

RASC celebrates 150 years of Canadian Astronomy with Alberta hospitality this summer

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) has had the privilege of hosting Canadians to the skies since 1868 and no surprise has become the largest astronomy club. Founded just after Canada's confederation, it's one of the nation's oldest, long standing clubs boasting over 5,000 members in 29 centers today.

Started on December 1, 1868 as "The Toronto Astronomical Club" a simple meeting in a city of population 44,000 back then, it today has members all over the world including famed broadcaster, author Dr. David M. Levy <http://jarnac.jarnac.org/>. With continuous growth each year and the Calgary chapter at #2 in membership (just behind Toronto), it's celebrating the headquarters 150 birthday in Southern Alberta just before the Calgary Stampede.

A special website <https://rascga2018.ca/> has been set up to explain all the details, but tickets are expected to sell out soon. Not only will there be back to back lectures with demonstrations, tours to the Tyrrell Museum, Rocky Mountains and much more, Vulcan County is part of the plan.

A special, all-day tour has been planned to see both the Majorville Medicine Wheel and Carmangay Sundial for Wednesday, July 4 with bonus stops.

All done by local residents and RASC members, so if you want genuine Alberta hospitality at it's best without paying a premium, this is it.

Sky watch for the next month:

1. Venus next to thin Crescent Moon- Saturday, June 16: look NWW at dusk before setting into the midnight horizon.

2. Saturn at Opposition and Full Moon duo- Wednesday, June 27 after sunset in the SE, these two will be up all night before setting together in the dawn SW.

3. Regulus next to Crescent Moon - Monday, June 18th look



Neel ROBERTS
YOUR UNIVERSE

NWW at dusk before setting into the midnight horizon.

4. Longest Day of the Year- Thursday, June 20 this officially the summer solstice at 4:07 a.m. MDT and we will have 16 hours and 33 minutes of actual daylight. Sun officially rises at 5:21 a.m. and sets at 21:54 with high noon at 13:37.

Public Events for the next month:

Rare "One Time"

Guided Tour to the Majorville Medicine Wheel & Carmangay Sundial- This is it; Wednesday, July 4.

You can't buy this type of tour anywhere so take it while you can. Cost to be finalized as it's on a shared basis, but details at <https://rascga2018.ca/schedule/first-nations-stone-cairn-site-tour/>. Bonus Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park in the Siksika Reserve and Carmangay Tipi Ring site.

Day finishes with BBQ on a ranch before heading home.

Space limited and expected to sell out fast, so get in today!

Happy Father's Day and Welcome to Summer!

Neel Roberts is a member of the Calgary chapter of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC)-the nation's leading astronomy club founded in 1849 with over 5,000 members and 29 centers across Canada.

Neel welcomes your questions and comments at (403)560-6574, Neel_Roberts@ptccanada.com. The members meet once a month on weekends at Calgary's Rothney Observatory near Priddis and you can check out times at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/rao/calendar>.

Like them at Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/272037680377/>,

Twitter <https://twitter.com/CalgaryRASC> & YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/user/RASCCalgary>.