

**Canadian Astronomical Society
Société Canadienne d'Astronomie
87th meeting of the Board of Directors
Mar. 15, 2019 10h00 – 12h00 PDT
Via videoconference**

Minutes

<i>Present:</i>	Rob Thacker	President
	Nicole St-Louis	Treasurer
	James Di Francesco	Secretary
	René Doyon	Director
	Erik Rosolowsky	Director
	Samar Safi-Harb	Director
	Kristine Spekkens	Director
 <i>Absent:</i>	 Sara Ellison	 Vice-President
	Roberto Abraham	Past-President

- 1. Adoption of the agenda [Di Francesco]**
 - **Motion to adopt the agenda (Thacker/Spekkens): Carried**

- 2. Approval of the minutes of the Board meetings of December 5, 2018, January 18, 2019, and February 15, 2019 [Di Francesco]**
 - **Motion to approve the minutes (Thacker/St-Louis): Carried**

- 3. Business Conducted Electronically [all]**

- 4. Review of the Action Items Lists [Di Francesco]**
 - *Graduate Student Committee (GSC) interaction:* After some discussion with the GSC, the CASCA President will henceforth serve as Board liaison with the GSC.
 - *CASCA Meeting Macroschedule:* To help with planning annual CASCA meetings, Thacker completed a checklist document describing steps that need to be taken by local organizing committees in advance of the meeting.

- 5. President's Report [Thacker]**
 - *Coalition news:* The Coalition acknowledged the recent announcement by the Federal Government of \$2.5B funding to the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) for NASA's Lunar Gateway project. A route to continue to push for space astronomy is needed. The upcoming Federal Budget may hold further insight about CSA

support. In other news, H elene Laverdiere, the NDP MP for Laurier – Sainte Marie, Quebec, is planning a reception on Parliament Hill in May and a VR realization of TMT may be present for attendees to view.

6. Secretary's Report [Di Francesco]

- *Elections update*: On March 15, Di Francesco alerted the membership and the Nominating Committee about the upcoming vacancies on the Board, i.e., three Directors, the Secretary, and the Treasurer. One Director position, currently held by Samar Safi-Harb, will be filled for just one year. Though the Nominating Committee will find suitable candidates to run in each position, the membership was reminded that they could also provide candidates by a certain date before the election is started.

7. Directors' Reports [Doyon, Rosolowsky, Safi-Harb, Spekkens]

- *WESTAR guidance*: Rosolowsky noted that the Education and Public Outreach (EPO) Committee would like further guidance on the amount they can allocate toward WESTAR Lectureships. Previously at \$10K annual limit for a target of two lectures per year was targeted. This issue is conflated with the amounts that may be available to fund other educational initiatives in Canada. Further input from the Treasurer is needed before final guidelines can be set. Also, the EPO Committee should consider a call for new WESTAR Lecturers, as it has been two years since the last call.

8. AOB [all]

- Awards: The Board discussed the recommendations of the Awards Committee for this year's Qilak, Petrie, Martin, Plaskett, and Richer Awards. **Motion to accept the Award Committee recommendations (Thacker/Rosolowsky): Carried.** The Board thanked the Award Committee for their hard work this year. Thacker noted that the Committee is recommending an update to the timelines of award eligibility. Chair Ren e Hlo zek will send a proposal to the Board soon.

9. Adjournment [all]

- **Motion to adjourn the 87th CASCA Board meeting (Rosolowsky/Safi-Harb): Carried**