

February 16, 2026



In February, Canada will experience a variety of celestial events that are perfect for stargazing. On February 17, a total solar eclipse will occur, lasting two minutes and 20 seconds. It will rise over mainland Antarctica and set off the coast of the Southern Ocean. On February 28, 6 planets, Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Uranus, Saturn, and Neptune will align along the ecliptic, forming an arc across the night sky. Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn will be bright and easy to spot with the naked eye, while Uranus and Neptune will require a telescope or binoculars.

These events provide excellent opportunities for skywatchers to witness the beauty of the night sky and the power of the universe. Whether you're a seasoned stargazer or a beginner, February's night sky in Canada is sure to be memorable.



In addition, February delivers one of Canada's biggest daylight comebacks of the entire year. February is the month when daylight rapidly accelerates, and several Canadian cities notch their first 6 p.m. sunset of 2026. Daylight is ramping up fast as we approach the spring equinox, and February captures this steep uptick. Daylight acceleration is not a constant change, as daylight speeds up through the month. Each week in February adds more daylight than the one before.

## EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO ON SLR'S CALENDAR



**COFFEE CHAT** Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to connect with other members of SLR. Each week you will receive an **email with a link to Zoom** to connect online. Although our format is fairly unstructured, (no set topic just sharing of ideas, events and experiences) there is an assigned host who helps keep things moving. The schedule for the rest of **the month of February** includes Fri February 20 1:30 pm, and Fri February 27 1:30pm.

**I hope you are all enjoying the FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY – No Classes today Monday, February 16**



Family Day is observed in the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, and New Brunswick on the third Monday of February. This **holiday celebrates the importance of families and family life to people and their communities.**



**THE WESTERN STUDENT GROUP** will be available to provide help at the following Computer Clinics on:

Monday @ 1:30 pm: March 9

Wed's. @ 1:00 pm: March 4, 18, and April 1st

Fridays @ 2:30 pm: Feb. 6, 27, and March 27 at 2:30 pm

Note the different times.

The Clinics will be held in the Dining Room at Grosvenor

Lodge.

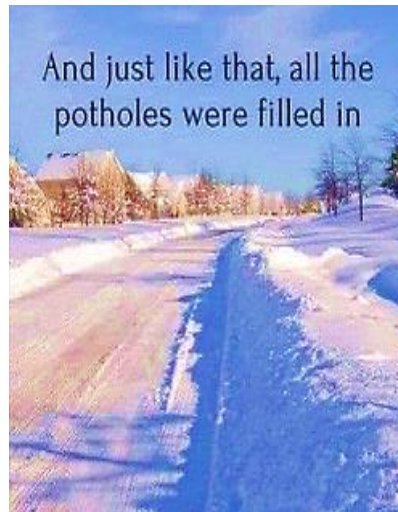
If you wish to have personal help with your smart phone, laptop, or tablet, you must make an appointment at [SLR.Computer.Clinic@gmail.com](mailto:SLR.Computer.Clinic@gmail.com) at least 3 days ahead. The model of your device and the issue you wish to discuss should be described briefly. Your request will be passed to the student executive and they will find the right volunteer to help you. Please do not 'reply' to this notice, as it will go to the SLR office, delaying the transfer of your request.



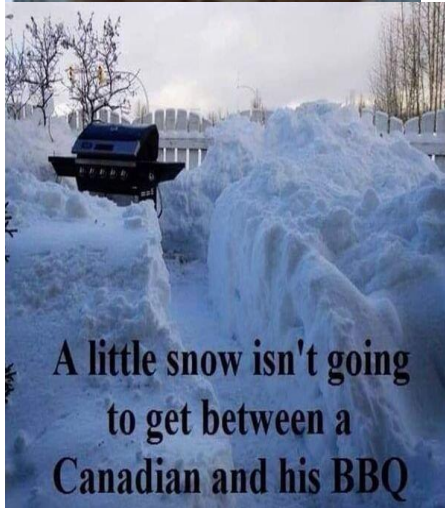
**KARAOKE EXTRAVAGANZA Wednesday, March 4  
1:00 - 4:00 pm The London Brewing Cooperative, 521  
Burbrook Place, No Cost**

Get ready to grab the mic, hit the stage, and unleash your inner superstar! Join us for an unforgettable Karaoke afternoon filled with laughter, great music, and amazing vibes. The London Brewing Cooperative welcomes SLR members and is consistently praised for its welcoming atmosphere, friendly staff, and excellent beer selection.

## LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE



Canadian archeological dig



### Previous Riddle:

John went to a cafe and asked for a cup of tea. He was served the tea but sent it back because there was a fly in the cup. He was served a new cup of tea, but he realized it was the same cup of tea and not a fresh one. He got angry and shouted at the waiter. How did John realize that it wasn't a fresh cup of tea?

**Answer:** He had added sugar to the first cup. When he tasted the second cup of tea, it tasted sweet. If it was a fresh cup of tea, it would've tasted bitter. The waiter had served John the same cup of tea thinking he wouldn't realize it.

## **New Riddle**

A man was found dead with a cassette recorder in one hand and a gun in his other hand. When the police came in, they immediately pressed the play button on the cassette. They heard the man say, “I have nothing else to live for. I can’t go on.” Then there was the sound of a gunshot. After listening to the cassette tape, the police knew that it was not a suicide, but a homicide. How did they know?

