



June 2021 Bulletin

Stuart Hepple and Kevin Watson
RASC Robotic Telescope Project



Light-Pollution Abatement and the Dark-Sky Preserve Program Needs Your Support!

The Light-Pollution Abatement (LPA) Committee has greatly benefited from having a dedicated staff position. Nick Hammar, retained through an Environment Canada grant, has provided vital support for RASC program delivery. He compiled light pollution bylaws and documentation from across the country, assisted with updating lighting guidelines and procedures to certify Canada's dark-sky preserves (DSPs), updated the LPA website and assisted with social media promotions.

Nick's assignment demonstrated what can be accomplished. Promoting dark-sky preserves – RASC's little known gem of a certification program, also needs focussed attention and growth. An Alberta provincial park was recently designated as a Dark-Sky Park by the International Dark-Sky Association – a situation we hope to avoid in future by providing resources and promoting the Society's program. DSPs protect the nocturnal environment, including the dark sky and they provide an important channel through which RASC educates people about light pollution, its harmful effects and solutions. We need to bolster our dark-sky preserve program by increasing awareness of the Society's role in protecting the nocturnal environment and by strengthening our relationship with, and support of, DSP managers.

LPA Committee volunteers alone are not able to allocate full-time hours to the portfolio. Dedicated staff-time is required and we need financial support to sustain the cost of retaining staff. You can help the Society's light-pollution abatement and dark-sky initiatives. [Click here to donate!](#) Member contributions make a significant difference as we continue to seek grants. Please give today. If you have any questions, would like to volunteer or need more information, don't hesitate to contact me through www.rasc.ca/contact/LPA or Lisa Di Veto at ldiveto@rasc.ca or 519-754-1803.

Thank you!

Bob King, Chair
National LPA Committee

The 2021 General Assembly: The Stars Belong to Everyone

Join us for The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada's 2021 General Assembly! Hosted by The RASC National Office, this will be an incredible event featuring luminary industry leaders discussing hot topics of Astronomy. The four-day event is jam-packed with exciting events and fun for the entire family. This year's General Assembly will be held from June 25th - 28th. This event is 100% virtual. Zoom links to attend the event will be provided. Tickets are available for purchase now.



Youth tickets: \$10
Member tickets: \$15
Non-member tickets: \$20

Are you a RASC member?

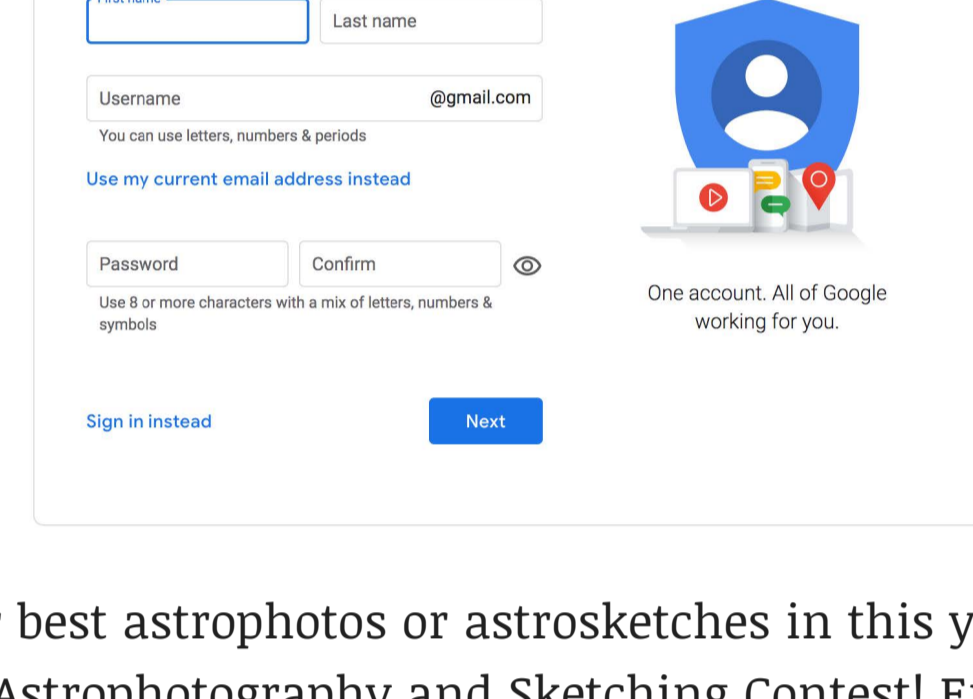
Don't forget to register for the AGM!

The AGM is a member only event and attendance is free.

