

# HERALD ВІСНИК

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## Shevchenko Museum Opens Exhibition



Photo: Wilfred Szczesny

Pat Dzatko was among the many art lovers in attendance when the Shevchenko Museum in Toronto opened its exhibition of the art of Jerry Prociw with a wine and cheese reception on September 21. The story is on page 9.

## The Crisis Continues

In spite of the massive bail-out plans for American financial institutions, the economic crisis continues to unfold, dragging the world economy down with it.

So far, the attention has been on the problems created by high-risk mortgage loans which turned bad with increased interest rates and decreased economic well-being. Now the attention is turning to other high-risk loans which are going into default as the economy slows down.

This other problem is huge loans made to corporations to allow them to buy the shares

of public companies. The danger is that there will now be a round of increased corporate bankruptcies. A survey by the Federal Reserve in the US, looking at \$2.3 trillion in corporate loans held by American banks at the end of June found that 13.4% were problematic, up from 5% a year earlier.

That means the heightened possibility of many more lost jobs in the United States and a serious loss of market for Canada.

President Bush, picking up an idea pressed by French President Sarkozy and European Commission President Barroso, has called for a summit of world leaders to discuss a global response to the crisis. UN Secretary General Ban Kimoon supported that idea, and offered to host it in New York before the end of the year.

Countries around the world have been bailing out their financial institutions in a struggle to contain the crisis. The efforts have included buying shares in the institutions, in some cases demanding representation on Boards of Directors. In other instances, large amounts of capital have been made available to guarantee liquidity, without placing any ownership demands on the institutions.

Still, look for further deepening of the crisis.

**Check your  
label at left. Is it  
time to renew?  
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now?**

## Iraqis Oppose the Occupation

With the UN mandate for the occupation of Iraq expiring on December 31, the United States has been scrambling to reach an agreement with the government of Iraq to allow it to continue to station American troops in that country.

Finally, it appears an agreement has been hammered out

which would allow American troops to remain for about three more years, though it bars them from Iraqi cities by the end of June, 2009, and gives Iraqi authorities some jurisdiction over crimes by off-duty, off-base US soldiers.

While the agreement does not require US Congressional approval, it does need the ap-

proval of Iraq's 275-seat parliament. That does not appear to be a given.

With provincial and national elections scheduled for 2009, the various parties contesting the elections are not keen to support a pact which prolongs the unpopular American occupation. In fact, some of them rather energetically oppose the pact.

Some of those opposing the continuation of American occupation held a demonstration on the streets of Baghdad on October 18, with tens of thousands marching along a route heavy with soldiers and police. According to western press reports, they were mainly Shiite supporters of Muqtada al-Sadr, who lives in Iran, but controls 30 parliamentary seats.

Iraqi politicians were cited as predicting that the adoption of the agreement would "likely be a drawn out process". This is because the occupation is not popular, Washington's propaganda notwithstanding.

It is not known what America will do if the agreement is not approved in Iraq by the end of the year. The picture is clouded by the presidential election in the United States. Many forces in the US would oppose the withdrawal of American troops, even if no figment of legitimacy could be maintained. On the other hand, it appears probable that the incoming president will favour troop withdrawal sooner, rather than later.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## Muzzling the Advocates

It is tempting for groups of various kinds to seek status as a registered charity. Groups that do not have such a registration are under constant pressure from their supporters to get that magic number which makes donations tax deductible. The directors of the groups are lured by the promise of increased donations, the possibility of grants which become available and (in some provinces) various sorts of gaming licences and permits which require the charitable registration.

Many groups which register then learn of the drawbacks. These include the limitations on the activity of registered charities, which in many cases run contrary to the purposes for which the organization was established.

These restrictions become particularly onerous during election campaigns, when publishing an analysis of political parties' positions on the issue of interest to the group, and on which it has particular expertise, could be construed as partisan political activity and lead to the loss of charitable status.

This issue caught the attention of *The Toronto Star* after it was raised by Elizabeth May of the Green Party. The "Star" opined that the rules should be changed concerning commentary on party platforms.

However, the political activity which registered charities may undertake is restricted at all times, which creates in advocacy groups, as well as other charities, constant tension between the security of their funding and activity on their issue.

One of the disturbing features of the restrictions is that there is no set of clear guidelines, so that groups censor

themselves, lest they overstep the bounds and lose their status. The bounds are not objectively established, but are subject to decisions of governing parties. This raises fears of possible retaliation by a vindictive party which was unhappy about a particular action or position by some group. The result is a deeper silence.

During the recent federal election, with the Green Party running and the other parties presenting environmental planks to their platforms, such tensions were particularly galling for environmental groups. However, even in organizations like the AUUC, some Branches with charitable registration and the attendant benefits govern their activity by its possible effect on their charitable status.

Grants and gaming licences can become such a potent consideration that criticism can be transformed into acquiescence and militant activism can be diverted to innocuous participation in approved or "safe" projects.

By the time this becomes intolerable in a group, the addiction to relatively easy money may have established such roots that eradicating it may be impossible. — WS

## Newsorthy

Did your hear or read the question in the CTV interview with Stéphane Dion which the network found newsworthy? I both heard and read it, and the only thing newsworthy about it was the declining standard of English in the broadcast media. My English is pretty good, but I barely managed to cope with the question's tangle of tenses and moods.

— Wilfred Szczesny

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# Nine Decades of Struggle

The 1980s were a decade of momentous events on the world stage as well as in Canada, with profound long-term consequences for the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

Early in the decade, there was a world-wide marking of the 50th anniversary of the famine in Ukraine. This was part of a determined effort to put new life in the Cold War, which had been ebbing as the decade approached, with détente a growing reality.

