

**INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY DAY 2019 IN VICTORIA**  
**TAKES PLACE SATURDAY APRIL 27**  
**Daytime Activities at the Royal BC Museum**  
**2019 Public Night-Sky Viewing Begins at the Centre of the Universe**

International Astronomy Day 2019 in Victoria will take place Saturday April 27, with daytime activities at the Royal BC Museum from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., followed by public telescope viewing at the National Research Council of Canada's Dominion Astrophysical Observatory and the Centre of the Universe from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

The Victoria Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada is proud to sponsor Astronomy Day activities, which will begin outside the RBCM at 10 a.m. with solar telescopes for safely viewing the sun on the main concourse.

Inside the RBCM's Clifford Carl Hall there will be telescope mirror grinding, astrophotography and historical displays. RASC volunteers and Science Venture students from the University of Victoria will engage children with hands-on activities. While all of the astronomy presentations, displays and workshops are free, regular admission charges will apply to the permanent galleries of the Royal BC Museum and the IMAX theatre.

There will be three free lecture presentations on astronomy in the Newcombe Conference Hall by famed solar system expert JJ Kavelaars of the NRC, planetary researchers Ruobing (Robin) Dong from U Vic and Elizabeth Tasker of the Japanese Space Agency, and local author Ria Voros.

The Friends of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, the RASC Victoria Centre and the National Research Council of Canada Herzberg will host evening activities on Observatory Hill, 5071 West Saanich Rd., from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Visitors with tickets will be admitted to Observatory Hill starting at 7:15 p.m.

The Centre of the Universe exhibits will be open that evening, and the Observatory, including the historic Plaskett Telescope, will be open for tours. RASC members will have their personal telescopes set up for public viewing if weather permits.

There will be a presentation by astrophysicist Elizabeth Tasker and young adult author Ria Voros entitled "Science & Storytelling: How discoveries of new worlds help tell stories of family". The two authors will discuss how they came to work together unexpectedly through Ria's novel.

International Astronomy Day 2019 in Victoria marks the beginning of public events at the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory for the summer of 2019. Further public events at the DAO will take place this spring and summer on Saturdays through September 7. Saturday July 20th 2019 is the 50th anniversary of the first Moon Landing and will be a night of special celebration.

**Entry to the Observatory grounds for all public evenings in 2019, including April 27, is by ticket ONLY. Tickets are FREE. To obtain your entry ticket and further information on Saturday Star**

**Parties, please go to <https://centreoftheuniverse.org/star-parties> . Tickets will be available by April 1<sup>st</sup>.**

The RASC Victoria Centre is proud of its history and association with both amateur and professional astronomy in Victoria and its mandate for public education in Astronomy. Come celebrate International Astronomy Day with the RASC on Saturday April 27!

For more information please go to our website at <http://victoria.rasc.ca>

*Contact person: Reg Dunkley [president@victoria.rasc.ca](mailto:president@victoria.rasc.ca) 250-893-9067*