

# ***THE NIGHT SKY CONSERVATION PROGRAM***

## ***MISSION STATEMENT***

**Light pollution** is one of the most obvious forms of economic and environmental waste. We see it every night in the form of bright orange blobs of light in the sky. This light only serves to obscure our views of the night sky and pollute our enjoyment of the wonders of the heavens.

Oil and coal power generating stations contribute high amounts of toxic chemicals into the air. These toxins pollute our soil and water as rainfall brings these chemicals back to the Earth. Therefore, light pollution is a direct cause of air, water and soil pollution on our planet. The real shame here is that light pollution doesn't benefit us at all. In other words, there is no return on investment.

By reducing light pollution, we reduce power consumption, which reduces oil and coal consumption, which serves to conserve our natural environment.

The **Night Sky Conservation (NSC) Program's mission** is to implement effective light pollution reduction measures within Mississippi Mills. This is being done by providing practical lighting strategies, educating the public and businesses about responsible lighting practices and fostering an appreciation of the night sky through high-calibre astronomy education.

The NSC is unique in the sense that it does not simply preach light pollution abatement. The NSC practices light pollution abatement. The NSC fosters an appreciation of the night sky so that light pollution becomes a concern to those who want to enjoy the wonders of the heavens.

The NSC will provide a **three-fold return on investment**:

- 1) **Conserving our natural environment;**
- 2) **Improving the splendour of our night skies; and**
- 3) **Reducing wasted electricity costs.**