President Reagan of the United States stalled the process of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, and pressed his allies to adopt the neutron bomb, the cruise missile, and other weapons intended to make a first strike against the Soviet Union possible. His administration also proposed a Strategic Defence Initiative, known as Star Wars, which would further have destabilized the arms race, as well as militarizing space.

In December, 1983, short months before he retired, Mr. Trudeau and the Government of Canada agreed to allow testing of American cruise missiles in Canada's west.

This period was a time of intense activity by the peace movement, with the AUUC actively involved as a member of the Canadian Peace Congress. The AUUC also played an active role in the formation, in this decade, of the Canadian Peace Alliance.

By the middle of the decade, the USSR had declared a moratorium on its participation in many aspects of the arms race and the USA was feeling increasing pressure to reciprocate.

In 1986, the Chernobyl nuclear disaster was met initially with a right-wing Ukrainian effort to blame either the Jews, the Russians or the Communists — or some combination of the three — for another genocide. However, as assistance poured in from all sides, attention soon turned from laying blame to joining in the aid effort.

In 1985, Mikhail Gorbachev announced the course of *perestroika* and *glasnost* in the USSR. The consequences came rapidly, and by 1990 Ukrainian Canadian business people started looking at investment opportunities in Ukraine. In August, 1991, with Yeltsin's attack on the Kremlin, Ukraine became a safe place even for Yuri Shymko, then President of the World Congress of Free Ukrainians.

In Canada, the first half of the decade was defined by the Liberal government, after Pierre Trudeau defeated Joe

Clark on February 18, 1980, and became prime minister with a parliamentary majority. The second half of that decade was ruled by Brian Mulroney's Progressive Conservative majority.

The "Canadianization" of the country's symbolism continued under Trudeau, with "O Canada" becoming the national anthem on July 1, 1980, Dominion Day being renamed Canada Day on October 27, 1982, the Canada Act receiving royal assent on April 17, 1982, and the new Constitution and Charter of Rights and Freedoms coming into effect.

In socio-economic terms, on October 28, 1980, the National Energy Program was introduced. Canada Post became a crown corporation in October, 1981. The Western Grain Transportation Act was passed on November 17, 1983.

Much of the 1980s was an economically depressed time in Canada, and much AUUC attention was turned to the economic struggle of working people, including support for large demonstrations of working people. Later, the AUUC took up the cause of opposition to the free trade agreements which were part of the process of consolidating the North American market and tying Canada more tightly to American corporate interests.

There were other development in these Trudeau years. In June, 1982, the Freedom of Information Act was passed, and in December of that year, Canada's 200 nautical mile limit was recognized. On January 1, 1983, the metric system was officially adopted federally.

In mid-1983, the Trudeau government introduced legislation to create the Canadian Security Intelligence Service on June 21, 1984, just before Trudeau left. The AUUC was among those warning against the formation of a spy agency which would not be subject to the same controls as the RCMP, which had earlier served as the security agency.

By September, 1983, the bloom was wearing of the Trudeaumania rose, as the Liberal government looked more and more like the Progressive Conservatives. Pierre Trudeau resigned in June, 1984, and John Turner became Prime Minister on June 30. Within months, Mr. Turner was defeated, and on September 17, 1984, Brian Mulroney became Prime Minister. A new chapter on Canada's history began.

In March, 1985, there was the "Shamrock Summit", with Prime Minister Brian Mul-

roney and US President Ronald Reagan agreeing on missile defence cooperation and free trade (leading to the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement which came into effect on January 1, 1989). The new Competition Act came into force in June, 1986.

That the Cold War was still a feature of the international situation at the start of the 1980s is demonstrated by the fact that in January, 1980, three Soviet embassy workers were expelled after they were accused of spying, and in April Canada announced that it would boycott the summer Olympics in Moscow. By the end of the decade, the Cold War was fast becoming irrelevant.

In late 1987, the Reform Party of Canada was founded.

The 1980s were problematic for right-wing Ukrainian Canadians. The continuing decline of community strength in relative terms, with the growth of other groups in Canada, and in absolute terms, with the declining participation rates of younger generations, was compounded by such events as the establishment of an investigation into war criminals in Canada — the Deschenes Commission.

The right-wing of the community reacted to the Deschenes Commission by treating it as an attack on the entire community, inspired by the usual suspects: the Jews, the Communists and the Soviet Union. The Commission eventually found little that would be damaging to Ukrainian Canadians, but before the Commission made its report, the community had undermined its own credibility.

Throughout the decade, the Ukrainian Canadian Committee was forced to view its declining influence in events like the twinning of Lviv and Winnipeg, and its inability to keep its own community away from meetings with *News From Ukraine* editor Viktor Stelmakh while the Ukrainian journalist was touring Canada.

The state of relations between the Ukrainian Canadian Committee (now Congress) in 1986 is indicated in an exchange between the UCC and Joe Clark, then Secretary of State for External Affairs in the Progressive Conservative government headed by Brian Mulroney. This event is discussed in the January, 1987, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*.

One very positive development from the UCC perspective, in an otherwise rather bleak picture, was the government's 1988 designation of the UCC as the agency through which the funds for the celebration of the Ukrainian Canadian centennial would be funnelled.

The changes in the Soviet Union at the end of the decade had interesting results in

the right-wing community. On the one hand, much of their attention turned to Ukraine, and a number of groups went so far as to move their organizational headquarters to Ukraine as soon as possible.

On the other hand, those events at the end of the decade also had another result, one which had not been considered for decades: the influx of a new wave of Ukrainians to Canada — but that is a story for another time.

