

**Royal Astronomy Society of Canada**  
**Toronto Centre**  
**MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**@ Ontario Science Centre**  
**November 27, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Ralph Chou.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2018:**

**(AGM 19-1: Kupke/Mckinney)**

**CARRIED**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Dr. Ralph Chou reviewed overall highlights and operations of 2019. He acknowledged the negotiated 3 year lease at the DDO, and the hiring of an employee to help coordinate on-site programming. Our 2019 summer programs at the DDO were very successful, popular, and totally sold out. Dr. Chou thanked the DDO Committee and the numerous and reliable RASC TC volunteers that continued to make the programs possible.

RASC TC membership is approximately 835, consistent with the previous year.

Dr. Chou acknowledged the inauguration of the Charline Norgrove Award, in memory of one of our members, and briefly reviewed the criteria. Ms. Norgrove, posthumously, was the first to receive the award.

He also spoke of the continuous presence of RASC TC on our YouTube channel through the regular live streaming of our Wednesday night meetings for the general membership, and thanked Andrew and Elizabeth Reid, Ward LeGrow, Blake Nancarrow, and Ennio Celluci for their team contributions in making this happen.

Dr. Chou acknowledged the changes at Council. Ian Wheelband will step down as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Scott Masterton will finish his nine year stint as Treasurer. Tom Luton will become the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Ed Treijs will replace Mr. Luton as Secretary. Adrian Aberdeen will become Treasurer.

Dr. Chou noted that Dr. Maurice Bitran will be retiring as the CEO of the Ontario Science Centre at the end of 2019 and acknowledged his efforts and good will in establishing a positive working relationship with RASC TC and its volunteers.

He also thanked Dr. Roberto Abraham and Dr. Paul Delaney for their work in securing Council meeting locations.

In summary, Dr. Chou thanked the many volunteers, Council members, and Committee members for their service in this busy year.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Treasurer Scott Masterton reaffirmed that the RASC TC organization is a registered charity. He said in regard to the auditing process that the Treasurer submits our internal accounts and statements to the auditor on a yearly basis in order for the auditor to conduct his/her work properly. The audit covers the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.

This year the auditors are satisfied that our books are in order. Mr. Masterton highlighted certain details that were noted on the financial statements:

-Assets such as telescopes, CAO structures and systems are insured for about \$1.1 million replacement value.

-Cash on hand is about \$130,000, similar to the previous year-end.

-Donations were down this year. Expenses were up due to the hiring of a coordinator for our DDO programs. The result was a decline in our year-end "Revenue over Expenses" to \$5400 (v. \$18161 in the previous year).

The full Audited Statements for year-end September 30, 2019 will appear in a copy of Scope in early 2020.

**(19-2: Horvatin/LeGrow) MOTION** to approve the Financial Report for year-end September 30, 2019. **CARRIED**

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Secretary Tom Luton reviewed the highlights of his written report. He thanked the numerous member volunteers for their work in helping RASC Toronto Centre continue its mission for members and public outreach.

In summary, our Education and Public Outreach programs involved 19,300 members of the public. Solar Observing sessions continued to enthrall members of

the public on the grounds of the Ontario Science Centre. A 3 year agreement was signed with the Town of Richmond Hill so that our volunteers can continue programming at the David Dunlap Observatory. Warm weather observing nights at Millenium Square in Pickering were avidly supported by our volunteers and attracted a total of over 2,000 people. Our NOVA program continued at locations in Pickering and Toronto, supported by enthusiastic volunteer presenters. Our First Light program series for new members attracted many participants. The Carr Astronomical Observatory ran several outreach programs and continued to be an important observing site for member programs, recreation, and astronomy and nature activities. Telescopes and systems were updated by the committed will and team labour of numerous members.

Many other activities and credits were highlighted in the Secretary's report which is posted at [rascto.ca](http://rascto.ca). Click "RASC Toronto Centre Documents".

Mr. Luton asked for a moment of silence in tribute to members Peter Harris, Bob May, and Charline Norgrove, who had passed away in 2019.

**ELECTIONS for 2020 COUNCIL:**

The candidate names for the new Council were displayed on screen. The 2020 Council was then affirmed by acclamation.

**APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2020:**

**(19-3: Masterton/Aberdeen) MOTION** to appoint Tinkham & Associates as auditors for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**(19-4: Lee/LeGrow) MOTION** to adjourn @ 9:49 pm. **CARRIED**

*-Submitted by Marc Teitelbaum, Recorder, Jan. 25, 2020*