

AGENDA
ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Committee Room 2, Saanich Municipal Hall
Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

The District of Saanich lies within the territories of the lək̓ʷəŋən peoples represented by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the WSÁNEĆ peoples represented by the Tsartlip, Pauquachin, Tsawout, Tseycum and Malahat Nations.

We are committed to celebrating the rich diversity of people in our community. We are guided by the principle that embracing diversity enriches the lives of all people. We all share the responsibility for creating an equitable and inclusive community and for addressing discrimination in all forms.

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- March 23, 2022

2. CHAIR'S REMARKS

3. REPORT ON MURAL PROGRAM

- Brenda Weatherston, Programmer, Parks, Recreation and Community Services

4. REVIEW OF LAST TERM'S SUCCESSES

- Media
 - <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/heritage/arts-culture-and-heritage-awards.html>
- Heritage Passports & Walking Tours
 - <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/heritage/heritage-sites/heritage-walking-tours.html>
- Heritage Colouring Books
 - <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/local-government/committees-boards/saanich-heritage-foundation.html>

5. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- [Cultural Voices From Arts And Heritage AT COP 27 Tickets, Sat, 11 Feb 2023 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)
- **ACH VISIONING**

6. DIVISION REPORT – FOR INFORMATION (attachment)

- Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager Community Services

* Adjournment *

Next Meeting: March 1, 2023 at 6:30 pm

In order to ensure a quorum, please contact Kirsten Brazier at 250-475-5494 ext. 3508 or kirsten.brazier@saanich.ca if you are unable to attend.

MINUTES
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Council Chambers
March 23, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Present: Councillor Nathalie Chambers (Chair), James Hesser, Jasminra Jawandra, Jordan Macdougall (Youth), Nik White and Sonia Nicholson.

Staff: Stacy McGhee, Program Manager for Strategic Facilities Planning; Nadine Kawata, Planner for Community Planning; Evelyn Wolfe, Archives Supervisor; Austin Winters, Committee Clerk.

Regrets: Kimberly Van Nieuvenhuysse, Jordan Watters and Teri VanWell.

Minutes

MOVED by S. Nicholson and Seconded by J. Jawandra: “That the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held February 23, 2022 be adopted as circulated.”

CARRIED

The Chair amended the order of business to consider the agenda item titled “The Saanich Six” Art Presentation prior to the agenda item titled Saanich Operations Centre Redevelopment.

CHAIR’S REMARKS

The Chair took the time to congratulate committee member S. Nicholson on her new book deal.

“THE SAANICH SIX” ART PRESENTATION

Miles Hunter delivered a presentation on his desired goal to get his art installation “The Saanich Six” into an art show in London, England. The following was noted during discussion with committee members:

- An inquiry was made over what would happen to “The Saanich Six” if the desired goal of sending the art to London occurred in 10 to 15 years.
- Mr. Hunter noted that if the art were to get into the show in London with a colour catalogue then it could be in a public collection but if it is not sent then it will likely stay in Mr. Hunter’s storage locker.

MOVED by J. MacDougall and Seconded by J. Hesser: “That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee supports the Chair of the Committee in contacting the Chief Curator of the Victoria Art Gallery to facilitate a meeting with Miles Hunter for his art installation “The Saanich Six.”

CARRIED

Committee Member Nik White joined the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Committee Member Jawandra exits the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

SAANICH OPERATIONS CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

The Senior Manager of Community Services and the Program Manager for Strategic Facilities Planning delivered a presentation on the proposed Saanich Operations Centre redevelopment. The following was noted:

- Over 300 staff work from the current Saanich Operation Centre.
- Most of the buildings within the current site date back to the 1950's and mid 1970's.
- The site organization will be greatly improved through planning that addresses vehicle circulation, storage, and work locations.
- Most staff work areas are at their end of life and substandard which limit growth.
- The current buildings contain a concerning number of issues including:
 - Not complying with life safety requirements of the Building Code;
 - Large unsprinklered wooden buildings;
 - Structures that cannot withstand an earthquake of even modest magnitude;
 - Facility inaccessibility for disabled staff or guests; and
 - A vermin outbreak.
- Delivery of services must meet minimum levels and delivered sustainably long into the future.
- The District has committed to significant environmental targets which include a focus on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and a target to reach net-zero.
- The work place design objectives would incorporate Building Code and Work Safe BC guidelines and practices.
- The site context includes neighbourhoods; residential centers; immediate adjacencies to the Quadra and McKenzie corridors; and a proximity to the Lochside Trail.
- Given the number of fleet vehicles frequenting the site the current layout poses numerous traffic and circulation issues.
- Multi storey buildings must be considered for operations and parking due to the site constraints.
- The planning process has identified that accommodating additional uses on the site is possible.
- The estimated project budget range would be between \$183 million to \$212 million and this estimate class could have a plus or minus 20% variance.
- The projects current implementation schedule would see tendering in the second quarter of 2026, thus the budget number includes price escalation to that time.
- The estimated cost includes constructions costs, site development, consultant fees, associated development costs, and contingency.
- The numbers do not include potential revenues generated from the proposed site.
- Should the business case be approved further detailed planning is needed to refine the design.