For the Association of United Ukrainians, the decade effectively started with the 1981 celebration of the 90th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada, and ended with the 38th National Convention in October, 1991, the year of the celebration of the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

Coming off the March, 1980, dance festival in Regina celebrating the centennial of Saskatchewan's provincehood, and the November, 1980, dance festival in Calgary, marking the 75th anniversary of Alberta as a province, the AUUC launched a string of celebrations across Canada marking the 90th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada. These included a number of regional festivals, among them a huge Eastern Canadian Festival on July 1 at the AUUC Summer Camp in Palermo (now Oakville).

The 35th National Convention was held in October of that year. At that convention, as reported in the *Ukrainian Canadian* in December, 1981, it was indicated that "The already high, and constantly growing, level of activity has placed demands on the organization, and especially on its leadership, faster than the AUUC has been able to expand its capacity to respond." The main report to the convention listed no fewer than twenty specific proposals for future activity.

One of those proposals was the organization of the first Heritage Tour, in 1982, a project designed to encourage the younger generations, particularly, to visit their ancestral homeland with the optimal opportunities to learn about all aspects of the country and its people. The tour, in July, had 176 participants.

The second Heritage Tour was held in 1986, by decision of the 36th AUUC National Convention, as part of the celebration of the 95th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada. This second tour had 235 participants.

The third, and final, Heritage Tour, with 159 participants, was organized in 1991. (The tour numbers all exclude the Ukrainians who played such an important part in the success of the excursions.)

The AUUC community had some significant gains in the 1980s. Among these achieve-

ments was the construction of Ivan Franko Manor in Winnipeg, Manitoba, a project of the Workers Benevolent Association which was fully supported by the AUUC. Construction started in 1983. The Manor was officially opened on October 6, 1984, during a joint session of the conventions of the AUUC and the WBA, and a bust of Ivan Franko was unveiled on the site.

The joint session also authorized the establishment of the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research, which was formed in October 1985, and was quite active throughout the balance of the decade. It remains active to this day.

The 36th National Convention which followed the joint session was attended by 99 delegates, representing 56 Branches.

Later in the decade, in September 1988, Lesya Ukrainka Manor for low-income senior citizens was opened by the AUUC in Vancouver.

In August, 1984, the Hahilka Choir and Toronto's AUUC orchestra, augmented by eight players from the Welland AUUC Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra, became the second, and last, AUUC group ever (the first had been the Shevchenko Ensemble, which repeated as an independent organization in 1989) to make a concert tour in Ukraine.

In August, 1984, too, the AUUC unveiled a monument to Taras Shevchenko in Kobzar Park in Timmins, Ontario. This location was close to the Ukrainian Historical and Cultural Museum.

The celebration of the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada was initiated at the 36th National Convention of the AUUC, as well as the 28th National Convention of the WBA, in 1984. This was a far longer lead time than the AUUC traditionally gave itself for such events.

Toward the end of the decade, the AUUC suffered some losses, starting with the Shevchenko Museum in September, 1988. It was established that the utter destruction of the building and its contents, with little salvaged, was a case of arson, but the perpetrator has not been identified.

On November 9-11, 1990, the AUUC National Committee meeting eschewed routine to consider basic challenges facing the AUUC as it approached its 1991 celebration of the centennial of Ukrainian immigration to Canada and the coming 38th AUUC National Convention. In the first public acknowledgement of the extent to which the AUUC had been disrupted by developments in Ukraine and around the world, the editorial in the December, 1990, issue of the "UC" said that "the AUUC

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UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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## Canada's Prospects

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

The economy is rather important to Canadians, and slight changes in the country's prospects can have consequences beyond their true significance. For example, the total number of votes won in the last federal election by the Conservatives was increased, I am certain, by the slight upswing in the stock market just before election day, as well as the news that a record number of jobs were created in September.

The economy being as important as it is, what are the prospects facing this country as the "UCH" prepares to go to press?

Before the election, Prime Minister Harper, echoed by many economists and other experts, have repeatedly proclaimed that Canada's financial system is different from that of the USA, and not subject to the credit squeeze suffered by the American system. Therefore, Canada will not suffer a severe economic downturn.

Perhaps, now that the elections are done, the politicians and the experts will take a broader, and more accurate view of the reality of the Canadian economy.

Whatever the truth about the Canadian financial system, the fact is that our national economy will suffer as the US economy continues to slide (and everyone seems to agree that it will for quite a while) because the United States is by far our biggest market, particularly our export market. There is no way that the Canadian economy can avoid a downturn if US producers and consumers reduce their purchases of our resources, our raw materials, and whatever manufactured or partially finished products our industries sell into that market.

The latest picture from the United States is that bankruptcies are spreading beyond the housing market and financial institutions to the manufacturers, retailers and other sectors that depend on the financial institutions to do business. That means more unemployment and continuing reduction in consumer demand, as well as industrial demand, for Canadian products. It also means reduced demand in the Canadian tourism, retail, service and other industries.

So what about the record number of new jobs?

In the fine print, and seldom mentioned, is the fact that 97,000 of those 107,000 jobs (over 90%) are part time — you may need three of them to make up for losing one full time job. "Everyone has a paper route," in other words.

The unemployment rate stayed at 6.1%, as factories continued to reduce production or close altogether.

## COMMENTARY

### Thoughts on Voter Participation

The election is over. The first thing the opposition parties should do is to present a bill they would unanimously support repealing the law imposed by the Conservatives to set the period between elections. Their justification would be to bring at least a little honesty to government.

Let's see whether the Conservatives would dare treat this as a confidence vote in the sense of defeating the government, as opposed to the confidence game the Conservatives played when they passed the law which, apparently, they had no intention of obeying. Talk about confidence rackets!

