

## **Our Night Sky for February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

**The weather this coming week is somewhat hit and miss. There is a lot of moisture laden Pacific air spilling across our province, but the cold arctic air is pushing this cloudy air back toward the ocean. So, check the evening sky often as you may be rewarded with nice clear air even if just for an hour or two, the reward this week like last is a sky dotted with nearly all of our planets. Even Venus is still above the western horizon until about 8 p.m.**

**The jet stream is pushing cold arctic air south past Prince George this afternoon and this evening we may see some of the best clear skies we have had for a while. Look up from due east, you can't miss Mars close to the two bright stars Castor and Pollux the heads of the two stick men of Gemini. These three bright objects stay close together all night. Now look right a couple of hand widths to Orion, then up about the same distance, and Jupiter is high in the sky and easy to spot.**

**There was a notable sky event during the last month that I would bet no one noticed. Even the people living all over this planet a thousand years ago would have spotted it and probably been quite concerned back when they would plan crop planting and harvest or migrations. For almost the last month Mars has moved across the sky backwards. It's called retrograde. As earth's movement around the sun catches up to and eventually passes Mars it appears to pause, move backwards and then resume its normal movement in Our Night Sky**