For more information, to purchase tickets for the GA and to register for the AGM visit www.rasc2021ga.ca

All are welcome!

RASC GA Astrophotography and Sketching Contest



Enter your best astrophotos or astrosketches in this year's General Assembly Astrophotography and Sketching Contest! Entries will be displayed in RASC's Gathertown event space and winners will be announced over the weekend. We have four categories and you may submit as many entries as you like! Photos will be judged both on technical prowess and visual appeal. Categories include:

1. Youth (under 25)
2. General
3. Mars
4. Astrosketches

Anyone can enter; you do not need to be a RASC member! However, to win, you must be attending the 2021 GA. [Register now!](#)

Please submit your photos and sketches using [this form](#). You will need a Google Account to submit your image. If you do not have a Google Account, instructions to link your existing email address to a Google Account can be found [here](#).

RASC Forums

We have added functionality to RASC email lists. Email lists are now available either in your inbox as they have been until now or on secure.rasc.ca for more modern browsing.

We have written some documentation to assist in forum usage. If you need help accessing forums, setting up emails to your inbox or subscribing to forums, please check out the [Forum Usage Guide](#).

For general forum rules, please check out [Forum Rules](#).

Both documents are available in the new [Document Library](#) (you must be signed into secure.rasc.ca to see this library).

Still having trouble logging in? Check out our [Login Assistance](#) page at rasc.ca to learn more.

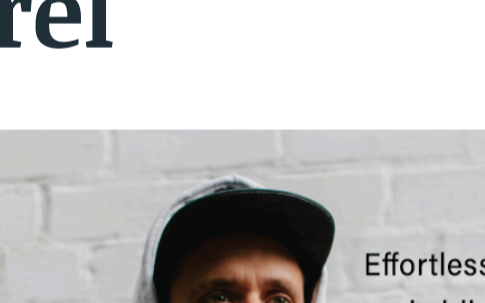
Over time we will be adding more publicly-available forums so stay tuned! We have had some difficulty with rolling out the forums to the satisfaction of all our members. We are continually working on improving your experience with the forums. You may see changes over time to forum user experience.

Solar Eclipse 2021

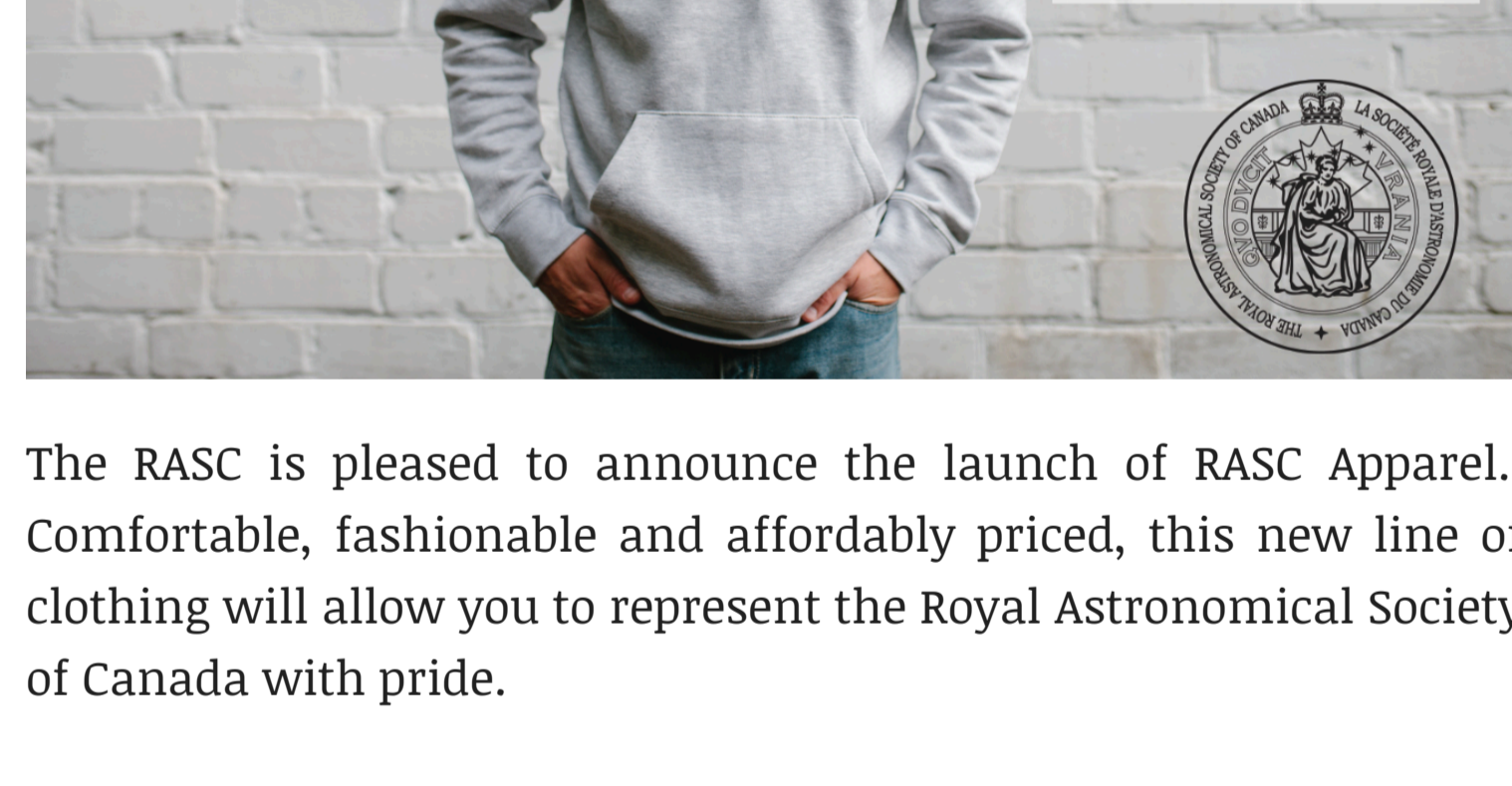
As many of you may already know, we have an Annular Solar Eclipse coming up on June 10th, first thing in the morning! Folks in eastern and northern Canada will be treated to a view of the eclipse right at sunrise.