Of course, the opposition parties are unlikely to have any shared interest in bringing any honesty to Parliament, as that would cramp their own styles.

The lowest turnout ever in a federal election. Many people are eager to present an explanation; far fewer people are interested in a solution.

CBC radio followed the election with a conversation in which young people talked about why they did or did not vote. Many of the abstainers among them said, essentially, that voting was irrelevant, that the political process produced nothing of value to them. One particularly impressive young man listed a half-dozen or more areas of social action in which he was involved in an effort to improve society or, at least, the lives of those around him.

Shortly after, these young people were followed by a university professor who commented on the positions expressed by the young people. He thought they were intellectually lazy, copping out, and disrespectful of the sacrifice made by those who died fighting for democracy (which he reduced to the right to vote). His only answer to the declining participation rate was to make voting compulsory, as is done in most dictatorships and Australia.

If asked to choose who was more intellectually lazy, a cop-out, and more disrespectful of democracy, I would have to say the university professor: too lazy to seriously consider why socially involved young people (who are certainly not lazy) spurn the ballot box; copping out by standing for the status quo instead of being prepared to make the changes which would draw all people to participate; and sufficiently anti-democratic to force citizens into behaviour (voting) which, in a healthy

democracy, citizens would reasonably be expected to insist on as their right and participate in at high rates.

What are some of the negative features of this last election, the sorts of things which alienate people from the electoral process?

We might start by thinking about the political parties' obsession with protecting their turf. Yes, that includes the NDP's opposition, and that of the other parties as well, to including the leader of the Green Party in the leaders' debates. What a mighty roar that produced from the people, especially people from the big parties, and most especially people from the NDP! The mighty, united voice of the people overcame that shameful defence of political turf.

But the roadblocks to the inclusion of new voices have been around a long time and in many forms, and all the big parties, including the NDP, have supported, and continue to support laws and regulations designed to keep out the small parties. Some of that has changed in recent years, particularly as a result of such legal challenges as *Figueroa v. Canada*, but new roadblocks have been erected with such laws as the changes to election financing which limit personal and organizational donations to political parties, but impose a threshold of support to qualify for public financing. The big parties get millions of dollars a year; the small parties get another chance to be ridiculed and excluded from all-candidates meetings.

One of the greatest current deterrents to increased voter participation rates is the first-past-the post system used in Canada. Following any election, including the most recent one, the NDP and others are happy to point to the defects

in our first past-the-post electoral system, and declare that another way must be found — until the reality dawns that the Green Party might qualify for 23 seats instead of none, as might other new voices — "even ethnic parties", as *The Toronto Star* warns. Then the threat of unstable governments is trotted out, or the chance that the Conservatives "might be kept in power by entering a coalition with pro-life and Alberta First parties" (as *The Toronto Star* sees the nightmare of proportional representation).

But government in Canada has been quite unstable in recent years, and shows little prospect of becoming steadier. And why is the possibility of a Conservative majority government any less scary than a government of Conservative in coalition with other equally right-wing groups?

So a few big parties with all the advantages set the conditions of the election campaign, crisscrossing the country making promises which they have no intention of keeping (as everyone knows and expects) and, in some cases, promises which they could not keep even if they wanted to do so: promises like staving of the looming economic recession; promises like holding the tax line while reducing poverty and avoiding a budgetary deficit; promises like being the government of all the people; and so on; and so on; and so on.

And when an increasing proportion of the electorate opts out of the charade, just call them lazy (whether intellectually or physically) cop-outs who disrespect the sacrifice of our heroic dead.

There are two ways the trend can go. One is along the current path, until public support for the parliamentary system and elections falls to the point where they can safely be abolished and replaced by something which does not require even the appearance of public participation. The other option is the reverse of the first — to change the system into

**(Continued on Page 8.)**

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## Ukrainian News Briefs Selected by George Borusiewicz

### “Free” Media?

In capitalist Ukraine, the newly-rich and powerful can buy favourable news reports (not advertisements) on themselves or their businesses in almost any newspaper, radio broadcast, or television program.

“Mass media give information on politicians in exchange for money, and naturally this information is firstly as politicians want it to be. Nowadays one can practically buy whatever media space or broadcasting time one would like,” stated Victoria Sumar, Executive Director of the Institute of Mass Information, a non-governmental organization based in Kyiv.

The current owners of media tend to behave like paid public-relations agencies for politicians.

Ukraine’s richest men are realizing that control over TV not only helps their political careers, but also brings huge profit. The competition to buy Ukrainian TV channels has increased immensely over the last few years as a result of the soaring profits. Consequently, oligarchs now control 80% of the viewing audience.

### Neo-Nazi Gang Exposed

Neo-Nazis in the city of Kirovohrad planned to bomb the local synagogue, according to a senior security official. The leaders of the neo-Nazi gang, among them a former police officer, also planned to assault Jews and members of other minorities.

The security official told a press conference that the group numbered 14 members, mostly university students aged 18–20 who were well-versed in Nazi literature.

The gang was exposed after the leader of the Reform Jewish community in Kirovohrad complained that the local synagogue’s windows had been shattered and that anti-Semitic slogans had been sprayed on its walls.

### Controlling Media

The “Orange Revolution” came to power in 2004 on promises to bring transparency and democracy to Ukraine. In spite of the promises, the Geneva-based Human Rights Tribune reports that it is still not a good idea to mess with high-level political figures in Ukraine.

An example of swift and harsh political punishment was the dismissal of a well-known reporter on Kanal 5 after he aired a story on President Viktor Yushchenko’s daughter’s tuition fees.

