

f) Revenue recognition continued

ii) Contributions

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable, if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

iii) Investment income

Investment income is recognized on an accrual basis. The unrealized gain or loss on investments, being the difference between cost and fair value, is recognized in investment income for the year.

iv) Subscriptions and publications

Journal subscription revenues are amortized into income over the subscription period. Publications are recognized as revenue when shipped.

g) Contributed services

The Society is dependant on the voluntary services of many individuals. The value of donated services is not recognized in these financial statements.

h) Management estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Significant estimates include the impairment of accounts receivable and the useful lives of capital assets. All estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made to the statement of operations as appropriate in the year they become known.

i) Financial instruments

i) Measurement

The Society initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. The Society subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost except for its investments which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in the statement of revenue over expenses for the year.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

ii) Impairment

At the end of each reporting period, the Society assesses whether there are any indications that a financial asset measured at amortized cost may be impaired. When there is an indication of impairment, the Society determines whether a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows from the financial asset and it reduces the carrying amount of the asset to the highest of the following: i) the present value of the cash flows expected to be generated by holding the asset discounted using a current market rate of interest appropriate to the asset; ii) the amount that could be realized by selling the asset at the statement of financial position date; and iii) the amount the Society expects to realize by exercising its rights to any collateral held to secure repayment of the asset net of all costs necessary to exercise those rights. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced directly or through the use of an allowance account. The amount of the reduction is recognized as a bad debt in the statement of revenue and expenses. When the extent of impairment of a previously written-down asset decreases and the decrease can be related to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized, the previously recognized impairment loss is reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account. The amount of the reversal is recognized in the statement of revenue and expenses in the period the reversal occurs.

iii) Transaction costs

Transaction costs are recognized in the statements of revenue and expenses in the period incurred, except for financial instruments that will be subsequently measured at amortized cost. Investment management fees associated with the Scotia McLeod managed portfolio are expensed as incurred.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA**LA SOCIETE ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA**

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

3 Helm Fund

The Society is trustee of an endowment fund created by Mr. Walter J. Helm (a former Royal Astronomical Society of Canada member) who passed away June 5, 1960. In his will he provided a bequest to the Society that was to be used to support the general purposes of the David Dunlap Observatory (DDO) in Richmond Hill, Ontario. Under the terms of a 2010 court interpretation, the income of the Helm Fund is presently being applied in support of on-going public education programs at the DDO site.

The fair value of the total assets of the Helm Fund under administration by the Society at December 31, 2018 are \$140,585 (2017 - \$145,407) and are excluded from the Society's financial statements as the Society is not the legal owner or beneficiary of the Fund.

4 Investments

As at December 31	2018	2017
Managed portfolio at ScotiaMcLeod		
Fixed income investments	\$ 294,330	\$ 377,308
Canadian equity investments	215,645	302,970
U.S. equity investments	122,702	147,949
Cash	37,584	31,715
	\$ 670,261	\$ 859,942

The actively managed portfolio with Scotia Wealth Management (Scotia McLeod) includes 16 fixed income investments (2017 - 17 investments) comprised of government and corporate bonds with stated interest rates ranging from 1.20% to 3.19% (2017 - 1.20% to 3.75%), maturing on dates ranging from March 1, 2019 to December 15, 2023 (2017 - August 9, 2018 to June 15, 2022).

The Canadian equity investments include share and trust units of 33 Canadian entities (2017 - 29 Canadian entities). The single largest holding is 140 shares of Royal Bank with a market value of \$13,082 (2017 - 265 shares of Toronto-Dominion Bank with a market value of \$19,517).

The U.S. equity investments include share and trust units of 33 entities (2017 - 34 entities). The single largest holding is 48 shares of Microsoft Corp. with a market value of \$4,875 US\$ (2017 - 61 shares of Microsoft Corp. with a market value of \$5,218 US\$).

The fixed income and equity investments have been recorded at market values based on pricing information provided by Scotia McLeod.

5 Investment in SkyNews Inc.

The Society purchased 100% of the common shares of SkyNews Inc. on June 26, 2015. The fiscal year end of SkyNews Inc. is March 31, accordingly, the net income for the year ended March 31, 2018 has been recognized in the financial statements of the Society in 2018. The following summary is taken from the unaudited financial statements of SkyNews Inc.

