

**PRINCE GEORGE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
PRINCE GEORGE CENTRE**

**7365 Tedford Road
Prince George, BC
V2N 6S2**

**PGC232 Business Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2025**

Date: January 8, 2025
Location: Zoom meeting

Chairperson: Malhar Kendurkar
Recording Secretary: Glen Harris
Executives Present: Malhar, Glen, Gil, Rebecca, Rob

Meeting Called to Order at 7:42pm.

**1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes of PGC231**

Motion: To accept the business meeting minutes of November 13, 2024.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Rebecca Carried

3. Reports of Officers

a. President (Malhar)

- Had a CKPG interview about Winter constellations.
- SD57 tour in the spring. Want to camp at the observatory. Need to determine liability requirements.
- Public library talk on January 9 at 6:30pm about Winter constellations.
- Will order Voyager System Integration Software for Observatory Automation.

b. Vice President (Gil)

- Our Night Sky episodes are being sent to CFIS 93.1 radio weekly.

c. Secretary (Glen)

- Processed Canada Post mail as required.

d. Treasurer (Glen)

- CWB account balances as of 2024-12-31
 - General Account Balance \$3297.58
 - Gaming Account Balance \$10723.42
- Gaming grant of \$10,000 was received.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Moved: Rob Seconded: Gil Carried

e. National Representative (Rob)

- Bylaw changes
 1. Annual General Meeting name change to Annual Meeting to mesh with guidelines from Government
 2. Removal of 2-month grace period after membership has expired. This will help with aligning to the software used by National, and other process issues.
 3. Removal of the requirement for any meetings to be in person.
 4. National council. If a member ceases being a national council member, they may continue to be a National Council executive until the end of the executive term.
- Ordering moon gazers soon.
 - Let national know if we need any. Centres are still responsible for shipping.
 - Star Finders requests about the same time to reduce shipping.
- Potential training in the future on how to make the most of these resources as a centre.

4. Reports of Committees, including any motions from the Committees

Webmaster Report - Glen

- Updated regularly to reflect current Open House information.
- Plugins and core program updated.
- Backup saved monthly to Prince George Centre Google Documents.

0.6m Telescope Maintenance Report – Glen

- Dome rotation issue was resolved. The drive wheel mechanism was adjusted.

Grounds and Building Report – Glen

- Lot plowing deferred until closer to reopening on January 17, 2025.
- Weekly on-site checks performed.
- Bought a snow shovel for the roof.
- Need to check the roof for snow before the 17th.

Media Relations Report - Gil

- Our Night Sky episodes being recorded remotely and MP3 files e-mailed to CFIS 93.1 radio for Monday 10:30 am broadcast.

Outreach – Glen

- 1 Girl Guide tour of 17 adults and 28 youth. 10 volunteer hours.

Computer and AV Equipment Report –Rob

- Obtained Microsoft 365 Business Premium software package for the observatory.
- Will be working on Ascom drivers for telescope and dome control.

Observing and Small Telescope Report – Glen

- Purchased a supply of 2025 batteries for the red dot finders.

Grants and Funding Report - Glen

- Gaming grant of \$10,000 was received.

5. Old Business

- Tour on November 23rd and 30th for PGCOS Volunteers.
- Tour on December 8 for a school group.
- **Motion:** Authorize the spending of ~ \$455 from the PGAS General Account 101008909807 to have Blockbuster pump out the sewage holding tank. Cost would be ~\$550 after Nov 30 due to increased city dumping fees.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Rebecca Carried

- **Motion:** Authorize the spending of ~\$200 from the PGAS General Account 101008909807 for the purchase of Voyager System Integration Software for Observatory Automation.

Moved: Glen Seconded: Rebecca Carried

- **Motion:** Authorize the spending of \$\$662.80 from the PGAS General Account 101008909807 for the purchase of 40 2025 RASC Observers Calendars. This amount will be recovered with calendar sales to members and the public.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Rebecca Carried

- Install/Activate Windows Defender software on all computers before the Kaspersky Total Security program expires on December 20.

6. New Business

- Presenters needed for Friday's Open House Events.
- Malhar to give a Public library talk on January 9 at 6:30 about Winter constellations. Volunteers needed.
- Gaming approved purchases of a computer, laminator and paper cutter have been made. The laminator and paper cutter have been received. The computer will arrive from Dell on January 25th.
- Malhar to contact RASC Victoria Centre Laurie Roche and Chris Gainor regarding guidance and suggestions for the establishment of an Urban Dark Sky Park.
- Malhar to contact Nancy Harris to arrange accessibility assessment/funding.
- Short discussion regarding using a modified SeaCan on the observatory deck for housing the 14" scope on the southwest pier. CNC and UNBC to be approached for drafting and fabrication assistance in the design.

7. Date, Time, and Location of the next AGM and Business meeting

- The next business meeting PGC233 will be held on Wednesday February 12, 2025 starting at 7:30 pm.
- Please submit all agenda items to Malhar no later than Sunday, February 9, 2025.

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.