

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

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

**PGC233 Business Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2025**

Date: February 12, 2025
Location: Zoom meeting

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

Meeting Called to Order at 7:32 pm.

**1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes of PGC232**

Motion: To accept the business meeting minutes of January 8, 2025.
Moved: Gil Seconded: Rob Carried

**3. Reports of Officers
a. President (Malhar)**

- PGCOS tours on March 29 and April 12

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.
- Received BC Assessment notice.
- Received Confirmation of annual information return filing from CRA. No issues.

d. Treasurer (Glen)

- CWB account balances as of 2025-01-31
 General Account Balance \$3314.86
 Gaming Account Balance \$8497.27

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Rebecca Carried

e. National Representative (Rob)

- *** CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: Potential change in Auditors and financial managers. may put out to tender.
- 2024 year, closed better than expected, expecting Budgeted 200k shortfall, shortfall was very small (<30) I don't have the exact number here

- Training course for laser pointers - train the trainer. Require centre executive to approve the person taking the course. Inform Jenna if we are "sending" someone on Feb 22, 2025 3pm eastern
- Moving renewal date for insurance from May. Jan 1, 2026 will be the annual renewal date, this is to allow chapters to get the certificates of insurance in off season.
- Eclipse reports wanted. Any information on what was done on the day of the eclipse is appreciated - Due Mar 7.
- RASC will be shutting down rasc.ca secure website while moving to a new web platform.
- Secure.rasc.ca will still be available
- Discussions on Web sites and who the centres were using for hosting, and costs.
- Discussion on funding for centres. Centres can adjust the centre amount for each membership.

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

Webmaster Report - Glen

- Updated to reflect current Open House and Our Night Sky information.
- Plugins updated.
- Full backup saved monthly to Prince George Centre Google Documents.

0.6m Telescope Maintenance Report – Glen

- The 24" mirror is covered in ice crystals.
- No dome rotation problems.

Grounds and Building Report – Glen

- Lot plowed, dome, roof and sidewalks cleared of snow.
- Classroom chairs repaired.

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

- January 8: CKPG Today Interview
- January 14: CKPG Today Interview
- January 17: Open House - 104 visitors 10 volunteers
- January 21: Prince George Public Library Lecture – 18 visitors 4 volunteers
- January 24: Open House - 600 visitors (Planetary Alignment event) 10 volunteers
CFUR radio interview
- January 31: Open house – Cancelled due to poor weather

Computer and AV Equipment Report –Rob

- Will begin installing the new classroom computer over the next few days.
- Consolidate all computer data onto network drive.
- Microsoft 365 configuration and on-site instruction.

Observing and Small Telescope Report – Glen

- Replaced batteries in several red dot finders.
- A Celestron Nexstar 6SE SCT Go-To 6” telescope was donated to the club.
- Telescope SB4 mirrors cleaned and recollimated.
- Telescope SB1 returned from loan. Mirrors cleaned and recollimated.

5. Old Business

- Malhar to purchase the Voyager System Integration Software for Observatory Automation program.
- Robotic Telescope Project Committee - Ongoing - No Updates.
- Malhar to give a Public Library talk on January 9 at 6:30 pm 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.

6. New Business

- Presenters needed for Friday’s Open House Events
- Malhar is scheduled to meet with InsightTV Production on February 12th to explore a potential collaboration on a TV challenge show for 8th-grade students. The show will focus on astronomy, likely involving supernova searches and colour index calculations.

Motion: Designate Malhar to continue collaborating with InsightTV.

Moved: Gil Seconded: Rebecca

- PGCOS Volunteer Tour on Saturday, March 29th and Saturday, April 12th
- Microsoft 365 Demo – Rob
- General discussion on implementation of SeaCan installation. Gil will be the point person on this project.

From the National Report:

- Training course for laser pointers - train the trainer. Require centre executive to approve the person taking the course. Inform Jenna if we are "sending" someone on Feb. 22 at noon PST.
- **Motion: Authorize Glen Harris to take the laser pointer trainer course.**

Moved: Rob Seconded: Gil Carried

- Remove 24” mirror cover and run the circulating fans to remove ice from the mirror.

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

- The next business meeting PGC234 will be held on Wednesday March 12, 2025 starting at 7:30 pm VIA Teams.
- Please submit all agenda items to Malhar no later than Sunday, March 9, 2025.

8. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.