



## The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Winnipeg Centre Terms of Reference – Observatory Committee

### Purpose

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Winnipeg Centre (the “Centre”) is creating a new committee to replace the appointed Observatory Director role to work to achieve the following goals:

- Review and make plans for enhancement of the existing Glenlea Observatory complex including the dome, warm room, and pad. Considerations for ongoing maintenance, security, and managing members use of the facility is included.
- Review possible locations for a Dark Sky Site where a new observatory can be built to provide RASC Winnipeg Centre members with a darker site to use for observing and astrophotography.
- Review members feedback and requests to determine what services will be offered at Centre facilities.
- Provide training and support to members so they can make effective use of the facility such that it is utilized every clear night.
- Continue operational support for the Observatory complex

### Program Description

The Winnipeg Centre Observatory Program involves the following services:

- An observatory dome (12”) in a building where a 12” LX200 telescope is mounted on a concrete pier. The dome is electrically moved but is manually controlled. The LX200 comes with a variety of eyepiece options but members must provide their own astrophotography equipment. No remote control of the telescope is currently offered.
- A warm room that is heated in the wintertime offers observers the opportunity to warm up and get a hot drink on cold nights. Also offers desk space for charts and a computer (not internet connected.)
- A concrete pad outside the Warm Room allows telescopes to be set up and used easily and comfortably. Some seating is provided and wiring has been run to allow devices on the pad to be operated from within the warm room.

### Operational Resources

The following operational resources are provided to the Observatory Program:

- An annual budget of \$500 is approved by Council to fund expenses incurred by the Observatory Director in the execution of duties of the position and will be provided to the Observatory Committee pending approved projects that may require additional ongoing funding.
- A page on the website is maintained, with content provided by the Observatory Committee.
- An area on the Centre’s Google Drive would be provided to allow the Observatory Committee to share relevant documents.