As at March 31	2018	2017
Total assets	\$ 82,039	\$ 119,546
Total liabilities	193,192	214,198
Total deficit	(111,153)	(94,652)
Year ended March 31	2018	2017
Total revenue	543,063	\$ 531,159
Total cost of sales	507,212	464,732
Total expenses	52,352	63,744
Net income (loss) for the year	(16,501)	\$ 2,683

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements
 December 31, 2018

5 Investment in SkyNews Inc. continued

The Society has recognized cost recoveries totaling \$Nil (2017 - \$52,125) for office salaries and rent charged to SkyNews Inc. Included in membership services expense is \$50,087 (2017 - \$49,748) for purchases of SkyNews Magazine in the year which is distributed to Society members as part of their membership subscription. The Society also expensed \$6,236 (2017 - \$6,236) in advertising and marketing for advertisements in SkyNews Magazine.

These transactions were made in the normal course of operations and have been measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

6 Capital assets

	2018		2017	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Cost	Accumulated Amortization
Tangible assets				
Telescope	\$ 51,947	\$ 5,566	-	-
Computer hardware	\$ 18,513	\$ 16,531	\$ 15,729	\$ 14,595
Office furniture	6,094	2,353	2,629	1,635
Leasehold improvements	4,989	4,323	4,989	332
Library	1	-	1	-
	\$ 81,544	\$ 28,773	\$ 23,348	\$ 16,562
Net book value		\$ 52,771		\$ 6,786
Intangible assets				
Software	\$ 104,594	\$ 78,815	\$ 103,503	\$ 64,009
Website development	13,715	12,091	11,766	9,805
	118,309	90,906	115,269	73,814
Net book value		\$ 27,403		\$ 41,455

7 Unamortized life membership fees

	2018	2017
Life membership fees as of January 1	\$ 21,202	\$ 23,852
Deduct: Amortization to income	(2,650)	(2,650)
Balance, December 31	\$ 18,552	\$ 21,202

8 Commitment

The Society leases space for offices and a museum. The leases extend to March 31, 2019. The minimum annual payments required under the leases, excluding an estimate of the proportionate share of property taxes, maintenance and insurance for the premises, for fiscal 2019 is \$6,267. Property tax, maintenance and insurance in addition to the base rent is estimated at \$32,000 for calendar 2019, provided the leases are extended to December 31, 2019.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA**LA SOCIETE ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA**

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2018

9 Internally restricted net assets

The Society has internally restricted certain funds. The Ruth Northcott Education Fund (formerly the Ruth Northcott Fund) was established in 1969 and funds are used for a variety of specified purposes related to public education and outreach. The RASC Legacy Fund (formerly the P.M. Millman Endowment Fund) was established in 1990 for the purpose of providing for the long-term growth of the Society. The Sustaining Membership Fund was established in 2009 to encourage Centres to organize and host public talks by speakers from outside their local area about astronomical related topics. The Sustaining Membership Fund has been closed out to the Ruth Northcott Education Fund effective December 31, 2018 per Board of Directors authorization.

An amount equal to the investment income (loss) for the year is transferred to all funds annually on a proportionate basis. All disbursements from these funds must be approved by the Board of Directors.

	2018			2017	
	Sustaining Membership Fund	Ruth Northcott Education Fund	RASC Legacy Fund	Total	Total
Fund balance, January 1	\$ 4,067	\$ 228,921	\$ 320,122	\$ 553,110	\$ 536,526
Transferred from unrestricted net assets:					
Investment income (loss)	(48)	(2,699)	(3,774)	(6,521)	15,791
Donations	1,429	28,621	503	30,553	6,943
Expenses	(4,995)	(38,101)	(38,100)	(81,196)	(6,150)
Transfer	(453)	453	-	-	-
	(4,067)	(11,726)	(41,371)	(57,164)	16,584
Balance, December 31	\$ -	\$ 217,195	\$ 278,751	\$ 495,946	\$ 553,110

10 Financial instruments

The Society is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Society's risk exposure and concentrations.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The Society is exposed to credit risk through its cash, accounts receivable and investments. Credit risk related to cash is minimal as funds are fully insured and held by credit-worthy parties. Accounts receivable are generally unsecured. At December 31, 2018 two customers account for 81% of the total accounts receivable balance. Both were collected in full in 2019. The investment policy requires diversification of investments within categories, and sets limits on exposure to individual investments.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Society will not be able to meet a demand for cash or fund its obligations as they come due. The Society meets its liquidity requirements by ensuring adequate cash is maintained and investments are available to be converted to cash if and when required.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk is comprised of currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk.