- Within the next two years the project objective is to determine the project budget to much greater certainty through a Class B estimate.
- Through increased certainty in the budget, the District will then go through several months of educating the public in order to have an alternative approval process completed.
- That public process will be seeking permission for the District to borrow money to fund the realization of this project.
- This project represents a shared opportunity that builds operational resiliency and seeks to maintain and secure Saanich residents' high quality of life.

The following was noted during discussion with committee members:

- With respect to this proposed project, ACH may be requested to provide input in the future on how the 1% of the proposed construction budget of the project is spent on art.
- The total of this 1% that must go towards art based off Saanich's by-laws could vary from between \$650'000 to \$1'000'000.
- An inquiry was made into whether there is any means by which reconciliation is considered for this proposed project and whether first nation bands will be contacted for their input for this project.
- A Métis indigenous artist may be contracted to design the art for this project but that is not the only item being considered with regards to reconciliation for this proposed project.

ARCHIVES UPDATE

The Archives Supervisor provided a brief update with regards to Saanich Archives. The following was noted:

- Archives staff have been working on online content which has been the most effective means of community engagement.
- There is a new online exhibit that has just been added to the Saanich website and can be found through the link below:
 - <https://www.saanich.ca/assets/Parks~Recreation~and~Community~Services/Documents/Archives~Collections~and~Research/Carey%20Online%20Exhibit.pdf>
- Staff and volunteers have recently completed over 30 new biographies for the Saanich Remembers Project for Saanich Residents who participated in World War 1.
- The Saanich Remembers Project is not finished as there are still over 200 individual biographies to complete.
- The Archives Spring 2022 Newsletter will be available soon and anyone looking to subscribe to the Newsletter can follow the link below:
 - <https://secure.campaigner.com/CSB/Public/Form.aspx?fid=1274360>
- There have been some recent acquisitions to the Archives collection which include some letters from the 1870s to the 1890s, and some research materials for the recently published book entitled "Muggins: The Life and Afterlife of a Canadian Canine War Hero."
- Saanich Archives is now open for in person visits.

ACTIONABLE PUBLIC HISTORY ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED IN 2022

Committee member S. Nicholson led a discussion on potential actionable public history items to be completed in 2022. The following was noted during discussion with committee members:

- An idea was to have members of the public take a photo from the Saanich Archives website and then they go out and take pictures of that area or object within the old photo now.
- This project would be ideal because it would be publicly led with very little draw on staff or committee time.
- Another idea is the Saanich Heritage Passport where a certain number of Saanich heritage sites are chosen that are open to the public and where residents would mark something off to denote that they had been to the site.
- Once the passport has been completed then the resident would be entered into a draw for some nominal prize.
- The Passport idea would take a lot more work from the committee members as well as staff potentially.
- A potential collaboration between the current Saanich Heritage Colouring Book and the proposed Saanich Heritage Passport could be brought forward so long as private property is respected.
- A sub-committee working group may be established to further review the potential implementation of a Saanich Heritage Passport.

STATUS OF PUBLIC ART IN SAANICH UPDATE

The Planner for Community Planning provided a brief update to various items concerning the committee. The following was noted:

- Phase 2 of the mural grant pilot was presented to Council and approved.
- Funding confirmation for the 2022 budget cycle is still being awaited but planning has been begun for the pilot.
- The first ACH Awards took place in 2016 and the intent was for these to take place at least once every Council term or every four years.
- Planning has been working to get everything organized and the nomination period will be posted at the beginning of April.
- A special ACH meeting will be scheduled to review the awards nominees sometime in June.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 25, 2022.

Councillor Chambers, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Austin Winters, Committee Secretary



The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report

To: Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee;
 Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee;
 Parks, Trails & Recreation Advisory Committees

From: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager- Community Services Division

Date: January 17, 2023

Subject: Community Services Division Update

The following update is provided to committees for information.

