

Rare Remembrance Day Mercury Transit approaches

BY NEEL ROBERTS

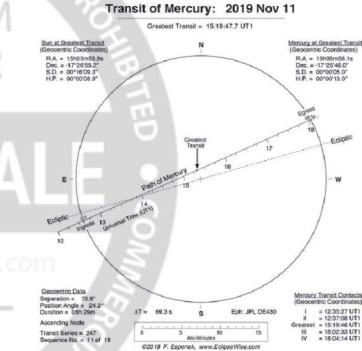
As Canadians pay tribute to our fallen soldiers, November 11th, 2019 will be a rare Mercury transit will cross our Sun starting at sunup.

Technically it starts at 05:42 AM but we in the West can't catch it until sunrise of 07:42 AM. It will go until 11:04 AM, so you'll have just over a 3-hour window to catch it.

You'll need a good binos or scope with solar filters and clear East horizon to view the event. You can check out all the detail at <http://eclipsewise.com/oh/tm2019.html> with a video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzKHbeRDrWI. While many Remembrance day services take place in the late morning, you can still watch some of it before they start. Ideally if you have an elevated view like a mountain, that's perfect for the sunrise observing. If you'd like tips on how to photograph the event, check out Alan Dyer's website <http://www.amazingssky.com/index.html>. The next one isn't until 13 years from now in 2032, so don't miss it!

Sky watch for the next month:

1. Daylight's Savings Time Ends- Sunday November 03rd at 02:00 am you'll get that hour of sleep.
2. Northern Taurids Meteor Shower Peaks- Monday, November 11th after dark forecast is 7 meteors per hour until the wee morning hours of the 12th, but the Moon will be out making it harder to see.
3. Leonid Meteor Shower Peaks- Sunday, November



17th after nightfall into the next morning look towards the constellation of Leo. Originating from the comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle, it should produce meteors at the rate of 10-15 per hour but a waning gibbous moon will light up the morning sky this year to obtrude.

4. Sunset Crescent Moon with Venus-Thursday, November 28th look SSW at dusk as they set into the night around 18:20.

Public Events for the next month:

Monthly Open House at Calgary's Rothney Observatory near Priddis-Mark down Saturday, November 23rd from 20:00 to 23:00. There will be an array of scopes operated by University of Calgary astronomers and members of the RASC Calgary. You will have the opportunity to look through the telescopes, indoor presentation and astronomers will be on hand to answer questions. Count the animals in the sky as a bull, camel, lynx, and a couple of bears will be under a moonless dark sky. The entrance fee \$30 per car. Further information, contact Jennifer Howse at jhowse@phas.ucalgary.ca, (403) 931-2366. Their website <https://www.ucalgary.ca/rao/> updated regularly.

Happy Cooler days and Meteor Watching!

Neel Roberts is a member of the Calgary chapter of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - the nation's leading astronomy club founded in 1868 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>.