

# HERALD BISHNIK

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## Poltava Pavilion at Regina's Mosaic

— Photo: Mark Greschner



At times, on July 2-4, the queue to enter the Poltava Pavilion at Regina's Mosaic, a Festival of Cultures, extended out to the street and down the block. A report on Mosaic and the Poltava Pavilion, with photographs by Mark Greschner appears, on Page 7.

## Employment Down — Again

In the "Labour Force Survey" released on August 5, StatsCan reported that, after three months of little change, employment declined by 31,000 (-0.2%) in July.

However, the situation is actually much worse than that number suggests. Full-time employment fell by 71,000 from June to July, while part-time work rose by 40,000. The numerical difference may be 31,000, but the difference to the life of 40,000 workers and their families will be devastating in most cases.

Furthermore, compared with 12 months earlier, total employment increased by 71,000, a puny 0.4%, but all of the growth was in part-time

work. Over the same period, the total number of hours worked rose by 0.4%.

The unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 6.9%, but only because 40,000 part-time workers were counted as employed.

Consider that two part-time jobs are seldom as beneficial to a worker as one full-time

job. Even if the hours and rate of pay are the same, the cost in money and time of travel between jobs is just one of the detrimental factors.

Young workers, aged 15 to 24, lost 28,000 jobs in July, with all of the losses in part-time work. The youth unemployment rate was 13.3%.

Ontario lost 36,000 jobs; the public sector, 42,000.

## Thank You, Myron!

When I became the editor of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* in the aftermath of the 41st AUUC National Convention in 2001, Myron Shatulsky was on the Editorial Board. He served in that capacity for the next 15 years, until the July/August, 2016, issue.

Though his contribution goes back much earlier, it is particularly in the most recent decade and a half that Myron made a solid and constant contribution to the paper. For much of that time, when we were printing 16 pages, he contributed up to three pages a month, including a page under his *nom-de-plume*, The Fellow Traveller. When the paper was reduced to 12 pages, Myron reduced his writing to two pages, and in recent issues he cut back further, to one page.

We were saddened to learn from Myron that, because of health problems, he would not be able to contrib-

ute his page to this and subsequent issues. Nor would he be able to continue as a member of the Editorial Board.

Myron will be missed by many readers of this publication, as he was always one of their favourite writers.

Myron's knowledge of, and insight into, Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian culture, as well as the history of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, earned him a dedicated and admiring following.

Myron's commentary on current events and public affairs in Canada and abroad, and particularly in Ukraine and Russia, was insightful. When he based his remarks on a particular book or web site, readers often felt a compulsion to explore the source for themselves. His folksy but biting satire as The Fellow Traveller often evoked a belly laugh or produced a "that's for sure" moment of recognition.

## The Next Issue

The next issue of the "UCH" will be dated November, 2016. Announcements of events in November or early December, 2016, as well as articles for the November, 2016, issue should be in our office by October 10. Thank you for your consideration.

## Ignorance Preferred

(Note: the "UCH" has not verified the authenticity of the document on which the Associated Press report is based.)

It has been observed that Da'esh has a developed system of administration which includes paperwork. That includes application forms, several thousand of which fell into the hands of Associated Press via the Syrian opposition site Zaman al-Wasl.

AP's analysis of the forms showed that most of the applicants claimed little knowledge of Islam or sharia law. 70% claimed basic knowledge (the lowest possible choice), about 24% claimed intermediate knowledge, and about 5% were classified as advanced. Five of the recruits claimed to have memorized the Koran.

(It appears that these grades were the recruits' self-evaluation, but that is not entirely clear.)

The report was augmented by statements by the recruits, some of whom were tried and sentenced for their activities, and some of whom gave anonymous interviews.

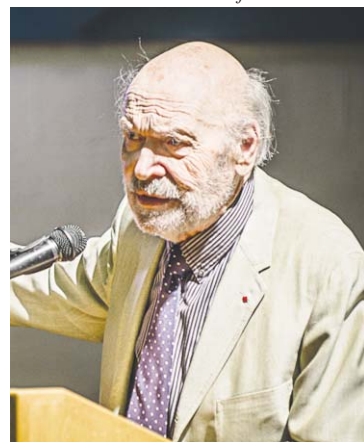
After the induction process was complete, recruits were shown Da'esh videos, and they were taught a version of Islam praising martyrdom and the other beliefs promoted by Da'esh.

In one instance in Germany, (Continued on Page 3.)

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— Photo: Wilfred Schubert



Myron Shatulsky, in March 2013, at the celebration of the 95th anniversary of the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg.

Myron's departure from our pages will be a definite loss. Like our readers, we shall feel the loss. We shall remember Myron Shatulsky with gratitude for the strong contribution he made to this paper, and with fond respect for the personal qualities he brought to our collaboration.

Thank you, Myron, and good luck as you embark on a new phase in your life.

— Wilfred Szczesny

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## Current Eclectic

### Terrorizing the Innocent

Sometimes one gets the impression that the war on terror is little more than an excuse to inflict terror.

One example of the war gone mad is the experience of Faizah Shaheen, a British Muslim who was detained at a British airport when returning from a trip to Turkey. The psychotherapist is employed by Britain's National Health Service, and part of her job is to prevent teens from becoming radicalized.

