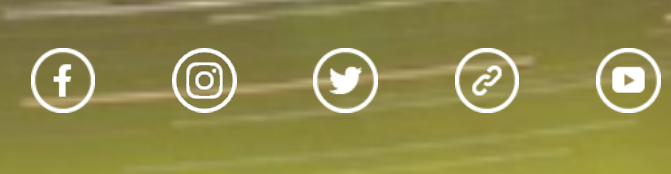




Photo: Alister Ling



January 25 to January 31, 2021 RASC Weekly: Exoplanets, Plaskett, and Native Skywatchers

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 - 19:00 to 21:00 EST
RASC Montreal Centre: An Evening of Exoplanets

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) Montreal Centre invites you to join us on Tuesday, Jan 26th at 7:00 pm EST for a discussion on Exoplanet Research. In conjunction with our friends from Guelph Physics and the Institute for Research on Exoplanets (IREX), we'll be joined by some of Canada's top researchers probing the depths of space focusing on planets external to our solar system, or as they're known to scientists, exoplanets. Planned topics include:

- The James Webb Space Telescope – an orbiting infrared observatory designed to complement and extend the discoveries of the Hubble Space Telescope to be launched later this year.
- The Ariel Mission – scheduled to launch in 2029, the Atmospheric Remote-sensing Infrared Exoplanet Large-survey Mission is the first mission dedicated to measuring the chemical composition and thermal structures of hundreds of transiting exoplanets.
- The Gaia Mission – currently in space, the Gaia mission seeks to chart a three-dimensional map of our Galaxy, the Milky Way, in the process revealing its composition, formation and evolution.

We will have a live Q&A where your questions about space exploration, space science, and the cosmos, in general, will be answered! Email montrealrasc@gmail.com with any questions in advance and we'll try to include them. Please join us on Facebook Live or the Guelph Physics YouTube page for this unique opportunity to join in with some of Canada's top space scientists!

[Check out the event on Facebook HERE!](#)

Keep an eye out for these upcoming Public Events:

- Wed, Feb 10th 8pm - RASC Montreal Centre Zoom Event - Women in Astronomy, to celebrate the International Day of Women & Girls in Science
- Sat, Feb 27th 8pm - RASC Montreal Centre Zoom Event - Mars Science Missions by Dr. Richard Léveillé

[Watch the Evening of Exoplanets here on YouTube](#)

Thursday, January 28, 2021 - 19:30 to 21:30 EST Should J.S. Plaskett be a Canadian Icon?

By Peter Broughton

John Stanley Plaskett (1865-1941) was one of our country's first professional scientists, and our first astrophysicist. After getting his start in 1905 with modest equipment at the Dominion Observatory in Ottawa, he soon persuaded the federal government to establish an observatory (the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory) on the west coast. In spite of World War I, the project was completed in 1918 and it housed the world's largest operating telescope at the time. With it, he discovered a record-breaking massive star, established the wide-spread presence of interstellar gas, and accurately pinned down the rotation rate of our home galaxy—the Milky Way. Though he was showered with recognition and awards by his colleagues, few Canadians know anything about him. Do you wonder why?

[Register for Should J.S Plaskett be a Canadian Icon](#)

Friday, January 29, 2021 - 12:00 to 13:00 EST Two Eyed Seeing: Navajo (Dine) Astronomy & NASA Moon to Mars - Native Skywatchers

Join the Native Skywatchers for an exciting session on Navajo (Dine) little known ancient astronomy! Learn how the Coyote created chaos as the Holy Beings were naming the stars. See how Navajo star knowledge is still used today, and what is the Navajo protocol for telling stories of the sky. They will focus on the skies of the Navajo winter months. Learn from Navajo traditional knowledge holders, and visit actual classrooms in the American Southwest.

Presented by: David Begay-Ph.D., Nancy Maryboy-Ph.D., Wilphina Becenti, Albert Brent Chase, Sarah Margoles, Ashley Teren M.Ed., Tom Tomas, and Annette S. Lee-Ph.D. Our lead schools are Little Singer Community School in Winslow, Arizona and Miller Middle School in Durango, Colorado. Supporting organizations are Native Skywatchers, Indigenous Education Institute, and NASA. Funded by NASA – Next Gen STEM.

This Live Virtual Show takes place Friday, January, 29th 2021 9 am PST, 10 am MST, and 11 am CST, 12 pm EST, 1 pm AST

[Register for Two Eyed Seeing](#)

Astro-image of the Week Alister Ling

We are featuring winners of RASC's AstroImaging Certificate. Winners will be featured in the banner of RASC Weekly. More information on the RASC AstroImaging Certificate is available [here](#).

11_STARTRAIL_11:
"Canon 60Da 40mm prime f/2.8
10s ISO 6400 20191122 Eastern
Saskatchewan. The interval was 11
sec for 24 minutes. I counted 11
satellite and plane trails, but sadly zero Monocerotids for the camera. This is classic opportunistic shooting - while visually doing a meteor count, the camera on a tripod just clicks away. The usual precautions of a dew heater and dummy battery running off 12V was necessary for this otherwise frosty night in eastern Saskatchewan. The aurora cooperated by being quiet with just a few spikes now and then, not overexposing. For processing, I used ImageMagick via the command line, with a Perl script running a loop simply calling IM to use the "lighten" composite mode one frame after another in the directory."



To see the large image, check out the [RASC AstroImaging Zenfolio page](#).

