



**RASC Halifax Centre Board of Directors Meeting**  
 Tuesday, May 3, 2022: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Via Zoom - Meeting ID 872 1215 6155

<b>Agenda Items</b>				
Time	Item	Purpose	Responsibility	Support Documents / Notes
7:00 PM	1. Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of Agenda</li> <li>• Review Action List</li> <li>• Approval of Previous Minutes of Meeting</li> </ul>	Information Approval	Judy Black	Pre-circulated: Agenda: May 3, 2022 Minutes: March 29, 2022
<b>ONGOING ITEMS</b>				
	2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 2022 Member's Meeting Date Confirmation and Format</li> <li>b. Confirm Member's Meeting agenda</li> <li>c. Zoom/SMU Bookings</li> <li>d. Guest Speakers &amp; Ideas for Future Presentations</li> </ul>	Ongoing Discussion Approval	Judy Black	<b>Refer to Agenda Notes #1: 2022 Member Meeting Dates &amp; Speakers</b>  <b>Refer to Agenda Notes #2: Approved 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Dates</b>
	3. Report from National Council Representative	Information Discussion	Judy Black	No NC report Next Meeting: June 5, 2022 <b>Refer to Agenda Notes #3: GA Planning Committee - Clarification</b>
	4. Education & Public Outreach (EPO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach Requests</li> </ul>	Discussion Decision	Paul Heath Judy Black	n/a
	5. RASC Halifax Centre Website & YouTube	Discussion Decision	Judy Black	n/a
	6. Financial Update	Discussion Decision	Gregg Dill	n/a
<b>UPDATES / REPORTS</b>				
	7. SCO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates</li> <li>• Spring site cleanup (before June 10)</li> <li>• Update: Approval of Minas Energy Appreciation</li> </ul>	Information Discussion Decision	John Liddard  Mary Lou Whitehorne	n/a
	8. 2022 Nova East (Aug 26-28) <i>deferred from March 1, 2022</i>	Discussion Decision	Judy Black	<b>Refer to Agenda Notes #4: Nova East Planning Committee Report</b>
	9. Update: Dark-Sky Weekend (Aug 19-21)	Discussion Decision	Peter Hurley Tony Schellinck	n/a
	10. SCO BBQs (June 10, Sept 24) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form an ad hoc task team</li> </ul> <i>deferred from March 1, 2022</i>	Discussion Decision	Judy Black	
<b>GOVERNANCE</b>				
	11. SCO COVID Policy	Discussion Approval	Kathy Walker David Hoskin	<i>Revisions to be discussed</i>
	12. Nominating Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forming the Committee</li> <li>• Strategy for finding new President</li> </ul>	Discussion	Judy Black Peter Hurley	<b>Refer to Agenda Notes #5: Role of President</b>

	<i>deferred from March 1, 2022</i>			
	13. Governance Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• G8: RASC Halifax Centre Astroimaging Contest Criteria, v3</li> <li>• G12: Policy Regarding Expulsion from RASC Halifax Centre Membership, v3</li> </ul>	Discussion Approval	Judy Black	<b><i>Circulated with the agenda</i></b>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>				
	13. Astroimaging Contest <i>deferred from March 1, 2022</i>	Discussion Decision	Judy Black	<b><i>Refer to Agenda Notes #6: Photo Contest</i></b>
9:00 PM	Adjournment (Next meeting: May 31, 2022)			

### RASC, Halifax Centre – Member’s Meeting

Saturday, May 3, 2021 – 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Via Zoom – Meeting ID 883 2994 1038

Agenda Items		
Time*	Item	Responsibility
1:00 PM	Welcome & Introductions Photo Montage	Judy Black Paul Gray
1:15 PM	Presentations: <i>Randy Atwood – Solar Eclipse 2024</i> <i>David Chapman – What’s in a Name? How celestial objects are named</i>	Randy Atwood David Chapman
2:45 PM	Food for the Soul	Paul Heath
2:55 PM	What’s Up? (May)	David Hoskin
3:30 PM	News from the Board	Judy Black
4:00 PM	Adjournment	
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<i>Astro-Chat</i>	

\* Times are for Board of Director information only and for informing presenters of the length of their presentations; they will not be published on the Halifax Centre website. Times will be adjusted for each meeting.

