

## **Our Night Sky for January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**If you are trying to learn more about the night sky, are interested in learning constellations, simply viewing the occasional special event such as last week's occultation, or possibly a comet in the coming weeks, we are frequently stopped in our tracks by weather. You may not want to spend years learning meteorology but there is a tool built for astronomers on the internet. Do a search for "Clear Sky Chart" or it's old name "Clear Sky Map" for Prince George BC. Always include BC since there is another Prince George somewhere in the eastern US.**

**If you study the chart for a few minutes it's quite easy to understand and there are lots of clear explanations included on the site. The top row left to right and hour by hour displays a colour coded square for how many clouds are overhead. If you click on any square on the top row, you will be taken to a map showing cloud cover over most of western North America. After a while you will see patterns in the large swirls of moist air over the Pacific or the position of the Arctic jet stream. There is a lot of additional information on the sky chart, just click back to go back to the original display. The rows showing seeing or transparency are explained in the attached text but apply to advanced observers. This tool will even help you plan daytime outings as well. It's a very accurate weather tool that I have seen provide very accurate conditions of Our Night Sky.**