RASC Publications Now Available on Amazon



You now have even more ways to get your astronomy fix! Select RASC publications are [now available on Amazon.ca](#). Through Amazon you can purchase:

- Observer's Handbook 2021 [Canadian](#) and [American](#) Editions
- Observer's Calendar 2021
- [A Nightwatchman's Journey](#), by David H. Lev
- [Explore the Universe Guide 2nd Edition](#)

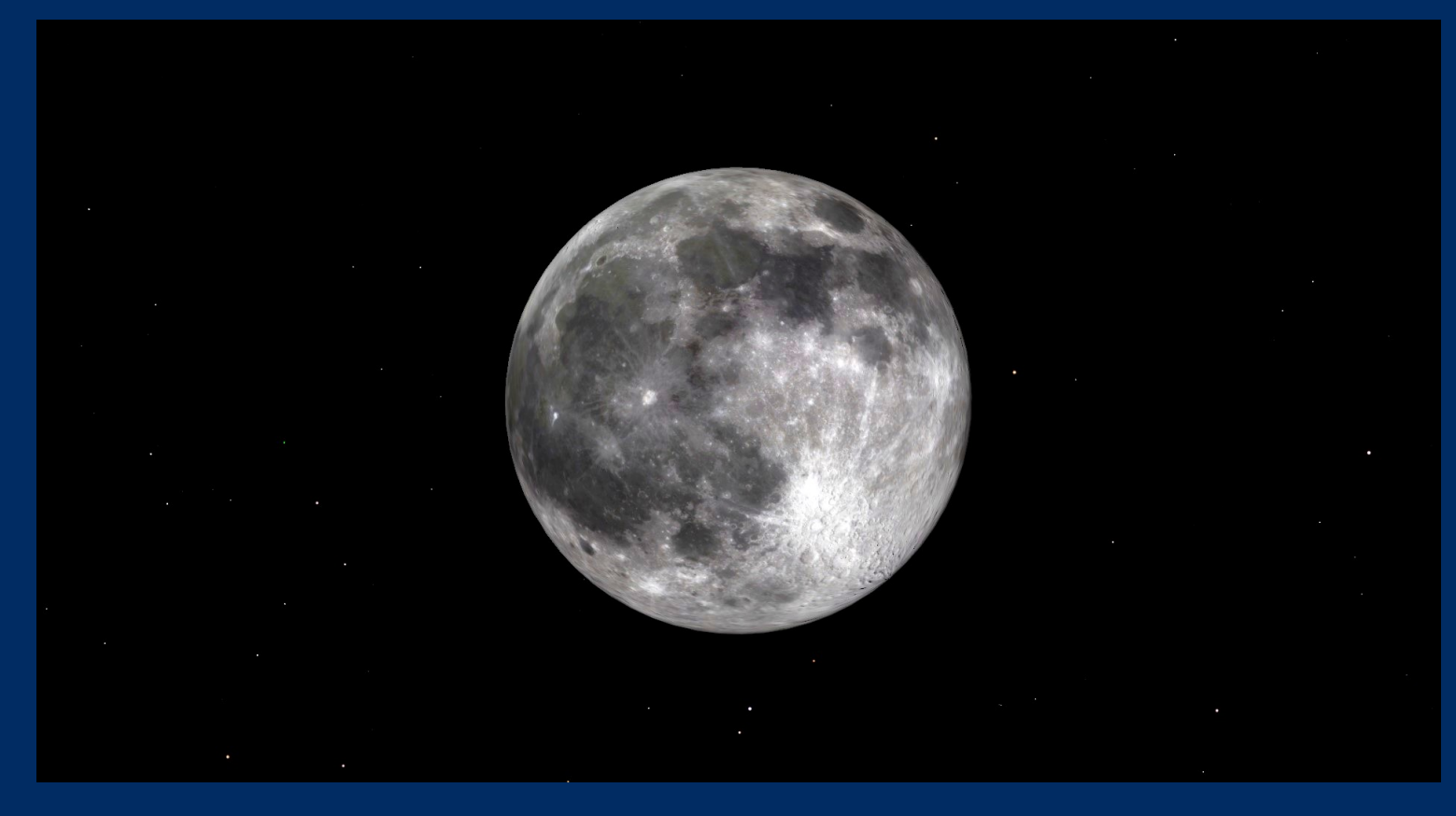
We hope this will make our publications more accessible to members and non-members alike. Clear skies!

[Buy Now](#)

This Week's Observing Targets

Thursday, January 28th, 2021 - 14:18 EST
Full Moon

The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes, such as the Algonquins, as the Wolf Moon because this was the time of year when hungry wolf packs howled outside their camps. This moon has also been known as the Old Moon and the Moon After Yule.



Check out the sky this week on Skynews:
This Week's Sky: January 25 to 31, 2021
After a busy week for the planets, the Full Wolf Moon takes centre stage this Thursday. Read more in This Week's Sky by Chris Vaughan.

skynews.ca/this-weeks-sky-january-25-to-31-2021

Member Highlights

Sheila Wiwchar from Winnipeg Centre is this week's member highlight as an appreciation for her amazing astro-photography skills of deep sky objects, auroral displays, halos, wide angle views, and planetary/solar imaging. That's on top of nature and wildlife photography. Sheila's out all the time, often all night, and loves post-processing as well as imaging. To add to that, she's a great and kind person! She won photo of the week in Skynews back in 2018 for her amazing work [here](#). You can also find some of her work through her [vimeo](#) and [youtube](#).

Do you know a member who you think deserves a spot in our newsletter? Let us know! Email communications@rasc.ca with your submissions.

[View this email in your browser](#)