### Halifax Centre Board of Directors - Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, May 3, 2022: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Via Zoom - Meeting ID 872 1215 6155

**Present:** Judy Black, Peter Hurley, Mary Lou Whitehorne, Kathy Walker, Gregg Dill, Pat Kelly, Tim Doucette, David Hoskin, Matt Dyer, Jaime Whynot.

**Regrets:** Paul Heath, John Liddard, Lisa Ann Fanning.

#### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Judy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed members.

The minutes had been pre-circulated by Peter. Minor errors had been corrected as notified by members.

#### 220503MN-Mot01

It was moved by Pat Kelly and seconded by Kathy Walker to approve the Board of Directors meeting Minutes, Version 2 of March 29, 2022, as amended.  
CARRIED.

The Meeting Agenda had been pre-circulated by email by Peter. The agenda was reviewed.

**220503MN-Mot02**

It was moved by David Hoskin and seconded by Tim Doucette to approve the May 3, 2022, Board of Directors meeting agenda, as amended.  
CARRIED.

The Action Lists, which were attached to the minutes of the previous meeting circulated by email by Peter, were reviewed.

From November 2, 2021

**Action 1:** Open.

From February 1, 2022

**Action 1:** Closed. Costs to be reviewed under item #6.

**Action 2:** Open. Judy is assuming the role on an interim basis.

**Action 4:** Open.

**220503MN-Act01**

Judy Black will contact Randy Attwood and Paul Gray to obtain an answer regarding the drop-dead date for ordering solar glasses.

From March 1, 2022

**Action 2:** Open.

From March 29, 2022

**Actions 1-5:** Closed.

**Action 6:** Open. The home page revisions are ongoing.

**Action 7:** Open.

**Actions 8-11:** Closed.

Judy apprised members that two new generic email addresses have been added to the *Contact Us* page of the Centre's website. Vice-President and Secretary have been added to the list that includes the President, Treasurer, and most of the appointed positions.

**ONGOING ITEMS**

**2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers**

Agenda Notes #1 was reviewed. Judy stated that Randy Attwood was unable to attend the May 7, 2022, meeting but he has agreed to be rescheduled for the fall. Members agreed to invite him to the meeting of November 5, 2022.

**220503MN-Act02**

Judy Black to invite Randy Attwood to speak at the November 5, 2022, Members' Meeting.

She also thanked David Hoskin for volunteering to speak about recent solar activity at the upcoming meeting. Judy also noted the Board meeting dates as cited in Agenda Notes #2 were correct. There are two Board meetings this month (today and May 31) then members meet next in September. We will deal with the AGM speaker come fall.

**3. Report from National Council (NC) Representative**

The next meeting of the National Council is Sunday, June 5, 2022. Due to concerns raised at the previous meeting, she provided clarification from the GA Planning Committee regarding the timing of the GA, AGM and Board meetings. Gregg Dill voiced concerns regarding the AGM being held separately from the GA.

**220503MN-Act03**

Judy Black to raise the concerns to the GA Working Group regarding the GA and AGM potentially being held separately and to determine if members have received any feedback from their members.

**220503MN-Act04**

Judy Black to ask Michael Watson about the use of Proxy votes at the AGM.

**4. Education and Public Outreach**

• **Outreach Requests**

Paul wasn't present and we didn't know if he had received any new outreach requests. One request had been received from a teacher and will be forwarded to members for consideration.

**5. RASC Halifax Centre Website & YouTube**

Judy indicated that the usual updates of meeting dates and times had been made. Addition of the VP and Secretary email addresses as noted previously was made. The Nova East Co-Registrars are now Pat Kelly and Melody Hamilton. Both the Nova East and the astroimaging contest email addresses have been corrected to reflect 2022. Jerry Black has agreed to accept submissions to the contest.

## **6. Financial Update**

Gregg reported that we have \$5824 in the bank; this does not include the assumed deposit for May. He has emailed Phil regarding the \$5 increase in the Centre membership fee requested last June. Phil stated he would ensure the Office Administrator straightened this out and deposited the outstanding balance owed (approximately \$400); however, a reminder to Phil and Stephanie may be required. There were also challenges with USA membership fees and the dollar exchange.

## **UPDATES/REPORTS**

### **7. SCO**

- **Update**

Although John was unable to attend, he forwarded a report. The propane tank for the furnace and all valves have been turned off for the summer season. He has also contacted Hayden Wile, the caretaker for Minas Energy, to check on the status of the gate on Salmon Hole Dam Rd. He indicated that the gate is still locked and that if it remains locked long term that we will be provided means to access the gate on our own. He did not provide details as to how we would access the gate on our own as of yet.

