



Dear friends,

I sincerely hope you, your family, neighbors and colleagues are safely coping as COVID-19 continues to affect the lives of Canadians and people around the world. RASC staff and volunteers are focused on creating online astronomy webinars, tutorials and Zoom meetings. Dozens of sessions have been posted on YouTube and over 20,000 views have resulted. This represents a significant increase in our online presence, and strategies to grow audience engagement continue to be developed.

Part of the growth is due to the public's current interest in astronomy. Also, the inability to travel and reduced recreation choices make getting outside and spending time in nature an appealing option and people are increasingly looking to the RASC for astronomy information and activities.

Today, I'm asking our dedicated members to help promote the RASC. As we approach year end and our traditional Season of Giving, please consider purchasing a gift membership for friends or relatives who may now be ready to share your passion. Since the beginning of the year, the RASC has attracted nearly 550 new members. That is incredibly encouraging given the extraordinary circumstances we're in. It seems the timing may be right to engage new people in astronomy. To purchase a gift membership, please contact Membership Coordinator, Adela Zyfi at mempub@rasc.ca or 416-924-7973. She'll personally enroll the new member, notify them of your gift and start the benefit process.

Also, in addition to gifting others, please consider making a donation to the Society. We are a charity and we depend on member contributions to provide vital activities such as astronomy webinars, publications and programs. Donations allow us to offer bursaries to members that can't renew due to the pandemic's impact and Emergency Fund donations help offset other operating losses caused by COVID-19. As an alternative to a one-time donation, please consider joining your Board of Directors, our Staff and your Fellow Members who've elected to make a monthly contribution to the Society. These regular donations provide the donor with a manageable contribution throughout the year and they offer the Society a dependable and predictable revenue stream. Contact Lisa Di Veto at 519-754-1803 or ldiveto@rasc.ca to enroll. To make your gift today, please click here: [Donate](#)

Thank you so much for being a member of the RASC! As your President, I am honored and privileged to offer my service to the Society and I'm consistently and pleasantly in awe of the ongoing Support and personal Contributions of Members across the Country. Thank you in advance for your consideration and thank you for your continuing support of our Mission, Goals and Objectives, especially during these very challenging times.

Take good care of you and yours,

Sincerely,

[Robyn Foret](#)

President

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