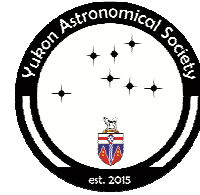


Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Yukon Centre



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Tuesday, December 13, 2016

ATCO Electric Yukon
100-1100 Front Street
Whitehorse, Yukon
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Re: Letter of Commendation for Implementation of Night-Sky Friendly Roadway Lighting

The *Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Yukon Centre (Yukon Astronomical Society)* would like to commend ATCO Electric Yukon for demonstrating social and environmental responsibility through the adoption, and implementation, of night-sky friendly roadway lighting. Specifically, we recognize the recent installation of appropriately designed warm-white (3,000K) International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) approved LED streetlights in Whitehorse.

LED lighting is well known for saving energy. However, recent studies show that LED roadway lighting can significantly increase light pollution and negatively affect human health, if blue-rich white light (>3,000K) LEDs are used. Earlier this year, the Yukon Astronomical Society prepared a research paper on this topic, and shared the state-of-art knowledge with the Yukon's communities and electrical utilities. We are pleased to see that this information has been of value to ATCO Electric Yukon, in having helped your organization contribute to the sustainable development of the Yukon. The move to responsible lighting will help protect, and reclaim the night skies for present and future generations, not only in Whitehorse, but also for the environmentally responsible lighting that helps keep Yukoners healthy and safe.

Selecting responsible lighting is just a first, but important step towards preserving our night-sky heritage. For example, to achieve the full potential of roadway lighting retrofits, it will be important that lighting should not exceed the minimums recommended by Transportation Association of Canada, and that artificial lighting should be provided only where warranted.

We hope ATCO Electric Yukon will continue to work together with the RASC: Yukon Centre (*Yukon Astronomical Society*) in order to collaborate in our shared effort to provide responsible, and appropriate, outdoor lighting throughout the Yukon.

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Yours Aye,

*Anthony Gucciardo, RN, CD
President, Yukon Astronomical Society
Royal Astronomical Society of Canada: Yukon Centre*