- **Spring Cleanup**

Given the last spring cleanup was pre-COVID, a cleanup is required before we invite guests to attend evens held at SCO. Potential dates were discussed. May 28 with the rain date of May 29 was determined. Judy noted that it will not be a major cleanup as it was in a past year. Matt suggested notification of cancellation or go-ahead be placed on the home page of the website.

- **Minas Energy Appreciation**

Mary Lou Whitehorne thanked Gregg for the reimbursement of the \$100.00 down payment on the project. The frame, matting, parchment paper, laser-writing, glass type, and final dimensions were nailed down. The frame molding has to be ordered but will arrive in plenty of time. Completion date should be end of May, well in advance of the September BBQ and observing session. Judy thanked Mary Lou for her work on this project.

### **8. 2022 Nova East (August 26-18)**

The report from the Nova East Planning Committee (NEPC) is included in Agenda Notes #4. The report includes the agenda of activities planned for the star party and the planned budget. With current plans, the general public will not have access to the observing field this year, but this will be reassessed on-site at Nova East. The next NEPC meeting is Monday, May 9, 2022.

David Hoskin inquired about purchase of the Baader film for the solar workshop for binoculars and a solar finder, with binocular filters probably being the more economical to make versus telescope. It was noted that Chris Young had solar filter material from a previous session held at Nova East. It was suggested pre-registration for the binocular session be done to facilitate purchase of required materials. The deadline for registering for the Solar Workshop would match that for T-shirt orders.

#### **220503MN-Act05**

David Hoskin to investigate the availability and cost of solar filter materials for the workshop.

The budget is outlined in the NEPC report and at this time the expected profit is \$1730.00. It is understood the numbers will vary based on actual registrations and expenditures.

#### **220503MN-Mot03**

It was moved by Gregg Dill and seconded by Kathy Walker to approve the NEPC report as presented.  
CARRIED.

### **9. Dark-Sky Weekend (August 19-21)**

Peter Hurlley reported he and Tony Schellinck met with Kejimkujik staff on April 9 to discuss the program; it is still a work in progress. They have gone through the Park agreement with the staff to determine what has and has not been done. They are trying to establish a pre-audit visit date where both will be in attendance or Peter alone. Tony will be meeting with the Park interpreters next week to conduct training as identified in the Park agreement.

The subject of light abatement is becoming more popular. The national light pollution abatement (LPA) committee sent Peter and Tony a slide deck for presentation to our Centre members to promote action on light pollution abatement. One of their members could also be invited to present it, if requested. Peter, Tony, and Tim are on the LPA Committee distribution list and receive several documents from them.

LPA is not included in our Centre's Dark-Sky Preserve (DSP) Committee terms of reference. Neither Tony or Peter wants to tackle this at this time; however, the Board needs to discuss a change to the DSP or an LPA committee.

The question for the Board is whether we want to add this to the responsibilities of the Centre. The question of volunteer capacity was also raised. Several members noted that LPA would require dedicated volunteers over an extended period of time.

**220503MN-Act06**

Peter Hurley and Tim Doucette to discuss light pollution abatement, where it best fits within the DSP Committee or as a separate entity, and report how best to go forward at the September Board meeting.

**10. SCO Barbecues**

The two BBQs are scheduled for June 10 and September 24. Volunteers are needed to organize it, especially the food. There is a list of foods needed based on previous BBQs, but we do need one or more volunteers to organize it. Judy asked if any members would be willing to take the lead or could they suggest a volunteer.

**220503MN-Act07**

Judy Black to look at previous volunteer list and attempt to recruit members to organize the SCO barbecues.

**GOVERNANCE**

**11. SCO COVID Policy**

Kathy reviewed the trifold brochure regarding the use of SCO; it will require some minor wording changes. Although the NS Health Authority has removed COVID restrictions, the Centre encourages members to continue to practice physical distancing and wear masks while using SCO. The issue of the gate has to be dealt with, i.e., contacting John Liddard to request the gate be unlocked.

**220503MN-Act08**

Kathy Walker to provide the updated trifold to Judy Black for uploading to the RASC Halifax Centre website.

