

MEDIA ALERT

Bill Nye the Science GuyTM and The Planetary Society to Host Canadian Space Program Celebration

Toronto gathering will highlight space exploration successes, future goals global community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The University of Toronto's Convocation Hall will head for the final frontier on the evening of Wednesday, October 1, 2014, as Planetary Society CEO Bill Nye and very special guests arrive to celebrate Canadian space science and exploration. Titled "We See Thee Rise: The Canadian Space Program Today and Tomorrow," the two-hour event will feature a special presentation by Mr. Nye, followed by a panel discussion for the Society's weekly radio and podcast series, "Planetary Radio." Bill Nye and the Planetary Society are also coming to Toronto to attend the annual meeting of the International Astronautical Congress.

WHO: Moderated by Planetary Radio host Mat Kaplan, the panel will include:

- Bill Nye, Planetary Society CEO
- Canadian Space Agency astronaut <u>Jeremy Hansen</u>, who will have just returned from a week-long, underwater adventure as part of the 19th NASA Extreme Environment Mission Operations (NEEMO) mission
- The University of Western Ontario's <u>Gordon Osinski</u>, Associate Director of the Centre for Planetary Science and Exploration
- <u>Elizabeth Howell</u>, space and science contributing writer for *Universe Today*, *Space.com* and other notable publications

WHAT: Fans in the Hall and watching the live webcast will be entertained by the unique and very entertaining Ottawa-based band Dream World. The audience will also hear about the worldwide Planetary Society's expanding, homegrown Canadian programs, offering a wide range of ways for space enthusiasts from BC to NS to become involved.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 1, 2014. Doors will open at 7:00pm, with the show beginning at 7:30.

WHERE: The University of Toronto's Convocation Hall

REPORTING OPPORTUNITIES: The Planetary Society welcomes attendance at this exciting event by credentialed journalists, photographers and videographers. Media representatives must register on the <u>Planetary Society website</u>. Interviews and media resources, including photography and multimedia, are available upon request.

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ADMISSION: Tickets are on sale now for just \$10. A very limited number of \$75 tickets are also available for a special VIP reception, and include admission to the stage show. Planetary Society members can attend the stage show and the reception for a special discounted price of \$50. No tickets will be sold at the door for either event. Tickets are only available from the Society's Brown Paper Tickets event page at http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/855843.

About the Planetary Society

The Planetary Society has inspired millions of people to explore other worlds and seek other life. With the mission to empower the world's citizens to advance space science and exploration, its international membership makes the non-governmental Planetary Society the largest space interest group in the world. Carl Sagan, Bruce Murray and Louis Friedman founded the Planetary Society in 1980. Bill Nye, a long time member of the Planetary Society's Board, serves as CEO.

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