Background: The CS division of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services department, focuses on providing equitable and meaningful programs, events and opportunities for any Saanich resident who is experiencing a barrier to participation whether due to financial, social, cultural, age or ability-based factors. We are the smallest division in the department, but our staff are all specialists in providing these services to ensure that in Saanich, everyone belongs.

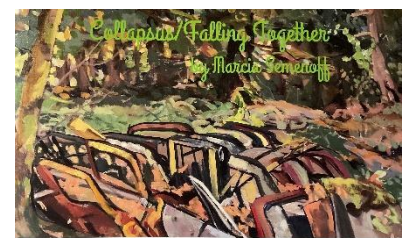
Discussion: From January through March, Community Services is partnering with art therapist Debbie Douez, the Victoria Native Friendship Centre and UVIC’s Centre for Youth and Society to bring the **Art of Reconciliation (AoR)** program to Cedar Hill Arts Centre. Indigenous and non-Indigenous young adults aged 18-29 explore how they feel about reconciliation through art-making workshops, reflection, group discussion and deep learning with invited guest speakers. A culminating exhibition and a free community event on Friday evening, March 10 will take place at Cedar Hill.



Family Arts Festival is back in person! Join us at the Cedar Hill Arts Centre on Family Day, February 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for this popular free community event featuring a diverse array of performances by different cultural groups, children’s performers and community groups. There will also be hands-on creative activities for all ages to enjoy. More info at www.saanich.ca/eventscalender

Exhibits: *Saanich Municipal Hall Exhibits through February 17:* Janie Lucas, Monique Duguay, and the African Arts & Cultural Community Contributor Society's showcase for Black History Month.

Cedar Hill Exhibits: Marcia Semenoff’s oil landscape and collages in "Collapsus - Falling Together" through Feb. 5; Florence Roberge’s “Flowering” runs through March 5.



Starting in 2023, oversight of the **Saanich Public Art Program** has been transferred to the Community Services. Current activities include:



- Proposed Phase 2 of a **Community Mural Program**, recently approved by Council to be considered for funding in the 2023 budget year. Phase 1, the Community Canvas Mural Project, realized the installation

of 3 murals in Saanich Parks. More information on the mural program can be found at www.saanich.ca/murals

- The initiation of the public art process for the approved [Fire Station #2 Redevelopment](#).

The **2022 LIFE program registration and renewal process** began on November 15th, 2022. As of January 15th, 849 people have already registered to receive their 2023 LIFE pass. This is an 111% increase from the same period for the 2022 LIFE Pass. We are excited to see this program grow in 2023 as opportunities and ease of use increase due to reduced pandemic impacts.

The 9th year of **after-school programming at Tillicum School**, supported by the Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charity and the District of Saanich, started on January 16th, 2023. This program has expanded to four days a week from the previous three days a week. PISE, Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence, provides direct leadership to 96 students in Grades 1-5 onsite at Tillicum Elementary. PISE focuses on the fundamental movements of run, jump and throw. While 96 students can participate, there are still many students on the waitlist for this program. This program makes a positive impact on the lives of the participants by providing the opportunity to be active to children who otherwise may not have accessibility to extracurricular activities after school due to limited finances and resources.

Lunar New Year is early this year and begins on January 22nd. After canceling last year, this year's event will be co-hosted with Oak Bay and held on February 11th at Emmanuel Baptist Church.

February is Black History Month. The African Arts & Cultural Society has a variety of events planned around the theme of "Building Bridges". They are curating a series of events that honour the legacies of black Canadians, and will also be producing the ISSAMBA Showcase. For more information, please visit: vaccsociety.blogspot.com.

Special Swims at Gordon Head have restarted. **Muslim Women Swim** had 48 attendees on January 14th. There was another Special Swim session scheduled on January 21st for the 2SLGBTQI+ community, and a **Muslim Men Swim** January 28th. Special Swims are planned to continue monthly.

Volunteer Info sessions will be offered in the coming months. Community members are invited to learn more about planned events and activities, as well as ways to get involved within Parks, Recreation & Community Services.

Child & Youth Services have kicked off the New Year with outstanding participation in evening youth programs with up to 21 youth registering to play Dungeons & Dragons! Additionally, youth centres have returned to offering both registered and **drop-in afterschool programming for youth** ages 11 to 16 years. Youth have been excited to return, especially to the Pearkes Teen Centre (the Flipside) where they can have a snack, hang out with friends, get homework help, play games, and feel connected. Looking forward, we have begun to plan for the expansion of summer youth opportunities within our **WYLD (Willing Youth Leading Diverse Communities)** program. With the goal to connect more youth with internal partners to build succession for our future staffing needs.