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2018

10 Financial instruments continued

Market risk (continued)

Currency risk

Currency risk reflects the risk that the Society's earnings will decline due to the fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The Society has cash, investments and accounts receivable denominated in U.S.\$ totaling \$158,976 US\$ at December 31, 2018 (2017 - \$171,548). The exchange rate used to convert US\$ assets at December 31, 2018 is \$1 US = 1.3642 Cdn (2017 - \$1.2545 Cdn).

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Society is subject to interest rate risk to the extent of its fixed income investments and cash on deposit with financial institutions that earn interest at market rates. The Society manages its exposure to the interest rate risk of its cash by maximizing the interest income earned on excess funds while maintaining the liquidity necessary to conduct operations on a day-to-day basis. Fluctuations in market rates of interest on cash do not have a significant impact on the Society's results of operations.

The primary objective of the Society with respect to its fixed income investments is to ensure the security of principal amounts invested, provide for a high degree of liquidity, and achieve a satisfactory investment return.

Other price risk

Other price risk refers to the risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from currency risk or interest rate risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer or factors affecting all similar instruments in the market.

The Society is exposed to other price risk because of its equity investments.

Changes in risk

There have been no changes in the Society's risk exposures from the prior year.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES—2018

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2018

Red and White Club, McMahon Stadium, University of Calgary on Saturday, 2018 June 30 at 10:00 MDT and Sunday, 2018 July 1 at 09:00 MDT

1. Call to Order

Saturday, 2018 June 30, 10:00 MDT

2. Adjournment of Annual General Meeting to Sunday, 2018 July 1, 09:05 MDT.

Motion AGM 18-8-1

Don Town moved that the AGM be adjourned and restarted on Sunday, July 1 at 09:00 MDT, seconded by Craig Levine. CARRIED.

3. Call to Order

Sunday, 2018 July 1, 09:00 MDT.

4. Approval of the minutes of the 2017 AGM

MOTION 18-8-2

Moved by Don Town that the minutes of the 2017 AGM be approved, seconded by Pat Kelly. CARRIED.

5. President's Report

Colin Haig introduced the outgoing Board and our new national fundraising consultant and presented his report to the Board (previously circulated by email). Colin spoke of the charitable activities of the Society, the changing demographics of the Society, and concerns about creating a welcoming Society for all ethnicities, genders, and cultures. Colin spoke of being the "bookend president" ending our first 150 years and handing over to the next president to lead us into the next.

6. Other Reports:

1st VP: Chris Gainor presented his report to the Board, which was previously circulated by email.

2nd VP Robyn Foret presented his report to the Board, which was previously circulated by email and named the incoming Board members and officers.

Secretary: Charles Ennis presented his report to the Board, which was previously circulated by email, and reminded members of the advantages of the Public Speaker's Program.

Colin invited the new Treasurer Catherine Carr to introduce herself.

7: Moment of Silence for Deceased Members.

8. Treasurer

Randy Attwood presented the Society's financial statements and gave the Treasurer's report, which forms part of the Annual Report. Randy spoke of rising administrative costs.

MOTION 18-8-3:

Craig Levine moved that the financial statements be accepted as presented, seconded Stan Runge.

Members of the Society asked the Board questions about the financial statements and investments. Colin Haig called the question. CARRIED.

9. Executive Director's Report:

Randy Attwood presented an Executive Director's report. Randy spoke of the success of the 2017 total solar eclipse, the US Edition of the *Observer's Handbook*, the National Star Party, the Society's additional office space to display RASC and CASCA archives, summer students funded with a national grant, the RASC stamps and coin, the Robotic Telescope, the RAS visit, and encouraged members to meet the RASC office staff. Another National Star Party is planned for September. Randy spoke of Past President Dr. Halliday, who recently passed away.