The TV channel had earlier fired one of their editors for airing a story on the relationship between Yushchenko’s daughter and a famous Georgian singer.

This channel is clearly not a political enemy of President Yushchenko. On the contrary, it has supported Viktor Yushchenko and his “Orange Revolution” wholeheartedly.

Victoria Sumar, Executive Director of the Institute of Mass Information, a non-governmental organization based in Kyiv, concludes that, “Investigative and honest journalism remains dangerous, especially in the regions of Ukraine, where it’s risky for journalists to be in disagreement with authorities.”

### Hello, Space Aliens

Messages from Earth, including a photo of George W. Bush, chosen to represent evil, have been sent to a distant planet that could be home to intelligent life.

The 501 notes, pictures, and drawings were chosen by members of Bebo, a youth-oriented social networking site. Bebo, the third most popular social networking site in the world, teamed up with Russian space scientist Dr. Alexander Zaitsev of the Russian Academy of Sciences to turn a vague and nebulous concept into a practical reality.

In addition to the photo of “evil” George Bush, other photos chosen were of singer Cheryl Cole (because she has a perfect body), and Scotland’s Edinburgh Castle.

The hardware used to beam the transmission was a powerful Ukrainian radio-telephone operated by the National Space Agency of Ukraine and located in the Ukrainian town of Evpatoria in the Crimea.

The planet chosen to receive the transmission, Gliese 581C, is a relatively close 20 light years away (a signal travelling at the speed of light will take 20 years to reach the target planet).

The transmission, sent in early October, passed the Moon in 1.7 seconds and Mars in 4 minutes. If the aliens respond immediately, we will receive their reply in 40 years.

### No Sex, Please

Several scantily-clad women, thought to be prostitutes, are visible on a new set of fake Euro bank notes being distributed in Ukraine.

The counterfeit bills feature female figures leaning against the same examples of grand European architecture as have been printed on the real currency’s bills since its launch

in 2002. The fake notes look nearly identical to their real counterparts, except they include a warning regarding the dangers of entering the sex trade.

Government officials say that the counterfeit Euro notes, and the figures they portray, are part of the most recent attempt by Ukrainian officials to fight the rise in the number of sex workers in now-capitalist Ukraine.

More than 12,000 prostitutes are estimated to be operating in Ukraine, drawing an increasing number of wealthy tourists to the country.

### German Gold Honoured

A Jewish artist was honoured in Ukraine recently.

German Gold, 75, was presented with the title “Honoured Painter of Ukraine” by President Viktor Yushchenko “for his personal contribution to the national fine arts and considerable achievements in professional activities on the occasion of 70th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Union of Artists.”

Mister Gold, a painter and draughtsman, has been a member of the Union of Artists of Ukraine since 1974.

### Road Slaughter

A recent article in the *Kyiv Post* highlights an increasingly-serious situation on Ukraine’s roads: dangerous driving.

(The balance of my report abstracts the *Kyiv Post* article.)

In an attempt to end the daily carnage on Ukraine’s notoriously dangerous roads, a new law calls for stricter rules and steeper fines for unsafe or drunken drivers. Either the lawless streets will become safer, or bribe-seeking traffic police richer, or both. But drivers and pedestrians alike hope that lives will be saved.

Deputy Interior Minister Oleksandr Savchenko stated, “The new law will sober all who are behind the wheel, and who threaten all with their crude actions.”

Changes to road rules are badly needed because Ukraine has one of the highest rates of traffic accidents in the world, and it’s growing every year. Rates are seven to eight times higher than in Austria, Germany, and Portugal, and four times higher than in France, Hungary, Finland and Denmark.

The number of deaths on the road has grown from 5,900 in 2002 to 9,500 in 2007.

Examples of the bloodshed are:

— On September 16, Vitaliy Faingold, one of the richest people in Crimea, killed a 25-year-old female biker while driving his British Bentley (very expensive) at over 200 kilometres per hour (according to a witness).

— On the same day, a speeding Audi driver struck and killed a traffic police inspector who was investigating another traffic accident.

Some people fear that the higher fines, unfortunately, will only mean higher bribes to traffic police. Nearly 60% of Ukrainians consider traffic police to be the most corrupt officials in Ukraine. More corrupt than politicians, customs officials, other police, and doctors.

My comment: it would be interesting to be able to compare corruption now in Capitalist Ukraine to corruption in (pre-1990) Socialist Ukraine.

### Riot Police Called

Troopers from an elite Ukrainian anti-terrorist unit used force on October 14 to clear protesting lawmakers from the National Election Commission building. The fist fight between the police and the members of parliament was the first outbreak of violence in Ukraine’s latest constitutional crisis.

The crisis, precipitated in early October when President Viktor Yushchenko suddenly dissolved parliament and called early parliamentary elections, is simply an intensification of the on-going power struggle between the president and his former “Orange Revolution” partner, Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

Since the presidential elections in 2004, the two have been in an open and increasingly vicious competition for the president’s job which will be available in the 2010 presidential elections.

President Yushchenko’s recent dissolution of parliament is seen as simply an attempt to snatch from Tymoshenko her prime minister’s job, a position that she has been using effectively to enhance her own popularity at the president’s expense.

To counter the president’s dismissal of parliament, the prime minister filed a petition with the court to declare the dismissal anti-constitutional, and therefore illegal. To prevent the court from ruling on the case, Yushchenko promptly fired the judge. (Strong-arm, openly brutal politics.) Tymoshenko responded by refusing to pass through parliament the necessary legislation to provide campaign funds for the parliamentary election.

Scheduled for December 7, 2008, this will be the third parliamentary election in four years in this unstable capitalist country. The deepening political turmoil comes at a particularly bad time since the Ukrainian economy and banking system are being severely shaken by the global financial crisis.

