

Citation – Service Award Robert Dick

Rob is Chair of the National Light Pollution Abatement (LPA) Committee, a position he has held since 2000. In addition, he volunteered his time during most the last dozen years as one of the Ottawa Centre's National Council Representatives.

In the Ottawa area, Rob negotiated the LPA measures that are now part of City of Ottawa policy documents. He has also advised and consulted on lighting policies of numerous municipalities and townships.

Rob authored the Parks Canada Guidelines for Outdoor Lighting and he developed an Outdoor Lighting Protocol for the RASC. Following natural evolution, he authored, led the development of, and implemented the new RASC Dark Sky Preserve (DSP) and Urban Star Park Programmes, which has resulted in six new DSPs since 2008 following the program's approval by the national council.

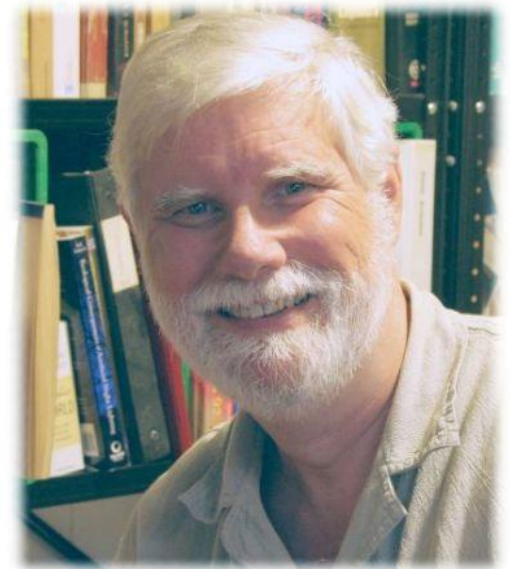
The goal of the DSP Program is to promote the reduction in light pollution, demonstrate night-time lighting practices, improve the nocturnal environment of wildlife, protect and expand dark observing sites for astronomy, and provide accessible locations for the general public to experience the naturally dark night sky. In addition, a common by-product has been increased public astronomy activity sponsored by the parks with support from local RASC Centres.



Light pollution affects more than just astronomy, and as such some of his recent efforts have focused on scotobiology, the science of effects of darkness on biology.

Rob has made many presentations and written many articles on LPA topics, including:

- Urban Lighting with Less Environmental Impact, Building Sustainable Communities Conference, Kelowna, BC (Nov. 2010) (www.freshoutlookfoundation.org/conferences/bsc10/bsc10.asp)
- Scotobiology and Shoreline Lighting, The Land Between Research Forum, Haliburton, ON (Oct. 2010), (www.thelandbetween.ca)
- The Dark-sky Preserve Program in Canada, 3rd UNESCO International Symposium on Dark-sky Sites, Lastovo, Croatia (Sept. 2010), (www.darkskeyparks.org)



- Scotobiology and Canadian Dark Sky Preserves, 2nd UNESCO International Symposium on Dark-sky Sites, Lastovo, Croatia (Sept. 2009), (www.darkskeeparks.org)
- Scotobiology and Dark Sky Preserves, Spruce Woods Provincial Park, Manitoba (2009)(www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/parks/popular_parks/spruce_woods/info.html)
- Impact of Night Lighting on Nature, Cube Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario (2009) (<http://cubegallery.ca/>)
- Scotobiology, The Land Between Conference, Buckhorn, Ontario (2009) (www.thelandbetween.ca)
- Artificial Light and Ecological Integrity, National Capital Commission, Gatineau Park (Feb 2009)
- Limiting Light Pollution with Municipal Lighting Policies, RASC Annual Meeting (2008) (www.rasc.ca)
- Scotobiology Applied to Shoreline Stewardship, Lake Links Conference, Ontario (2008) (<http://users.xplornet.com/~nfrontenac/LakeLink08.pdf>)
- Dark Sky Preserves, Mont-Megantic Observatory Conference, Quebec (2007) (http://astro-canada.ca/_en/a2109.html)
- Scotobiology and Artificial Lighting, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Ontario (2007) (www.rvca.ca)
- Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) Light Pollution Abatement Program, Ecology of the Night Conference, Muskoka District, Ontario (2003) (www.ecologyofthenight.org)

In addition to his LPA activities, Rob joined the RASC in 1968 and has been a very active member of the Ottawa Centre, participating in many activities and giving many presentations to the Centre over the years.

Rob built and operates an observatory with a custom-made 24 inch telescope near Rideau Ferry, where he regularly hosts open houses for astronomy enthusiasts. Rob also works as an astronomy instructor, having taught Introduction to Astronomy at Carleton University for 22 years, and Introduction to Astrophysics at University of Ottawa for three years, and has assisted with the Spacecraft Engineering course at Carleton University since 2004. He has also provided astronomy instruction to Canadian astronauts.

In light of his tireless commitment over many years to the cause of light pollution abatement, the Ottawa Centre is proud to nominate Robert Dick for the RASC Service Award.