**12. Nominating Committee**

Judy defined her roles as "president" and "volunteer" in agenda note #5. She wanted to make sure that Centre members could distinguish what she does in the two roles. It was suggested that the role of hosting the members meeting could be done by the President or be delegated to another member.

She also noted that come September, Board members will have to determine whether they will re-offer to sit in their current position or another capacity on the Board. This will assist the nominating committee to determine how many volunteers they need to recruit.

The nomination committee member were confirmed as Peter Hurley, Pat Kelly and David Hoskin; Chris Young will be contacted to confirm his involvement. Peter and Pat will also review the membership list. Not meeting in person has presented the challenge of getting to know members.

**13. Governance Review**

- **Policy G8: RASC Halifax Centre Astroimaging Contest Criteria**

Blair MacDonald had requested some minor wording to a few criteria in the policy and all mention of Nova East as host was removed. Notification of winners would be decided by the Centre.

**220503MN-Mot04**

It was moved by Kathy Walker and seconded by David Hoskin to approve *Policy G8: RASC Halifax Centre Astroimaging Contest Criteria* as pre-circulated.  
CARRIED.

- **Policy G12: Policy Regarding Expulsion from RASC Halifax Centre Membership, v3**

The expulsion process was separated from conflict resolution because it was such an exceptional move that therefore required a special process. It is to be used only under very extenuating circumstances. It was based on statements from the National Council and the national Board; there has only been a couple of instances in other parts of the country where this process was required. Phil Groff did provide input earlier. National RASC should be notified if this process is started here, and they could also provide some legal advice when needed. It was recognized the policy could not include all possible situations where it may be required. Judy reminded members that should there be issues with this or any other policy, the Board does have the right to modify them at any time.

**220503MN-Mot05**

It was moved by David Hoskin and seconded by Pat Kelly to approve *Policy G12: Policy Regarding Expulsion from RASC Halifax Centre Membership* as pre-circulated.  
CARRIED.

### 13. Astroimaging Contest

At the last meeting of the NEPC, it was recommended the contest be organized by the Centre and the winner be announced at one of the Fall meetings. As noted in Agenda Notes #6, the contest is a contest of the Centre with winners being announced at Nova East. Suggested dates for contest announcements, submission closing dates, adjudication notification and announcement of winners are included in the note. It was recognized that by going to the later date it would provide more time for imagers to take, process and submit their photos. Timm also noted that as an adjudicator, it was at a less busy time for him to participate.

Members agreed to the following:

- May 7 & June 4 announcement
- November 12 deadline for submission
- Announce winners at the AGM (December 3, 2022)

Members questioned how to encourage submissions from members, especially considering the expertise being developed here in Nova Scotia. To keep the contest open to new imagers, it was important to note that in the section regarding submission of photos in part B, the policy states: "The winner of any of the 3 adjudicated categories cannot submit to that category for the following year's contest."

### 14. Adjournment

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

### ACTION LIST (as of May 3, 2022):

<b>From November 2, 2021</b>		
211102MN-Act01	<b>John Liddard</b> , in consultation with Dave Lane and Gregg Dill, to establish the value of Halifax Centre capital equipment.	Open
<b>From February 1, 2022</b>		
220201MN-Act02	Board members to suggest a volunteer to assume the responsibility of printing and posting copies of Nova Notes subscribers.	Open
220201MN-Act04	<b>Paul Gray</b> to ask the 2024 Solar Eclipse task team what the final date is for ordering additional eclipse-viewing glasses from the National office.	Open
<b>From March 1, 2022</b>		
220301MN-Act02	<b>Paul Heath</b> to contact Nathan Coleman of the Weather Network about producing astronomy spots that would be created at SCO.	Open
<b>From March 29, 2022</b>		
220329MN-Act06	Judy Black and Jerry Black to develop a new home page for the RASC Halifax Centre by November 30, 2022.	Open
220329MN-Act07	<b>Judy Black</b> to check into reimbursement or replacement of old copies of Explore the Universe and get back to Gregg Dill.	Open
220329MN-Act08	<b>Judy Black</b> to announce at the April 2, 2022 Centre Member's meeting that printed copies of Nova Notes will no longer be available once current subscriptions expire.	Open
<b>From May 3, 2022</b>		
220503MN-Act01	<b>Judy Black</b> will contact Randy Attwood and Paul Gray to obtain an answer regarding the drop-dead date for ordering solar glasses.	Open
220503MN-Act02	<b>Judy Black</b> to invite Randy Attwood to speak at the November 5, 2022, Members' Meeting.	Open
220503MN-Act03	<b>Judy Black</b> to raise the concerns to the GA Working Group regarding the GA and AGM potentially being held separately and to determine if members have received any feedback from their members.	Open
220503MN-Act04	<b>Judy Black</b> to ask Michael Watson about the use of Proxy votes at the AGM.	Open