### Fear

A recent poll asked Ukrainians to name three major threats to Ukraine that they expected to take place before the end of 2009.

About 76% stated that they were afraid that the Ukrainian economy would crash soon.

About 40% said that they were afraid that the country would soon separate (be divided).

About 25% were afraid of a threat to Ukraine’s sovereignty from the “West”.

Another 25% were afraid of a full concentration of power in one political force.

About 21% were afraid that President Yushchenko would be impeached.

About 20% were afraid of a threat to Ukraine’s sovereignty from Russia.

About 20% were afraid of a full concentration of power in the hands of President Viktor Yushchenko.

### “The Great Giveaway”

The following report is taken, almost whole, from an item in the September 24 issue of the *Kyiv Post* (a right-wing newspaper, funded by Americans and published in Kyiv). The title is also taken from the *Kyiv Post* report.

Ukraine is still paying a terrible price for the cheap 1990s sell-off of the nation’s most valuable assets (when socialism was replaced by capitalism - **GB**).

Scam, rip off, unfair—these are some of the words people use when talking about the way (the capitalists - **GB**) transferred so much of the nation’s wealth to a few insiders at such fire-sale prices. The opaque deals gave rise to a super-billionaire class while many in the nation suffered poverty.

While the transactions may have been technically legal from the standpoint of the corrupt 1990s, the nation paid a high price. Many argue that the distortions and damage to the nation continue to this day, through lack of honest competition in the marketplace and the financial elite’s co-opting of government.

Besides suffering a profound sense of unfairness, **(Continued on Page 12.)**

**Ukrainian  
Page  
Submitted  
Separately**

**Ukrainian  
Page  
Submitted  
Separately**

## Who, What, When, Where

**Toronto** — A Remembrance Day Tribute hosted by the Toronto AUUC Branch will be held at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West, starting at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 9. Speakers, the Hahilka Choir, refreshments and more. **No admission charge.**

**Toronto** — A Grey Cup Party will be hosted by the Toronto AUUC Branch at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West, starting at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 23. Food, games, football. Admission: **\$10.00.**

**Vancouver** — The AUUC and its community, as part of the Heart of the City Festival, will host a Community Dinner and Dance, starting at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, Novem-

ber 9, at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 E. Pender Street.

**Vancouver** — Annual Bazaar, with crafts, baking, clothing, garage sale will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 E. Pender Street, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 22. Ukrainian food will be available.

**Vancouver** — A Perogy Lunch will be hosted from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 23, at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 805 E. Pender Street.

**Welland** — A celebration of the 90th anniversary of the AUUC will be hosted by the AUUC Welland Branch at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, 342 Ontario Road, starting with a banquet at 1:00 p.m., followed by a concert by the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra with guest vocalist Connie Prince. For advance tickets at \$20.00 each, call Clara at (905)732-4716 or Lida at (905) 834-4213. Remaining tickets, if any, will be sold at the door for \$22.00 each.

Readers of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* are invited to submit items of interest to the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community for free listing in this column. The deadline for material is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication.

## Ukrainian Canadian Herald Season's Greetings

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, either in the December, 2008, or the January, 2009, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. See the diagram on this page for sizes. Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

**Deadlines:** November 10, 2008, for December, 2008.  
December 10, 2008, for January, 2009.

Send your request to:

SEASON'S GREETINGS MESSAGE  
595 Pritchard Avenue,  
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e-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

or: SEASON'S GREETINGS MESSAGE  
1604 Bloor Street West  
Toronto ON M6P 1A7  
Phone: 416-588-1639 Fax: 416-588-9180  
e-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.com

**Please indicate the desired ad size:**  
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\$20.00 (Two-line greeting — up to 10 words)  
\$25.00 (Three-line greeting — up to 15 words)  
\$30.00 (Four-line greeting — up to 20 words)  
\$35.00 (Five-line greeting — up to 25 words)  
Other

**Issue requested:**  
\_\_\_\_\_ December issue (deadline November 10)  
\_\_\_\_\_ January issue (deadline December 10)

Greeting in: English \_\_\_\_\_ Ukrainian \_\_\_\_\_

**Request sent by:**  
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e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Or in person: \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_  
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.....	
Three-line greeting.....	<b>\$30.00</b>
.....	
Name and city	
(up to 20 words).....	<b>\$30.00</b>
.....	
Four Line Greeting.....	<b>\$35.00</b>
.....	
Name and city	
(up to 25 words).....	<b>\$35.00</b>
.....	
Five-line greeting .....	<b>\$35.00</b>
.....	
Name and city	

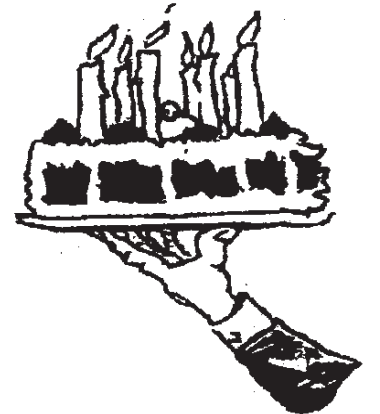
## Thoughts

(Continued from Page 4.) something which grips people with its reflection of their concerns and its effective action to overcome problems.

More than one group in our society like the first option. In this last election campaign, we learned that they can be overcome, that the people can rule.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## Happy Birthday, Friends!



The Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens' Club wishes a happy birthday to the celebrants of November:

Stephanie Chopoidaló  
Martha Ursuliak

May you have good health, happiness and a daily sense of accomplishment as you go through life.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Toronto Senior Citizens Club extends best birthday wishes to November celebrants:

Pauline Fediw  
Anne Magus  
Sophie Mihay  
Edna Oraschuk  
Ann Watson

May good health and happiness be yours in the coming year!

