



## THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA REGINA CENTRE

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May 24, 2006

Honourable Pat Fiacco,  
Mayor of Regina  
P.O. Box 1790  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4P 3C8

Dear Mayor Fiacco:

This letter is in regards to the decision to construct a skateboard park in Wascana Park, east of the Saskatchewan Science Centre that houses the Kalium Astronomical Observatory. Our organization, the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada – Regina Centre, Inc., a charitable organization, has been active in Regina since 1910. As one of 27 RASC centres across Canada, we actively promote the use of proper lighting and the elimination of light pollution. We would prefer no lights be installed on the skateboard site, however we realize that may not be an option.

We are not opposed to the development and if lights are required we would like to recommend that lighting for the skateboard park be the following.

We would like to recommend the use of a flat lens (or full cut-off) luminaire fixture and the use of a low pressure sodium lamp (LPS) for the lighting of the skateboard park. The use of full cut-off luminaires will help reduce the every increasing light pollution, sky glow, light trespass and annoying glare problems that are increasing in our city. Commercial availability of full cut-off luminaires is readily available at similar costs to the light polluting drop-lens luminaires.

Lighting studies have shown that the use of LPS lamps help the reduction of vandalism and graffiti. The City of Saskatoon has incorporated these suggestions for their skate board park. Another advantage with the use of LPS lighting is that the light output provides the least sky glow problems for astronomical observatories.

We would also recommend that the lights be programmed to turn off by 11:00 p.m. in the summer, and turned off completely in the winter. Lighting controls for these types of lights are commercially available so that evening and night time operating times of the skateboard park can be controlled and unnecessary costs for lighting in the winter can be saved.

By following these simple recommendations, we can eliminate the growing problem of light pollution, sky glow, light trespass and glare, and allow enjoyable public viewing from Saskatchewan Millennium Telescope in the Kalium Observatory.



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We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering these recommendations. We look forward to hearing from you on this issue and our organization is willing to be of service to you, Wascana Park Authority and the community in regards to problems of light pollution and acceptable solutions. Please keep our organization in mind when you are selecting new lighting for any of the existing or new city facilities. We are willing to help.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alden Foraie

President, RASC – Regina Centre