Science

Goodbye, dark sky. The stars are rapidly disappearing from our night sky

Study finds 7–10% annual increase in sky brightness over 12 years

[Nicole Mortillaro](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jan 19, 2023 11:00 AM PST | Last Updated: 10 hours ago



A new study says the night sky might be brightening faster than once thought, and that has consequences for humans, ecosystems and more. (Stefanie Harron)

Most Canadians are about as likely to see the Milky Way as they are to see a beaver riding on the back of a moose.

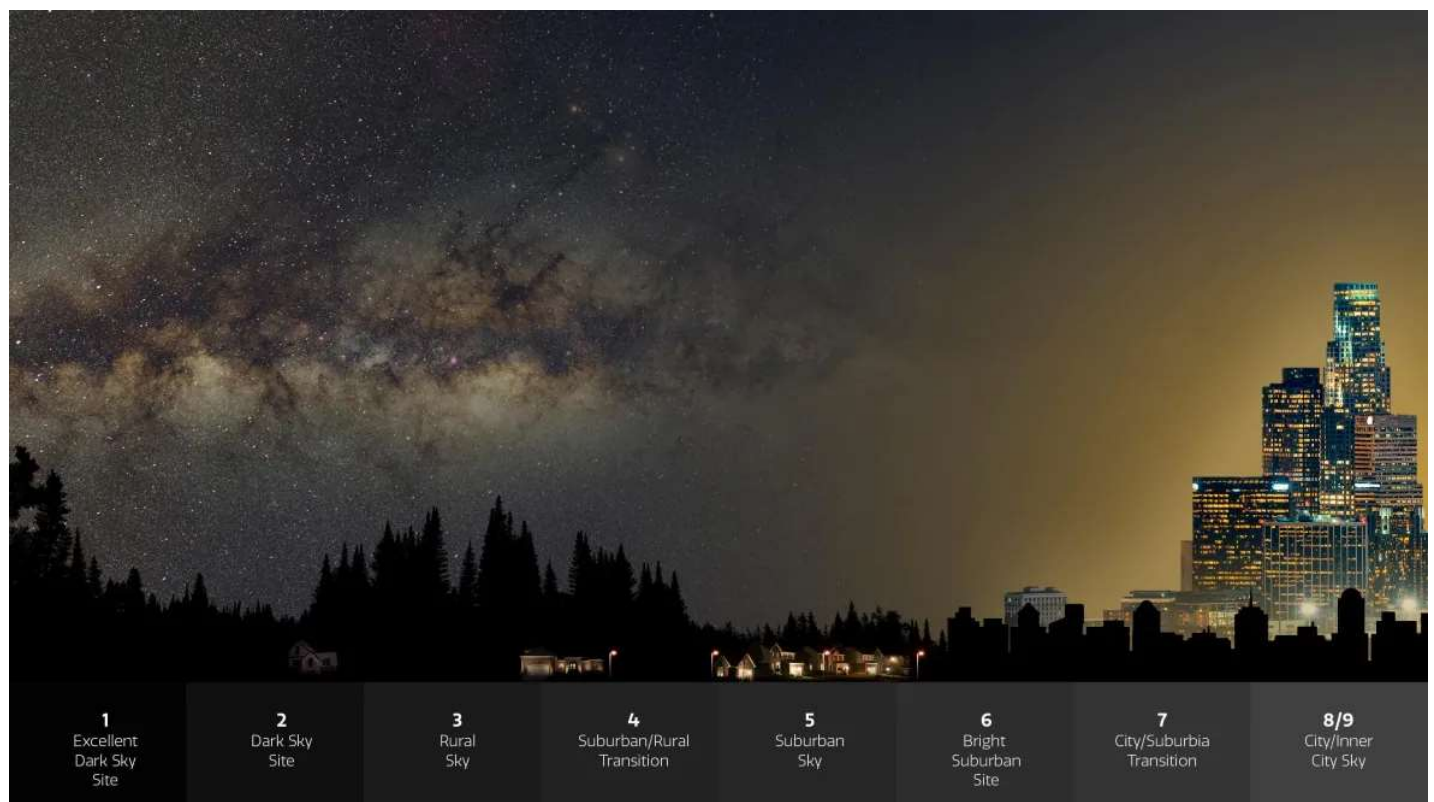
That's because [almost three-quarters of Canadians live in brightly lit cities](#), leaving just a smattering of stars visible to the unaided eye.