\*\*\*\*\*

The Vancouver Seniors Club wishes the best of health and happiness in the coming year to November celebrant:

Edward Moroz

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

\*\*\*\*\*

The Welland Shevchenko Seniors extend a happy birthday wish to November celebrants:

Alex Babiy  
Lillian Babiy  
Ann Baiton  
John Bizely  
Marion Gaboury  
Mike Kereluk  
Katie Mackenzie

May the coming year bring you all the best in health and happiness!



## Inspiration of a Free Spirit

—Photo: Mike Stefiuk



The opening of the exhibition of the work of Jerry Prociw at the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto on September 21, titled "Inspiration of a Free Spirit", was preceded by a wine and cheese reception.

On the afternoon of Sunday, September 21, with a wine and cheese reception, the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto opened a display of art by Jerry Prociw called "Inspiration of a Free Spirit".

Those who knew Jerry Prociw retain an image of a restless, energetic, multi-talented AUUC activist who tragically died too soon.

He was a man with many gifts. He was an athlete and gymnast who, for many years, together with his wife Marie, taught youngsters the discipline and joy of gymnastics at the old Ukrainian Labour Temple at 300 Bathurst Street in Toronto.

He possessed a melodic singing voice and was a solo-

ist with the Shevchenko Male Chorus. His lyrical, warm tenor was featured on some of their past recordings.

A successful commercial artist, he designed many logos, magazine and book covers, and graphics for advertising campaigns, winning acclaim and awards.

But it is his works as a sensitive and imaginative artist who transferred his deep emotions to canvas that grace the upstairs gallery at the Taras Shevchenko Museum.

Entering the room, one is a bit dazzled by the vivid colours of some of the two dozen paintings that encircle the display space. Nor are they all oil paintings — there are charcoal and fine prints on view, as Jerry worked in a variety

of artistic forms with equal success.

I can't pretend to offer a learned judgement on the exhibit, but even an untrained eye can appreciate the skill and insight found in Jerry's art.

Most of the display could be called "modern" or "avant-garde", but because Jerry was always closely involved in the social and political life of our community, the images are rooted in real life and real people.

Such works as "Springhill Coal Mine Disaster" and "Kennedy Assassination" depict tragic events with all their frenzy and turmoil. Other pieces capture subjects in their normal routines, including "Vibrant Dancer", "Kiko" (Continued on Page 12.)

## Introduction by Lyudmyla Pogoryelov

—Photo: Wilfred Szczesny

Today, at our Museum, art lovers are offered the opportunity to view a retrospective of avant-grade works by an artist much ahead of his time.

Jerry Prociw spent most of his professional life as a highly accomplished designer of company logos, trade journal covers, brochures and promotional materials. But he was also an extremely sensitive and powerful artist who "experimented with a large variety of media, achieving miraculous results. He attacked each medium with all his ability, conquering the characteristics of each. His watercolours made prima ballerinas dance while the charcoals captured the darkness of the Great Mine Disaster." (All quotations are from Anita Pastor, Del Bello Gallery Curator.)

After graduating from Toronto's Central Technical Arts School in 1956 Jerry worked and studied with Carl Dair, Canada's most recognized typographic designer. He also continued his studies at the Ontario College of Art, where he earned a Diploma in Fine Arts.

During his professional ca-



Taras H. Shevchenko Museum Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelov Spoke of the artist and his work at the opening of the exhibition.

reer with advertising firms Goodis, Goldberg and Dair, Atwell Fleming Printing, the Ontario Science Centre and Southam Business Publications, Jerry received Certificates of Merit for book and magazine design, and the Tom Turner Award/Honourable Mention for Best Magazine Cover Graphics Design.

"Jerry was an artist who exuded great energy, revealing his innermost emotions and transferring them onto paper. The viewer is awed by

his political uproars and calmed into wonderment by the fine detail of his drypoints and etchings. Jerry's ability to choose diverse subjects, political through to classical, shows his talent as an artist is to be remembered in our lifetime."

Perhaps because of Jerry's modesty in his creative work, or perhaps because he was more interested in the life and achievements of others, people who had known Jerry for years were not aware of his talents as an artist.

Many, particularly in the Ukrainian community, knew Jerry as an accomplished folk dancer, a gymnast, and an outstanding tenor who appeared as soloist on numerous stages. They knew him as the gym and dance instructor who, along with his wife, taught the children for three decades.

Now, twenty-one years after Jerry's untimely death, his wife Marie and the Museum Board present "Inspiration of a Free Spirit" — an exhibition of art by Jerry Prociw.

The show will continue until October 31, 2008. Although admission is free, donations are greatly appreciated.



Part of the display in the second floor gallery of the Shevchenko Museum.

## Marie Prociw's Comments

Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome.

My husband Jerry was a unique individual. He was unconventional both in his art work (as you can see) and his relations with people.

He was too honest and straight-speaking to waste time on false niceties, and phoney compliments. This directness was occasionally disconcerting to some.

At the same time he had an inner sensitivity of which few of his friends were aware.

This sensitivity can be seen in many of his art works, which he could complete in short concentrated bursts of creativity, often in response to tragic events on the world. Examples are: "The Springhill Coal Mine Disaster" and the

"President Kennedy Assassination".

Although you can't see it in his paintings, he also had an excellent, distinctly unique tenor voice, and was often a soloist with the Shevchenko Male Chorus.