10. Committee Reports

Astroimaging

Randy Attwood spoke about activities of this new committee and their gallery on line.

Awards

Craig Levine encouraged Centres to nominate people for awards.

Constitution

Chris Gainor spoke of upcoming review of policies. Centres in BC recently updated their constitutions due to the new Societies Act. Chris said he expected that similar Ontario legislation may be proclaimed soon.

Education

Lauri Roche mentioned the loss of several long-standing committee members and briefed members on the online brochure for the upcoming Mars opposition as well as other handouts produced by the EPO. Lauri announced that the committee would be reissuing the IYA cards from 2009. Robyn Foret spoke of Canada-Wide Science Fair activities.

Finance

Catherine Carr invited members to serve on the Finance Committee.

Fundraising

Heather Laird spoke of the fundraising consultant's successful grant applications resulting in summer student employees for the RASC head office, the Trottier Foundation application, and invited people to join the committee.

History

Randall Rosenfeld spoke of our history as a resource and encouraged Centres to use the archives and participate. Randall introduced new History Committee Vice Chair Clark Muir.

Information and Technology

Craig Levine thanked his committee for their hard work, and introduced new chair Roger Nelson.

Light-Pollution Abatement

LPA Chair Robert Dick submitted a report to members by email. Roland Duchesne reported a banner year for Dark-Sky Preserves (4) and of a resurgence of interest in nocturnal ecology and astrotourism. Roland reported that the committee was working on more dark-sky applications and nocturnal preserves.

Membership and Development:

Roland Duchesne thanked the people who make things happen on the Society's social networking channels.

Nominating

Robyn Foret spoke briefly on the strategic plan, financial sustainability, and changes to National Council structure.

Observing

Murray Paulson reported members earning 14 observing certificates. Murray said many Centres now have local certification and spoke of observing video projects in progress being 60% complete. A French language update is under way and two new observing programs are upcoming.

Publications

Chris Gainor recognized the work of the volunteers on the committee, the success of the US edition of the *Observer's Handbook*, the sale of children's books in e-store, the Plaskett biography *Northern Star*, the appointment of Charles Ennis as a publications manager, the upcoming *Solar Observer's Handbook*, and the ongoing work on Davy Levy's *Nightwatchman's Journey* autobiography.

Public Speaking

Charles Ennis spoke of this earlier in his Secretary's report.

Special Projects

Katrina Ince-Lum spoke about under utilization of this program. Peter Broughton acknowledged the support of the Special Projects program for his book *Northern Star*.

150th Anniversary Working Group

Randall Rosenfeld asked members of this committee to come forward to be recognized. June MacDonald spoke of the 150th An-

niversary Banner Project and encouraged people to get the PDF of this banner. Heather Laird reported on the history podcasts. Lauri Roche spoke of the Imagining the Skies project and encouraged participation and voting for entries at imaginingtheskies.ca. Colin Haig recognized the service of committee volunteers and encouraged people to volunteer to serve on committees. Randy Attwood gave past president Craig Levine a plaque to recognize his service to the Society.

11: Appointment of Auditor.

MOTION 18-8-4: Steve Bedingfield moved that Tinkham and Associates be appointed as the auditor for the Society, seconded by David Brown. CARRIED.

12. Other Business

n/a

13. Adjournment

Dennis Lyons moved for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:33 MDT. Next AGM meeting 2019 June 16 in Toronto.

