

48th IAA HISTORY OF ASTRONAUTICS SYMPOSIUM (E4)  
History of Canadian contribution to astronautics and history on early SETI activities (3)

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SETI SCIENCE: THE FIRST 25 YEARS

**Abstract**

2010 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the first modern observational SETI experiment. Although we made tremendous technological strides in SETI's first fifty years, confirmed detection of signals of intelligent extraterrestrial origin (the Holy Grail of SETI) continued to elude us. This cursory overview will, of necessity, be brief. Its intent is to provide an historical perspective for the technical presentations made during this year's IAA SETI Science and Technology sessions. In fifteen minutes, we will highlight the first half-century of SETI science and technology, and look ahead to the next half-century of progress.