We have been posting short videos about the eclipse on RASC's social media channels. Follow us on Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook to learn more, or check out all videos over at our [Astronomy Events](#) page!

We will be joined by Kate Russo, well-known eclipse chaser and author at RASC's 2021 General Assembly. [Register for the General Assembly now](#) to attend her talk!



RASC Apparel



The RASC is pleased to announce the launch of RASC Apparel. Comfortable, fashionable and affordably priced, this new line of clothing will allow you to represent the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada with pride.

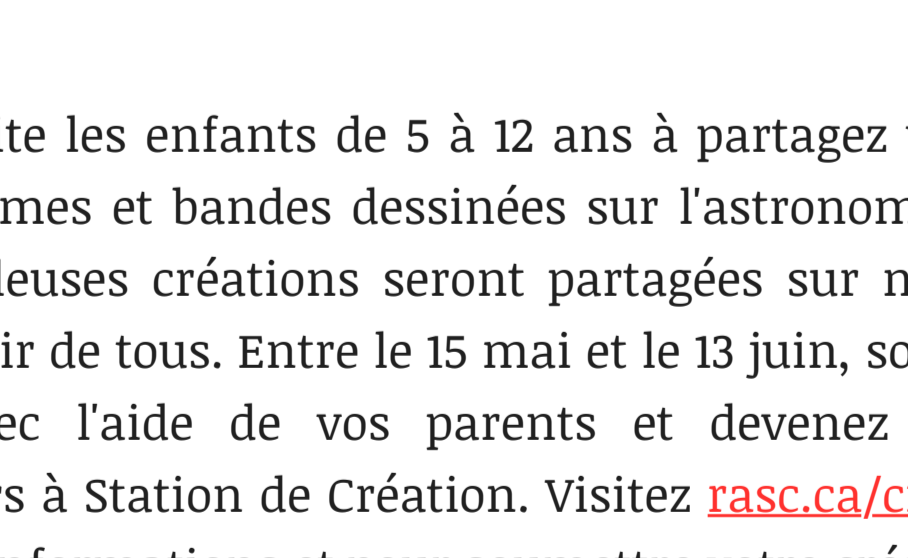
Stay tuned for our e-store launch in June.

RASC is Updating the NOVA Program!

We are updating the NOVA (New Observers to Visual Astronomy) Program, and we need your help! We are looking for volunteers to help develop the material for the new NOVA program.

To learn more about this program and how to volunteer [CLICK HERE](#) or email outreach-nova@rasc.ca!