Charles Ennis

Secretary

CENTRE TREASURERS' REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

		Belleville	Calgary	Edmonton	Halifax	Hamilton	Kingston	Kitchener-Waterloo	London	Mississauga
REVENUE										
Membership	Membership Fees: Centre Fee	817	10,046	6,798	2,702	3,438	1,264	3,055	3,110	3,476
	Membership Fees: Affiliate						23			
	Membership Fees: other									
	Centre Newsletter				255					
Donations / Fundraising	Donations		3,059	3,039	25		1,775			319
	Fundraising		21,051	45,939						445
Sales Revenue	Sale of Observer's Handbooks									
	Sale of Observer's Calendars	112	870	1,410	720	120	640	520	474	585
	Other Publication Sales									942
	RASC promotional items	20			340			50		
	Other Sales						231	497		
Subscription Revenue	Astronomy / Sky & Telescope									
	Other									
Events Revenue	Star Parties	819	617	1,605	5,779					
	Annual Dinner		2,836					1,560	1,084	
	Astronomy Day									
	Meetings									
	Other Events	30		1,000		2,215				113
General Assembly Revenue	General Assembly		(145)							
Miscellaneous Revenue	Interest and Dividends	1		48	171		91	39		
	Advertising									
	Observatory Site		180							
	Equipment Rentals/Loans		2,722							
	Public Services, events, outreach		1,760	72,649						
	Miscellaneous		2,272	590	300	583		628	3,574	
TOTAL REVENUE		1,799	45,267	60,429	10,292	6,356	4,024	6,350	8,242	5,880
EXPENDITURES										
Sales Expenses	RASC Publications	361	797	1,506	1,080	1,182	355	762		405
	Other Publications									
	Newsletter				406		38		348	
	RASC promo items	19	899	683		169				253
	Other									
Event Expenses	Star Parties	554	1,707	3,098	4,500			120		
	Annual Dinner	300	2,927	577				2,027		594
	Astronomy Day									
	BIYA									
	Meetings		555	905	169	856	634	333	20	
	Other Events		353	5,488	1,840	310	772	452	184	750
Travel	General Assembly and Council Meetings	805							2,029	
Administrative Expenses	Office Administration	14		982	551	294	31	435		265
	Equipment and Supplies		985		498		13		68	
	Insurance		2,700	1,405	1,297	1,668	486	486		486
	General Expenses and Audit	8	1,494				60			
	Awards	389	1,104	1,505		91		84		163
	Donations			3,234	66				500	
	Advertising									1,181
Miscellaneous Expenses	Observatory and Site Expenses	163	8,526	72,587	247	3,113	147	177	665	
	Equipment & Supplies/Library			2,002		142				
	Depreciation		1,923		521					1,096
	Miscellaneous		4,010	3,608		352	326	1,020	2,987	483
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		2,613	27,980	97,578	11,175	8,177	2,862	5,896	6,799	5,676
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT ON OPERATIONS		(814)	17,287	(37,149)	(883)	(1,821)	1,162	454	1,443	204
ASSETS	Current assets	5,445	91,746	81,800	19,561	25,995	30,231	16,150	16,110	18,656
	Capital assets	783		222,500	11,083	104,178			35,758	
	Total assets	6,228	91,746	304,300	30,644	130,173	30,231	16,150	51,868	18,656
LIABILITIES	Current liabilities		61,946		1,240					422
	Long-term liabilities			24,000						
EQUITY	Net Equity	6,228	29,800	280,300	29,404	130,173	30,231	16,150	51,868	18,234
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		6,228	91,746	304,300	30,644	130,173	30,231	16,150	51,868	18,656