Now, a new study has found that the night sky may actually be brightening faster than once thought, and that has consequences for humans, ecosystems and more.

In a [paper published in Science on Thursday](#), the authors used data collected from citizen scientists who took part in the outreach program [Globe at Night](#), in which participants look at particular constellations and record how many stars they can see.

What they found was that, over the past 12 years, stars are becoming increasingly difficult to see, possibly due to increasing light pollution. The change was a seven to 10 per cent annual increase in sky brightness, far more than what satellites have detected.

To put it in perspective, the authors noted that someone born in an area where 250 stars could be seen would see fewer than 100 in the same place 18 years later.

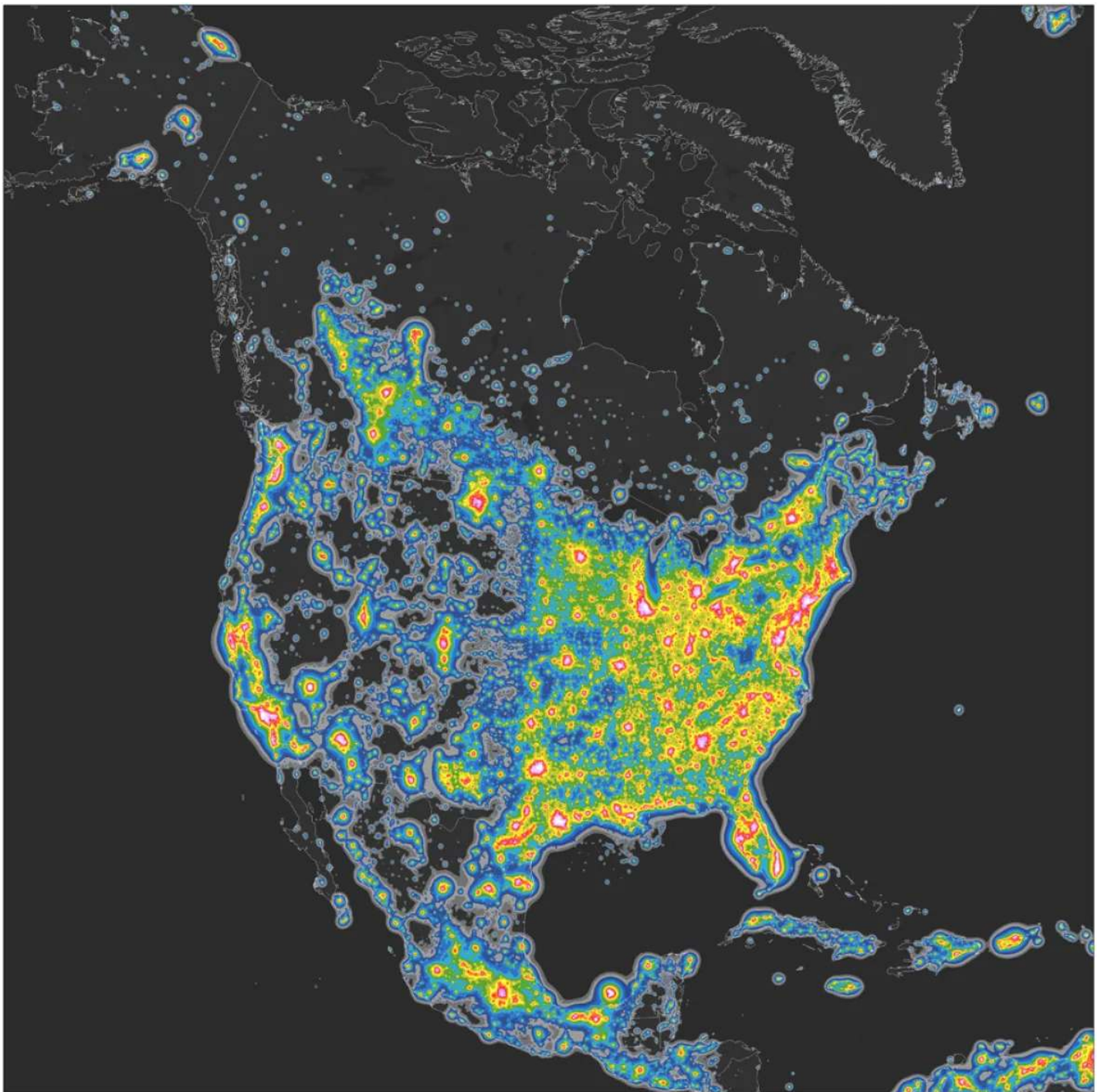


This illustration shows the effects of light pollution on the night sky, from an excellent dark sky, left, to inner city sky. (NOIRLab/NSF/AURA, P. Marenfeld)

Satellite data previously put the growth in light emissions at 2.2 per cent per year from 2012-16 and 1.6 per cent during 1992-2017, which is in stark contrast to the new findings.