220503MN-Act05	<b>David Hoskin</b> to investigate the availability and cost of solar filter materials for the workshop.	Open
220503MN-Act06	<b>Peter Hurley and Tim Doucette</b> to discuss light pollution abatement, where it best fits within the DSP Committee or as a separate entity, and report how best to go forward at the September Board meeting.	Open
220503MN-Act07	<b>Judy Black</b> to look at previous volunteer list and attempt to recruit members to organize the SCO barbecues.	Open
220503MN-Act08	<b>Kathy Walker</b> to provide the updated trifold to Judy Black for uploading to the RASC Halifax Centre website.	Open

#### MOTION LIST (May 3, 2022):

220503MN-Mot01	It was moved by Pat Kelly and seconded by Kathy Walker to approve the Board of Directors meeting Minutes of March 29, 2022, as amended. CARRIED.
220503MN-Mot02	It was moved by David Hoskin and seconded by Tim Doucette to approve the May 3, 2022, Board of Directors meeting agenda, as amended. CARRIED.
220503MN-Mot03	It was moved by Gregg Dill and seconded by Kathy Walker to approve the NEPC report as presented. CARRIED.
220503MN-Mot04	It was moved by Kathy Walker and seconded by David Hoskin to approve <i>Policy G8: RASC Halifax Centre Astroimaging Contest Criteria</i> as pre-circulated. CARRIED.
220503MN-Mot05	It was moved by David Hoskin and seconded by Pat Kelly to approve <i>Policy G12: Policy Regarding Expulsion from RASC Halifax Centre Membership</i> as pre-circulated. CARRIED