CENTRE TREASURERS' REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

		C. F. de Montréal	New Montréal	Brunswick	Niagara	Okanagan	Ottawa	Prince George	Regina	St. John's	Sarnia
REVENUE											
Membership	Membership Fees: Centre Fee	3,765	1,887	2,010	2,634	6,764	1,497	743	1,719	222	
	Membership Fees: Affiliate										
	Membership Fees: other				565			570			
	Centre Newsletter										
Donations / Fundraising	Donations	486		796	6,873	1,185	1,531	60	525		
	Fundraising			183	9,996		12,000	1,285			
Sales Revenue	Sale of Observer's Handbooks										
	Sale of Observer's Calendars	220	730	96	1,080	1,703	900	935	675	150	
	Other Publication Sales			15							
	RASC promotional items			88	279						
	Other Sales			654	183		61	4,114			
Subscription Revenue	Astronomy / Sky & Telescope										
	Other										
Events Revenue	Star Parties								867		
	Annual Dinner				8,048	3,375					
	Astronomy Day										
	Other Events								650		
General Assembly Revenue	General Assembly										
Miscellaneous Revenue	Interest and Dividends	801		1	20	123				183	
	Advertising										
	Observatory Site			90							
	Equipment Rentals/Loans					50				55	
	Public services, events, outreach						2,702				
	Miscellaneous			247	1,642				9,224		
TOTAL REVENUE		5,272	2,617	4,180	31,370	13,150	18,690	9,224	3,157	372	
EXPENDITURES											
Sales Expenses	RASC Publications	208		121	596	2,821	960	752	948	150	
	Other Publications		848			1,007				28	
	Newsletter				371						
	RASC promo items			37	105						
	Other			537	214	14	205	2,436			
Event Expenses	Star Parties	638	501	55				24	107		
	Annual Dinner	1,565	113		2,325	3,913		213			
	Astronomy Day										
	BIYA										
	Meetings		107	866	147			1,204	153		
	Other Events			180	1,914	1,221	8097	1,067			
Travel	General Assembly and Council Meetings		516		180						
Administrative Expenses	Office Administration		29	49	657	40	254	281			
	Equipment and Supplies		92	79	537	4	43				
	Insurance	894	218	486	2,320	2954		486			
	General Expenses and Audit	673	21	107	131		583				
	Awards			50	23	570					
	Donations		30	48	500						
	Advertising			20		45					
Miscellaneous Expenses	Observatory and Site Expenses	4,892	126	607	16,625	3,549	6081	652			
	Equipment & Supplies/Library		19			153					
	Depreciation		339	796		2,460					
	Miscellaneous	715		850	2,661	5,386	234	573			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		9,585	2,959	4,353	26,233	24,702	18619	7,801	1,975	178	
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT ON OPERATIONS		(4,799)	(342)	(173)	5,137	(11,552)	71	1,423	1,182	194	
ASSETS	Current assets	78,213		10,723	36,812	58,966	12,7589	18,177	4,919	2,600	
	Capital assets	18,824		14,869	256,114	20,036		72,725	23,331		
	Total assets	97,037		25,592	292,926	79,002	12,7589	90,902	28,250	2,600	
LIABILITIES	Current liabilities					2,566	(872)				
	Long-term liabilities										
EQUITY	Net Equity	97,037		25,592	292,926	76,436	12,8461	90,902	28,250	2,600	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		97,037		25,592	292,926	79,002	127,589	90,902	28,250	2,600	

CENTRE TREASURERS' REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

		Saskatoon	Sunshine Coast	Thunder Bay	Toronto	Vancouver	Victoria	Windsor	Winnipeg	Yukon
REVENUE										
Membership	Membership Fees: Centre Fee	2,544	1,497	966	17,795	5,447	5,291	2,785	4,325	1,100
	Membership Fees: Affiliate									
	Membership Fees: other									
	Centre Newsletter									
Donations / Fundraising	Donations	167	2,637	50	20,218	169	721	1,096		1,335
	Fundraising	414	9,700		5,694		200	442		84,187
Sales Revenue	Sale of Observer's Handbooks									
	Sale of Observer's Calendars		120	410	1,040	1,442	766	460	496	
	Other Publication Sales					29		1,920		
	RASC promotional items					28				
	Other Sales	200	215			1,412	8,327			
Subscription Revenue	Astronomy / Sky & Telescope									
	Other									
Events Revenue	Star Parties	14,999					569			2,337
	Annual Dinner						1,720			
	Astronomy Day									
	Other Events		240							
General Assembly Revenue	General Assembly									
Miscellaneous Revenue	Interest and Dividends	115		6		5,491	10		27	
	Advertising									
	Observatory Site				12,850			944		
	Equipment Rentals/Loans									
	Public Services, events, outreach				8,837			125		500
	Miscellaneous				1,967		460			
TOTAL REVENUE		18,439	14,410	1,432	68,401	14,019	18,064	7,772	4,848	89,458
EXPENDITURES										
Sales Expenses	RASC Publications		186	578		2,782	840	478	1,439	
	Other Publications						199	768		
	Newsletter				1,054	1,101	100			
	RASC promo items		126		3,185	364	216		881	
	Other						361			
Event Expenses	Star Parties	14,287					1,999			12,746
	Annual Dinner						2,035			
	Astronomy Day					680	316			
	BIYA									
	Meetings		703			43	905	1,289	1,150	371
	Other Events	589	80	199		1,313	1,906			
Travel	General Assembly and Council Meetings					256		117	543	533
Administrative Expenses	Office Administration	582	88	29	6,000	280			161	46
	Equipment and Supplies		120		27,882	67		268		114
	Insurance	1,424	582		4,950	486	510	2,088	670	683
	General Expenses and Audit			232	5,950	473			44	
	Awards		41		200	500			50	
	Donations		29							
	Advertising							564		236
Miscellaneous Expenses	Observatory and Site Expenses	857	10,206		14,745	667	4,436	1,594	333	34,564
	Equipment & Supplies/Library				100					
	Depreciation	1,403	3,750			829				
	Miscellaneous	379				2,589			408	75
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		19,521	15,910	1,038	64,036	12,430	13,823	7,168	5,679	49,369
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT ON OPERATIONS		(1,082)	(1,500)	394	4,365	1,589	4,241	603	(831)	40,090
ASSETS	Current assets	2,276	6,658		147,532	362,803	13,973	7,945	18,748	50,367
	Capital assets	48,484	53,397		328,111	14,330	43,820	80,000	25,000	13,642
	Total assets	50,760	60,054		475,643	377,132	57,793	87,945	43,748	64,009
LIABILITIES	Current liabilities				103,855					5,076
	Long-term liabilities									69,424
Equity	Net Equity	50,760	60,054		371,788	377,133	57,793	87,945	43,748	(10,490)
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		50,760	60,054		475,643	377,133	57,793	87,945	43,748	64,009