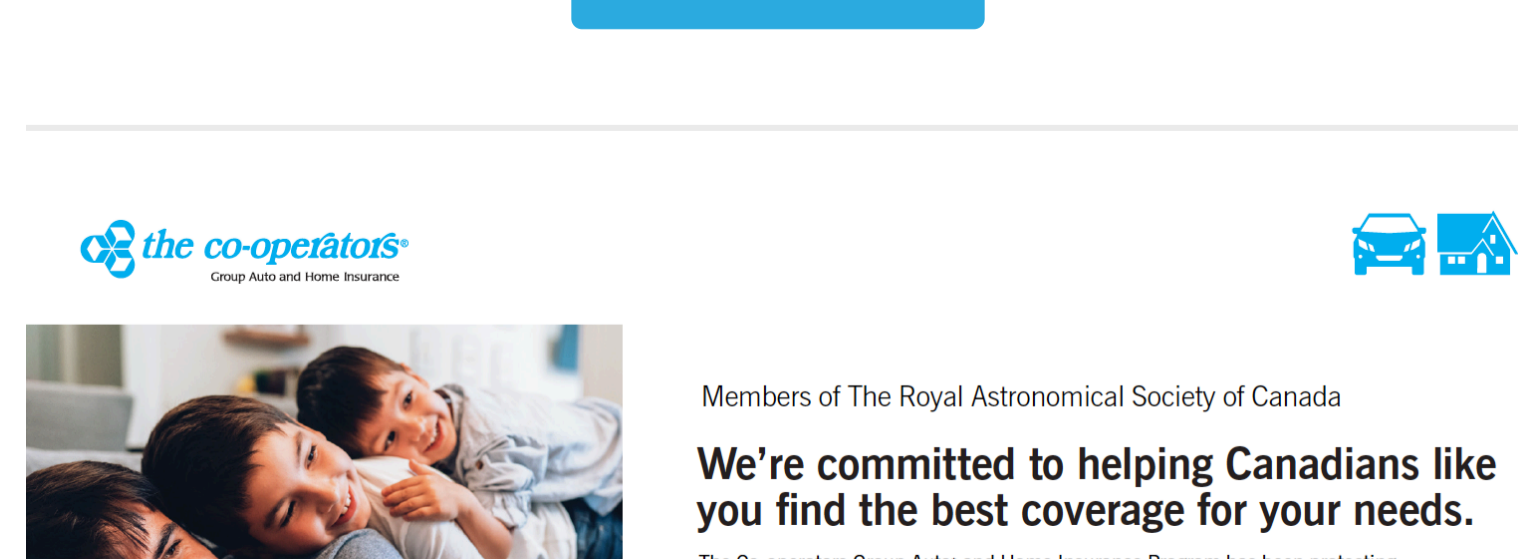
Creation Station Launch



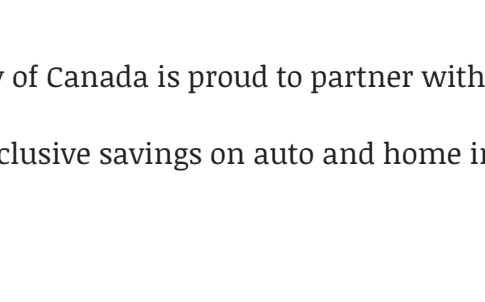
The RASC invites kids ages 5-12 to share their short stories, drawings, poems and comics about Astronomy and Space. Between May 15th-June 13th, enter your submissions with your parents' help and become the first contributors to Creation Station. These wonderful original works will be shared on our website for all to enjoy. Visit rasc.ca/creationstation for more information and to submit your creation!

La SRAC invite les enfants de 5 à 12 ans à partager vos nouvelles, dessins, poèmes et bandes dessinées sur l'astronomie et l'espace. Ces merveilleuses créations seront partagées sur notre site Web pour le plaisir de tous. Entre le 15 mai et le 13 juin, soumettez votre création avec l'aide de vos parents et devenez les premiers contributeurs à Station de Création. Visitez rasc.ca/creationstation pour plus d'informations et pour soumettre votre création!

Planets at a Glance: June 2021



Mercury is the planet to watch this month, as it wanes and treks away from the Sun, passing Venus and the Moon. Find out more about the planets' paths through our skies in Planets at a Glance by Chris Vaughan.



the co-operators

Members of The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
We're committed to helping Canadians like you find the best coverage for your needs.

The Co-operators Group Auto and Home Insurance Program has been protecting Canadians for over 40 years. You can depend on us to provide you with personalized coverage and advice.

You could also enjoy great savings* on your auto and home insurance. Experience the difference today!

Call us or get an online quote today for your chance to win one of five \$2,000 grand prizes! *Based on a claim.

You're automatically entered! If you're already insured with The Co-operators, we appreciate your business.

1-800-387-9637 / cooperatorsgroupinsurance.ca

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada is proud to partner with The Co-operators Group Limited. This partnership provides exclusive savings on auto and home insurance to all RASC members.