## AGENDA NOTES

Agenda Item, Proposed By, & Date Proposed	Description Received (& Proposed Motion, if Applicable)
<b>Agenda Note #1 re: 2022 Member Meeting Dates &amp; Speakers</b>	<p><b>A) 2022 Approved Member Meeting Dates and Events</b> Members' Meeting dates were approved at the November 30, 2021, Board of Directors meetings. They have been posted on the RASC(HC) website.</p> <p><b>B) Confirmed Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 7, 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Randy Attwood (2024 Total Eclipse)</li> <li>Dave Chapman (What's in a Name? How celestial objects are named)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• June 4, 2022: <i>Astronomy: from time immemorial to the future</i> Karim Jaffer + Students (Montreal Centre) (student research using robotic Telescopes) Peter Jedicke – History of the RASC Chris Young (Sky Lore)</li> <li>• September 10, 2022 (Labour Day = Sept 5) Dr. Donald Bedard &amp; Jim Johnston (Chris Young) Dave Chapman (What's in a Name? How celestial objects are named)</li> <li>• October 1, 2022 (Thanksgiving = Oct 10) Marcin Sawicki, SMU (NIRISS – Near InfraRed Imager &amp; Slitless Spectograph) Chris Young (Sky Lore)</li> <li>• November 5, 2022</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 3, 2022 (+ AGM)</li> </ul> <p><b>C) Suggested Speakers</b></p> <p>Special Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Leslie Rogers &amp; Sara Seager</li> <li>(from Dave Chapman/Peter Jedicke) Prof. Philip McCausland (also a Handbook contributor) on the topic of the Golden Meteorite. He runs the Canadian Fireball Reporting Centre. email: pmccaust@uwo.ca</li> <li>Kaja Rotermund (formation of a high-redshift galaxy cluster)</li> <li><a href="https://rasc.ca/find-speaker">https://rasc.ca/find-speaker</a></li> <li>Dr. Samantha Lawler: New to the U of R and very busy rebuilding the astronomy program. She also has her core research and took on a leadership role in the StarLink issues and lobbying the federal government about it</li> <li>SCANS Gary Welch – Life in Space</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Note #2 re: Approval of 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Dates</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Board Meeting Dates, 2022</b></p> <p>Member Meeting dates for 2022 were approved by the Board. However, Board meeting dates need to be reaffirmed by the newly elected Board. The following dates are all on Tuesday evenings unless otherwise noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 31</li> <li>Sept 6 (Labour Day = Sept 5)</li> <li>Sept 27</li> <li>Nov 1</li> <li>Nov 29</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Notes #3: GA Planning Committee - Clarification</b></p>	<p>At the previous Board meeting, there were concerns raised regarding the timing of the GA, AGM and Board meetings. Here are excerpts from the minutes of the March 20, 2022 GA Planning Committee meeting that may answer some of the concerns raised.</p> <p>i. <u>Timing of AGM, GA and Board Meetings:</u></p> <p>Members agreed to recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The AGM is not held the same weekend as the GA. Given GA dates are approved 2 years in advance, it would be easy to establish the different AGM dates well in advance.</li> <li>The AGM should be available for in-person and virtual attendance to allow for wider attendance.</li> <li>The AGM should be scheduled <i>before</i> the GA so that the newly elected Board would be in attendance and introduced at a wine and cheese or at a special session.</li> <li>A Board of Directors meeting [of the newly elected directors and executive] could be held in conjunction with the GA if the regular meeting schedule made it timely to do so.</li> <li>The Board meetings usually scheduled before and after the AGM could continue to do so.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Notes #4: Nova East Planning Committee (NEPC) Report</b></p> <p>(from Judy Black, Chair)</p>	<p><b>NEPC Members:</b> Judy Black (Chair), Gregg Dill (Treasurer), Lisa Ann Fanning, Paul Gray, Melody Hamilton, Pat Kelly, Tony McGrath, Jaime Whynot, Chris Young.</p> <p>The NEPC's second meeting was held April 11, 2022. COVID considerations continue to be top of mind when discussing all proposed activities. Hopefully, the website will go live on Friday, May 20, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theme: <i>Together Again Under the Stars</i> was confirmed. Lisa Ann Fanning volunteered to develop the logo for t-shirts and publicity purposes.</li> <li>Friday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration</li> <li>Speaker: Melody Hamilton will address the <i>RASC Double Stars</i> observing program and will provide a hands-on session in the observing field (one or both nights).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Saturday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dave Chapman will conduct a hands-on optical cleaning workshop</li> <li>David Hoskin will address solar observing how-to and will provide a hands-on session.</li> <li>Paul Heath: <i>Walk the Solar System</i></li> <li>Flea Market (in lieu of auction). Tony McGrath to organize.</li> <li>Keynote Speaker Members agreed a local speaker would be sought, perhaps someone from SMU to address the JWST. 2020-2022 RASC Awards announced.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Friday and Saturday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Astronomers' Breakfast: No hot food offering. Robin's Donuts will provide muffins, donuts and coffee.</li> <li>Sky Tour: Paul Heath</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



- Binocular Table: Tony Schellinck to pilot the *RASC Novice Observing Program*
  - Telescope Medics: 'Medics' TBD
  - Astronomers' Lounge: to be held in a reduced capacity. All beverage, beverage mixes, and snacks will be pre-packaged.
- Sunday activities:
    - Sherman Williams Walk\* - Bird Walk with Lisa Ann & Rob & guests
    - SCO Tour for members

\* Sherman Williams had for many years conducted the Nature Walk at Nova East. In recognition of his contributions to Nova East and to the RASC Halifax Centre, it was unanimously agreed to name the walk in his honour. The walk may be a nature walk or a birding session, both of which were his passions.

- NE Budget Decisions (based on 50 registrations):
  - No change to camping fees.
  - Increased registration fee to \$40.00 (from \$35.00)
  - Increased t-shirt to \$25.00 (from \$20.00)
  - Prize budget reduced to \$600 (from \$1000)

Nova East 2022 Proposed Budget		
<b>Revenues</b>		
Camping	\$ 950.00	
Registration (50 x \$40.00)	\$2,000.00	
T-shirts (30 @ \$25.00 each)	\$ 600.00	
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	
Total Revenue		<b>\$ 3,550.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Nova East Prizes	\$ 600.00	
Camping	\$ 400.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 70.00	
Guest Speaker	\$ 250.00	
Clothing (T-shirt)	\$ 450.00	
Registration Expenses	\$ 50.00	
Total Expenses		<b>\$ 1,820.00</b>
<b>Profit/Loss</b>		<b>\$ 1,730.00</b>

Next NEPC Meeting: Monday, May 9, 2022

**Agenda Notes #5:  
Role of the  
President (from  
Judy Black)**

To assist the Board in determining a new President, it is important to understand the roles I play as "President" versus "Judy, RASC Member". I would like to make sure that everyone can make the distinction between these two roles I hold and fully enjoy doing. It will clarify the explanation for the questions asked often by potential candidates, "What will I have to do? I can't do what "X" does."