It's an honour and privilege to have been invited by the Taras Shevchenko Museum's Executive Committee, to display his art work. I thank Bill Harasym and Lyudmyla Pogoryelov for the tremendous amount of work which they have contributed to this project.

Now, my friends, enjoy this tribute to my husband, which I present to his memory, with my love.

I thank you all for coming.

—Photo: Lois Tomc



In thanking people for attending, Marie Prociw spoke briefly of her late husband and his work.

An article about Jerry Prociw and his art appeared in the October, 1990, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian* magazine.

**Submitted  
as a  
separate  
PDF file**

**Submitted  
as a  
separate  
PDF file**

# Nine Decades of Struggle

(Continued from Page 3.) and its community have been in turmoil as members and leaders alike struggle to come to grips" with the lessons of history. That editorial drew a picture of an organization and a leadership which had worked its way through its dif-

ficulties, and seemed to be a community "ready to tackle the future".

Among the adaptations to new realities was the decision to replace *The Ukrainian Canadian* and *Life and Word* with a single publication in tabloid format as of January,

1992. Originally projected to appear every two weeks, the new periodical entered life as a monthly.

That plenary session also heard a report on preparations for the centennial celebration, which indicated "a high state of preparedness" for the festival which would be staged (with adaptation to local conditions) in Toronto, Winnipeg and Edmonton.

There was a positive report, too, on the project of rebuilding the Shevchenko Museum.

The 38th AUUC National Convention, held in Toronto on October 12-14, 1991, had 34 elected delegates, representing 22 of the 27 AUUC Branches from Montreal to Vancouver.

While the main report spoke of the achievements of the AUUC, an organization with a multifaceted program of activities, it spoke only to a few items. Most attention was devoted to proposals for building the AUUC.

The convention did pay attention to one achievement: the centennial festivals, which were excellent.

The Convention considered proposals for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the AUUC, in 1993.

Before this convention, eleven members of the National Committee and the National Audit Committee who

had served at least four terms, out of a pool of 32 people in these two Committees, had announced that they would not stand for re-election to the national leadership. The convention reduced the National Committee from 29 members to 22, and the National Executive Committee from 12 members to 9.


George Moskal returned to Canada after decades of life in the Soviet Union, and joined the editorial staff of the "UC" in June, 1986. Within a couple of years, he left the "UC" staff, but remained on the

Editorial Board, as his attention turned to the management of *Ukrainska Knyha*. At the 37th AUUC National Convention, he was elected to the National Executive Committee as Second Vice-President. In 1991, at the 38th National Convention, he became National President of the AUUC.

The next decade saw new sources of turmoil in the AUUC and the National Office relocated to Edmonton, as rifts developed and grew under Mr. Moskal's leadership.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Taras Shevchenko Museum and Marie Prociw present exhibition:  
**"INSPIRATION OF A FREE SPIRIT"**  
 30 YEARS OF ARTISTIC LIFE OF JERRY PROCIW (1934-1987)  
*A Collection of Oil Pastels, Charcoals and Prints*  
 September 21 – October 31, 2008  
 Monday to Friday 10 am - 4 pm  
 TARAS SHEVCHENKO MUSEUM  
 1614 Bloor Street West, Toronto  
 Phone: 416-534-8662, Fax: 416-535-1063,  
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WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND THANK THE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. IF YOUR DONATION HAS NOT APPEARED ON THE PAGES OF THE "UCH", WATCH FOR IT IN FUTURE ISSUES.

# Inspiration of a Free Spirit

— Photo: Mike Stefiuk



Bill Harasym, President of the Board of Directors of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation, acted as host of the afternoon's events.

(Continued from Page 9.) in Red", "The Bull Fighter", and "Ukrainian Dancer".

One feels that Jerry, restless as ever, was not entirely satisfied, and continued striving to reach his full artistic potential. Unfortunately, this was not to be.

Eavesdropping a bit amid the many viewers at the exhibit, one heard expressions of delight and appreciation. A common refrain heard over and over was, "I'd love to buy this."

One viewer told me, "At first I was somewhat bewildered, but as I looked closely, the images took shape and I saw clearly what Jerry cre-

ated. I love it."

The formalities of the afternoon were begun by Bill Harasym, President of the Museum Board, who bade those attending welcome and introduced Taras Shevchenko Museum Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelov and Marie Prociw.

The large, friendly turnout enlivened the evening, but made it difficult to move around the exhibit. I know that I am not the only viewer planning to make a second visit at a quieter time.

Jerry Prociw's art was on display for the balance of September and for the entire month of October.

— Bill Hrynchak

— Photo: Mike Stefiuk



In the gallery, during the official opening of the "Inspiration of a Free Spirit" exhibition.

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# Ukrainian News Briefs

(Continued from Page 5.)

Ukrainians missed out on considerable — but difficult to quantify — privatization revenues that would likely have come from open and competitive bids for state assets.

Such a windfall might have lifted everyone's standard of living. Instead, a dozen or so business groups — led by super-billionaires such as Rinat Akhmetov and Victor Pinchuk — control Ukraine's main industries.

Ukraine has more billionaires (not millionaires - GB) per capita than Russia, a country that *Forbes* magazine ranked as having the third-highest number after the United States and Germany.

Economists call this kind of high wealth concentration a "capture economy", which the International Monetary Fund defines as "the efforts of firms to shape the laws, policies, and regulations of the state to their own advantage by providing illicit private gains to public officials".

Privatization was lauded by Western experts because it was a way of swiftly breaking with the Soviet socialist past.

(The full *Kyiv Post* report is probably 5 or 6 times as long as the excerpts that I have reprinted here. In my opinion, it is the most devastating indictment of capitalism that I have read anywhere. - GB)