

THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
1991 SOLAR ECLIPSE EXPEDITION

NOVEMBER 1990 REPORT TO EXPEDITION PARTICIPANTS

Dear Registrant(s) No. 110:

I am writing to you to provide an update on the status of the Solar Eclipse Expedition and to clarify the financial arrangements for the Expedition. Undoubtedly many of you have been made aware of the demise of Worldways Airlines of Toronto, and you may well be wondering about its effect on our Expedition. We have been holding extensive discussions with our travel agent, Sunquest Incentive Travel of Toronto, and while we have no confidence that Worldways will in fact be resurrected, our discussions have made it quite clear that there are numerous other carriers that should be able to accommodate our Expedition. Sunquest and the Solar Eclipse Committee remain confident that an Expedition aircraft will be secured. Again, because charter airline companies have not yet made plans for the summer season of 1991, no such company is prepared to make a final commitment of an aircraft until early in the New Year. We will, of course, keep you apprised of developments.

Each of you has paid a \$100 deposit. As you are aware, the balance price of the Expedition is payable in two instalments, the first in January 1991 and second in March 1991. Any registrant who cancels his or her participation on the trip will forfeit the deposit. If the Expedition for some reason must be cancelled in its entirety, some or possible all of the deposit may not be returned to you. This is because the Committee has been required to make significant expenditures for site preview trips and other matters, which must be funded by the Expedition participants themselves. If, however, the Expedition must be cancelled after payment of either or both of the first and second instalments of the remainder of the price, these instalments will be returned to you in full. In other words, your maximum risk, should the Expedition be cancelled, is the \$100 deposit that you have previously paid. I am sure that you can understand the necessity for this policy, given the low price of the Expedition and the fact that the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada is organizing the Expedition on a non-profit basis.

Nonetheless, all aspects of the Expedition planning are proceeding extremely well, and we are confident that we will be able to bring the Expedition to a successful conclusion.

Yours very truly,

Michael S.F. Watson
Expedition Leader
RASE 1991 Solar Eclipse
Expedition

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