DONATIONS 2018

Fundraising Committee Report

The formation of an RASC Fundraising Committee led to the engagement of Fundraising Consultant Lisa Di Veto in the fall of 2017. We're delighted to report on initiatives following that appointment and that there was a significant increase in revenue over last year's donations of \$21,420. In fact, just over \$200,000 was generated in 2018!

\$ 75,000	Trottier Family Foundation
\$ 60,000	Donations from Individuals and Members
\$ 25,000	Member Major Gift
\$ 25,000	Robert Fidler Bequest
\$ 8,650	Sponsorship Fees
\$ 6,720	Canada Summer Jobs Wages
\$ 5,000	Foundation Grants

Thank you to everyone for your generous support! Many members helped celebrate RASCs 150th anniversary with a donation—often giving for the first time. Others supported the Robotic Telescope Project, a program in development to access images and data from equipment housed in a nearly always clear skies Californian observatory. Support was also designated to the Ruth Northcott Education Fund, which allocates grants to Centres for various activities, and the Legacy Fund (prior name Peter Millman Endowment Fund). Individuals were encouraged to enrol in monthly dona-

tions, make gifts of stocks, or arrange legacy gifts, such as naming RASC as beneficiary in an insurance policy or bequest. Donors now receive timely recognition for their gifts and Board members place personal thank-you calls in gratitude, as able.

Financial support is key to the Society's ability to develop and deliver important charitable programming and services. The Trottier Family Foundation gift for example, allowed RASC to appoint its first Youth Outreach Coordinator to provide resources and activities engaging more young people in astronomy.

The Fundraising Committee is taking a leadership role in sharing revenue options with Centres with a goal to help increase income. Please don't hesitate to contact us if we may assist your Centre with fundraising efforts or if you have a successful event or product that might be adopted by other locations. We also look forward to hearing from individuals, members, and businesses who would like to arrange their gift to help RASC continue its vital charitable mandate to advance astronomy.

Once again, thank you to everyone for your valued support!