Generally speaking, the President is responsible and accountable for all activities of the Centre and can delegate required activities to Board and other Centre members. They do *not* do it all. The group I always refer to as my 'team' is there to assist, step in when needed, offer guidance and take on projects they enjoy or believe should be done. That team is not only the Board but also the members of the Centre (ones we see attending meetings and even those who don't). As President, I have never felt shy about approaching members to ask for their help or their guidance on a challenge I am having.

The role of "President" is to fulfill the responsibilities as outlined in the Centre's position description. Here are the main ones:

- Act as Chair for the Board meetings
- Collaborate with the Secretary to determine agenda, and review minutes prior to circulation.
- Recruit guest speakers (in collaboration with the other Board members)
- Serve as a member of the Nominating Committee and as an ad hoc member on other special committees (refer to Policy B2)
- Send requests/notifications to the Board and/or Centre members when requested by National RASC and its committees

	<p>As “Judy, RASC Member”, I volunteer to do things because I’m willing to do so and because I have an interest in participating in that project for the Centre. Things I do as “Judy” include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as Chair/Co-Chair Nova East Planning Committee (NEPC)</li> <li>• Act as Chair of the Governance Review Committee</li> <li>• Serve as the Centre’s representative to the National Council (NC)</li> <li>• Chair the National Council (volunteered then consequently elected)</li> <li>• Assist as proof-reader for Nova Notes</li> <li>• Work as RASC Halifax Centre website administrator (add/delete articles relating to policy, minutes, etc., and with Jerry will soon delve into giving the site a “new look”)</li> <li>• Send meeting reminders to members (Peter sends the Board reminders and will soon be doing the meeting ones as well)</li> <li>• Other tasks as assigned or volunteered for the Centre and NC</li> </ul> <p>I hope this helps in understanding what the President should do and assists in the recruitment for President when asked what they do. I also hope that one or more of the current Board members will come forward as candidates for this position. Prior to 3 years ago, I thought I couldn’t do this, I couldn’t do what my predecessor Paul Gray did. Remember that you have a team with you to go through the year’s tasks and responsibilities – you are not alone.</p>																
<p><b>Agenda Notes #6: Photo Contest</b></p>	<p>The Contest had historically been held as part of Nova East but in the past few years was adopted as a contest of the Centre with the winners being announced at Nova East.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- The 2022 NEPC has requested that for this year (as has been the case during COVID and to keep things simpler in 2022 NE planning and logistics) that the contest be organized by the Centre and that the winners be announced at one of the Fall Member’s Meeting.</li> <li>2- The Board is requested to consider the dates of announcing the Contest and date it will be announced. Over the past two years it was announced in the fall. The 2021 website reflects a December AGM announcement date, but winners were announced in October.</li> </ol> <table border="1" data-bbox="451 970 1333 1140"> <thead> <tr> <th>Contest Announcement &amp; Website</th> <th>Submission Closing Date</th> <th>Adjudication</th> <th>Announcing Winners @ Member Mtg</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>May 7 or June 4</td> <td>Sept 10</td> <td>Sept 11-21</td> <td>October 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 7 or June 4</td> <td>Oct 15</td> <td>Oct 16-26</td> <td>November 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 7 or June 4</td> <td>Nov 12</td> <td>Nov 13-23</td> <td>Dec 3 (AGM)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Board members are asked to review of the Contest policy; Blair MacDonald will also be requested to do so. (<a href="http://halifax.rasc.ca/images/documents/G8_Astroimaging.pdf">http://halifax.rasc.ca/images/documents/G8_Astroimaging.pdf</a>). Jerry Black has agreed to be the recipient of all entries and to update the website.</p>	Contest Announcement & Website	Submission Closing Date	Adjudication	Announcing Winners @ Member Mtg	May 7 or June 4	Sept 10	Sept 11-21	October 1	May 7 or June 4	Oct 15	Oct 16-26	November 5	May 7 or June 4	Nov 12	Nov 13-23	Dec 3 (AGM)
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