

Message from His Worship Mayor Stephen Mandel



Edmonton is privileged to be located in an area rich in natural resources and beauty. We often forget that the beauty of the night sky is also a resource that must be protected. By adopting new technologies and responsible choices for artificial lighting on our streets and property, such as low-wattage fixtures which direct light downwards, or motion sensors to activate intermittent lighting, we can all help reduce light pollution and save energy.

The Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve, declared September 3rd, 2006, includes Elk Island National Park as well as sections of the Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Recreation Area. It is one of only six designated areas in Canada where light pollution and artificial lighting have been controlled to preserve a natural nocturnal environment for the benefit of humans and wildlife. Our city is fortunate to be in close proximity to this optimal viewing zone for the starlit sky.

I am pleased to endorse the work of the TELUS World of Science and the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Edmonton Centre in promoting awareness of dark sky observation and light pollution abatement at the Observatory southeast of the TELUS World of Science building. I encourage everyone to visit the Observatory and take an interest in what the Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve declaration has to offer for future generations.

Yours truly,

Stephen Mandel

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