## **INFORMATION FOR OUR MEMBERS**



Hello everybody,

SLR operates totally with volunteers from our membership. The Board of Directors has eleven members, six of which are “at large” without specific responsibilities. In a nutshell, the Board is responsible for meeting our financial and legal requirements, setting future goals, and for the overall success of SLR.

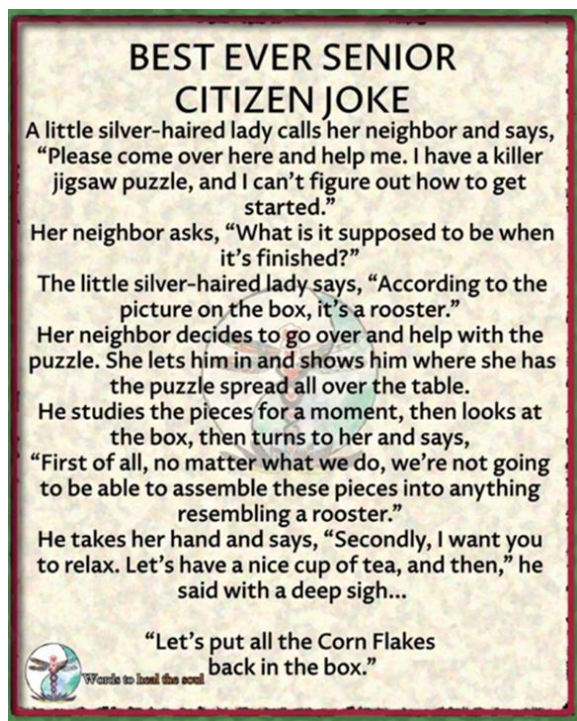
Board members typically serve for three years with an option for a further two years. We are seeking volunteers to join our board effective from April 2026. Any member of SLR is eligible.

To nominate someone or if you are interested in helping SLR and would like an interesting perspective of its functioning, please contact Twyla Atchison at [twyla.atchison@gmail.com](mailto:twyla.atchison@gmail.com).

A member of the Nominating Committee will be in touch with you to obtain further details and answer any questions.

We will entertain notices of interest until February 20, 2026.  
We attach an overview of the duties and responsibilities for your perusal.  
Thank you.

A note from Jean Surry who helps keep our SLR library stocked and up to date. Having such a great resource for our members is one of the perks of being a member. I remember getting my first Louise Penny novel from the shelves of SLR's library. I was hooked and have now read all her books!



Hi Margaret,  
A friend just shared this with me, as she knows my husband and I like doing puzzles. Hopefully it doesn't get this far!  
Perhaps you could use it to suggest that our **members could bring in more puzzles for the SLR Library.** It's time I cleared out some that have been hanging around for a long time.  
While you are at it, you could re-iterate that new fiction books are always welcome (less than a dozen at a time). But no more non-fiction for a while, please, as those do not move much from our shelves.

*Jean*

A note from Kathleen for the knitters in our membership



Hi Margaret,  
I receive a newsletter from our local yarn shop in Woodstock. I thought some of the info about craftivism might be of interest for the SLR newsletter.  
Cheers,  
Kathleen

Yarn crafts have a long tradition as tools of political expression and community building — far from being “just hobbies.” Over history, knitters and fibre artists have used their skills to make silent but powerful statements:

- **Suffrage movement:** Knitted garments in movement colours were worn and displayed to show solidarity and signal commitment to women’s voting rights.
- **Global knit-ins & public protest:** Groups such as the *Revolutionary Knitting Circle* have organized communal knit-ins during major protests (e.g., G8 demonstrations) to symbolically weave together support for social change.
- **Craftivism & yarn bombing:** Public knitting and guerrilla stitched installations often make visible statements against inequality, war, or environmental issues; turning traditionally domestic crafts into urban protest art.
- **Pussyhats (2017):** Pink knit hats became an iconic wearable symbol at the US Women’s March, showing how simple patterns can unite thousands in shared protest identity.

In each case, the act of creating — and especially *wearing or displaying* the finished work — became a quiet yet powerful form of solidarity and resistance.



**The “Melt the ICE Hat”      Women’s Heart Health KAL  
Initiative in the US.**

**To subscribe to their newsletter and get more information here is the link**

**[The Thoughtful Artisan](http://www.thethoughtfulartisan.ca)**

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**Best Wishes to our members who are celebrating their Birthday in February**

If you or your friends or family are celebrating a birthday in February, there's so much to learn about your birth month! it's also the only month that changes date, it's home to the [Leapling](#); those people whose birthday only happens every four years, on

February the 29th!

The February Zodiac signs are Aquarius and Pisces: the water-bearer and the fish. Aquarius babies, are known for their creativity, independence and forward-thinking. "Pisces children are dreamers with big imaginations and huge hearts.

I would be interested to know how the Founders Day Celebration turned out. If any body has any comments we would love to hear from you. Just send me a note to my email address.

Margaret

[margaretcowan44@gmail.com](mailto:margaretcowan44@gmail.com)