Sincerely,

Charles Ennis

Fundraising Committee Chair

DONATIONS 2018

RASC Donations

\$100–\$249.99

Denise Ballentine
Douglas Bates
Thomas Bonner
William Bradley
Thorkell Brandson
Peter Broughton
James Bulmer
Anantha Busanelli
Perry Cash
David Chisholm
Don Clark
Ken Clowes
Joseph De Koninck
Gay Docherty
James Drinnan
Dale Ellis
Thomas English
Joyce Feinberg
Gary Finley
Donald Funston
Christopher Gainor
Randolf Girardin
Amy Gordon
Anthony Gucciardo
Janet Halliday
William Harrison
Searle Hartman
Lloyd Higgs
Jenna Hinds
Allan Hogenson
David Hogg
Gary Irwin
Rockney Jacobsen
Norman Jeffery
David Jenkins
Pat Kelly
Fintan Kennedy
Lynne Koppeser
Dave Lindo
Norah Link
Rick London
Donald Macdonald
Frederick Marlett
R. Allan Moore
Pranab Mukherjee
Julia Neeser
Asbjorn Olsen
Evans Paschal
Jack Pennings
Patrick Power
Louis Rifkin
John Ross
Charles Schaeffer
Peter Schreibermaier
Bruce Seifred
Donald Smith
Michael Suchocki

Dave Tindall
Carl Tubbs
David Turner
Marc Vermette

\$250–\$499.99

D. Randy Boddam
Gabriel Guillen
Janet Janke
Renata Koziol
Frank Walcher

\$500–\$999.99

Randy Attwood
Robyn Foret
Douglas Hube
Robert Thacker
Jackman Foundation

\$1000 and over

Jay Anderson
Anonymous
Anonymous
Lisa Di Veto
Colin Haig
Trottier Family Foundation
Robert Fidler Bequest

Ruth Northcott Education Fund

\$100–\$249.99

Bruce Aikenhead
Gary Bunclark
Perry Cash
David Chapman
James Edgar
Victor Gaizauskas
Don Howden
Logan Kameda
Shawn Lee
Asbjorn Olsen
Lauri Roche
Margaret Scorthorne-Brons
David Tremaine
Carl Tubbs
Robert Victor

\$250–\$499.99

Christina Barker
Verna McNichol

\$500–\$999.99

Randy Attwood
Len Chester
John Percy

\$1000 and over

Gordon Williams

Legacy Fund

\$100–\$249.99

Perry Cash
Searle Hartman
Shawn Lee

Robotic Telescope

\$100–\$249.99

Scott Alexander
Patrick Ashmore
Denise Ballentine
Thorkell Brandson
Robert Brereton
Eric Briggs
Don Campbell
Steve Capling
Frank Cervenko
Timothy Crozier
Erwin Diener
Jim Edgar
Peter Edwards
David Eyraud
Steven Fahey
William Gamec
Peter Gorgopa
Frank Graham
Ulrich Haasdyk
Charles Hannan
Douglas Hardy
Searle Hartman
Lloyd Higgs
Brent Hineman
David Illig
Gregory Inglis
Norman Jeffery
Michelle Johns
Shawn Lee
Darwin Little
Andrew Love
Donald Macdonald
Jacek Malinowski
Patrick McKay
Alan McKeown
R. Allan Moore
Anson Moorhouse
Henry Neil
Maia Nenkova
James Olsen
George Pasut
Ebrahim Patel

Razvan Peteanu
Kirk Potter
D. G. Potter
Hugh Ramsay
Betty Robinson
Douglas Schmidt
Peter Schreibermaier
Margaret Scorthorne-Brons
Mike Stephens
Tom Stevens
Roger Taguchi
Grant Tomchuk

\$250–\$499.99

Peter Ashenhurst
Harold Belore
David Bourgeois
Donald Bradt
Eric Briggs
Gay Docherty
James Drinnan
William Gamec
Frank Graham
Nikola Halar
Calvin Lambie
Damien Lemay
Donald Macdonald
Alan McKeown
Henry Neil
James Olsen
Gil Raineault
Brian Sutherland
Thomas Swaddle
Peter Tumilty
Cornerstone Insurance Brokers

\$500–\$999.99

Richard Armstrong
Raymond Auclair
Brian Banks
Robert Brooks
Christine Clement
Martin Gormanson
Frederick Harlow
Gary Irwin
Asbjorn Olsen
Charles Schaeffer
Tinkham LLP

\$1,000 and over

Stephen Bedingfield
James Edgar
Steven Morris
J.P. White
S.M. Blair Foundation

Thank you for your support.
Gifts of \$100 plus are recognized.