But there may be a reason for that.

Those satellites weren't purpose-built for the research, so they were limited in what they can see. As well, satellites could see light emitted straight up, but not from the sides.



Map of North America's artificial sky brightness, in two-fold increasing steps, as a ratio to the natural sky brightness. Black represents little to no light pollution, while yellow, red and white represent the most light pollution where few stars are visible in the night sky. (Fabio Falchi, Christopher Kyba, et. al)

There may be other explanations including in the increased use of LEDs, which are brighter and contain more blue light.

"Blue light scatters more in the atmosphere, so you get more light scattering back down to Earth," said the study's lead author Christopher Kyba, a light pollution physicist at the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences in Bochum, Germany.

"[And] when our eyes are dark adapted, they're more sensitive to blue light. So replacing that long-wavelength light by blue light makes things look brighter and makes it harder to see the stars."

Kyba also theorizes that a trend toward more decorative lighting — on the sides of buildings and in people's homes, for example — that shine in directions other than upward, could be a factor.

The research "confirms something that many of us have suspected for a while, which is that the rate at which light pollution is growing throughout the world is much faster than we previously appreciated," said John Barentine, the executive officer and principal consultant at Dark Sky Consulting, LLC and former head of the International Dark Sky Association, who was not involved in the study.

Brighter does not equal safer

There's the belief that the brighter an area is, the safer it is. But, that's not necessarily the case.

"You'll hear this term 'security lighting' — people put up exterior lighting, and they light their property, their yard or whatever. They leave that light on all night long out of a belief that it discourages criminal activity," said Barentine.

"But I think it would be better to call it insecurity lighting, because it's more about making people inside houses and buildings think that the outside world is a little more safe, because they've taken some kind of proactive step to make it."

He also noted that most crime [happens during daylight hours](#).

Improper lighting can actually cause people to be less safe.

"You put glare in people's eyes, it causes pupils to restrict; they lose depth the field, they lose the contrast of objects with the background, which is important for visual detection at night," Barentine said.

He acknowledges that the problem of light pollution may not be fully appreciated, and perhaps for good reason.

"I think it's not still not on the radar of a lot of people, in part because we live in a complex world that faces very big and very present environmental challenges," Barentine said.

"And we at some level, are all suffering from issue fatigue, whether it's the pandemic, or climate change, or biodiversity loss. You know, we look at the world now, and in the near term future, and it looks pretty scary."

But it's more than a problem of cultural conservation, or how the night sky has influenced humanity from our earliest beginnings. There are potential consequences for human health, ecosystems and even climate change.



These birds all died due to striking buildings in Calgary's downtown core. (Helen Pike/CBC)

In October, on World Migratory Bird Day, the United Nations said [light pollution contributes to the death](#) of millions of migratory birds, as it upends their biological clocks. Birds may see artificial light at night as a longer day. Others may begin their migration earlier than other species, and may arrive at their summer destinations before food sources emerge.

Birds are also often killed by flying into brightly lit glass buildings.

"We should be thinking about the animals that we share the world with," Kyba said.

Light pollution may also [contribute to increased cancer risk](#) in humans, and the wasted energy certainly doesn't help efforts to reduce CO2 emissions.

"The bottom line with all of those things is, we are collectively as a species transforming the nighttime environment in a way that is unprecedented in the history of the Earth. We just do

not know of anything that is so consequential and has happened so quickly," Barentine said. "You're only looking at a period of about 140 years or so since electric lighting was introduced and became widespread."

- [Skyscrapers are killing birds — so volunteers are trying to make downtown Calgary safer](#)
- [Losing the night: Astronomers concerned about too many satellites lighting up the sky](#)

Kyba says the increased brightening can even be documented within just a couple of generations.

"My mother was born in Saskatchewan on a farm with no electricity," Kyba said. "And every night if she went outside, she would have seen, you know, the cosmos. And now, my children have rarely experienced that at all."

- [Dark skies at night: Light pollution and what a park is doing about it](#)

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