

## Library telescopes in Canada

Message posted by John O'Hanley on [rascals@lists.rasc.ca](mailto:rascals@lists.rasc.ca) Jan 18, 2023

Hello,  
I recently re-joined the RASC.

I did so because of the idea of library telescopes.

I read the excellent documentation created by the volunteers at [librarytelescope.org](http://librarytelescope.org), and became interested in the project.

Over the past week or so I've helped out by adding many entries to their database of public libraries in Canada that lend out telescopes.

According to the data I compiled (through Google searches):

- **about 243 telescopes are lent out in 100 public library branches across Canada**
- about 3.0% of public library branches in Canada loan out library scopes (in the US, the number is about 4.4%)
- hot-spots/early adopters are Québec, Ottawa, the Fraser Valley (BC), and PEI
- places with no library telescopes at all: Manitoba, Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary, and downtown Montreal
- various types of scopes have been used: Orion StarBlast (especially in Québec), SkyWatcher Heritage 76mm (Fraser Valley), SkyWatcher Dobs, and a few others

The main web site for library telescopes is <https://www.librarytelescope.org/>

I thought it would be useful to gather info specific to Canada, so I created this, using [github.com](https://github.com), a project collaboration tool:

<https://github.com/ltp-canada/library-telescope/wiki/>

<https://github.com/ltp-canada/library-telescope/issues/>

**I'm interested in trying to get more library telescopes into public library branches in Canada.**

If you would like to help out, you can contribute to the [github.com](https://github.com) pages by simply signing up for an account at [github.com](https://github.com) (in the usual way).

Once done, you can add content to the wiki and issues pages listed above.

For instance, I think it would be interesting for others if you could share your story about how your centre collaborated with a library.

- John O'Hanley  
Stratford, PEI  
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