She was detained and questioned under the Terrorism Act because an attendant on a previous flight had reported her for "suspicious behaviour". What behaviour?

Reading a book about Syria.

Ms. Shaheen, who feels she was targeted for being a Muslim, no doubt recognizes now, if she did not before, that the innocent do indeed have something to fear.

Ms. Shaheen was reduced to tears by 15 minutes of questioning.

Here is a story of a couple who have much more reason to cry.

John Nuttall and Amanda Korody were found guilty of three terrorism charges. They faced a maximum sentence of life in prison.

However, a British Columbia Supreme Court judge set them free after finding that the

RCMP had entrapped them. The judge ruled that they would not have conceived of the plan to plant pressure cooker bombs at the legislature building without the direction of the RCMP, and would have been unable and unwilling to carry out the plan.

Their lawyer described the pair as poor, methadone-dependent former drug addicts living in relative isolation. Their own ideas for terrorist acts included taking a passenger train hostage or highjacking a nuclear submarine.

The RCMP steered them away from such unrealistic ideas to a more feasible one.

Justice Catherine Bruce said that the RCMP had instigated and skilfully engineered the terrorist acts which the couple thought they were committing.

In 2013, the RCMP claimed that they had foiled a plot by two Al Qaeda inspired terrorists. But Justice Bruce found that the two were incapable of carrying out any plot that required sustained thought — and the police knew it.

After learning that the couple's talk was mere hot air, the police organized the crime, provided all the planning and resources, and included assassination threats in motivating the couple to carry on. At least \$900,000 was spent for 200 agents to work on the investigation, and politicians had a field day with anti-terrorist rhetoric.

One wonders how many other prosecutions on terrorism charges were generated by such unscrupulous activity by police.

Are you innocent? Then live in fear!

### Detaining Immigrants

If they have inadequate identification, if there is doubt that they will appear for a hearing, or if there is a possible threat to public safety, immigrants and families who arrive illegally in Canada as refugees or economic migrants are detained while their immigration status is determined.

Some of the people who are detained, including children, remain in detention for up to a year.

Although the law stipulates that detention should be a measure of last resort, there have been few alternatives available. Federal Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale said that the new policy would result in less use of provincial jails, and children especially would be kept in detention centres less often.

In July, over 50 immigrant detainees in Ontario jails went on a 19-day hunger strike to protest prison conditions, including lockdowns and solitary confinement. Mr. Goodale said that the hunger strike reflected the "serious pressures within the system".

On August 15, Ralph Goodale unveiled a plan to spend \$138 million to replace immigration detention centres in the greater Vancouver area and Montreal. Most of the money, \$122 million, will go to facilities in Surrey, BC, and Laval, Que.,

Nothing was on the table for the holding centre in greater Toronto, supposedly because it did not have a capacity shortage. Nor was there anything for more than

200 illegal immigrant detainees in Ontario, about 30% of the total, who end up in the province's maximum security prisons.

\$10 million will go to improve health services for detainees in immigration holding centres under federal care, and \$5 million will go to increase alternatives to detention through community supervision services.

A number of immigration detainees have died in custody this year, and a United Nations human rights report expressed concern about the length of immigration detention, and lack of medical support for detainees.

A representative of the Canadian Association for Refugee Lawyers noted that the announcement did not address the need for an independent oversight body for the Canada Border Services Agency. The CBSA is responsible for immigration detention and the enforcement of immigration laws.

Rather than expanding facilities to house detainees, a representative of the End Immigration Detention Network said, there should be a limit of 90 days on detention.

In his announcement, Mr. Goodale did not respond to demands to end maximum security detention, a limit of 90 days, and stronger oversight of the CBSA.

Like much of this government's action, this announcement suggests dedication to reform without actually making substantial changes to earlier Conservative policies.

### The Battle of the Burkini

As we go to press, it is reported that towns in France are banning the "burkini", the beachwear being favoured by some women. The swimsuit covers the torso limbs and head of its wearer.

Some of the mayors who have banned the suit claimed to have done so out of security complaints, citing the season of extremist attacks.

However, Manuel Valls, Prime Minister of France, has said that the suit is incompatible with French values because it is based on the enslavement of women. He is reported to have called the swimwear "a provocation" based on an archaic view that women are impure and should, therefore, be totally covered.

The Prime Minister is also reported to have said that, "In the face of provocation, the nation must defend itself."

Though Islam is France's second largest religion, only a few women wear the burkini.

Opponents of the ban have a number of telling criticisms.

For one thing, they point out that habits of Catholic nuns, which are even more covering than the burkini and are motivated by much the same belief as are the coverings of Muslim women, are not banned. The conclusion is that the ban has less to do with the status of women than with discrimination against Muslims.

Second, they point to the contradiction: countering the order that women must wear body covering clothing by ordering that they must not do so. In either case the woman is deprived of choice. In both cases, too, men are the ones setting the rules (though the role of women in imposing a position on other women, is probably understated).

Others point out that many

women wear the hijab or other covering by their own choice, sometimes even in defiance of orders from the father, husband, or other man in the family not to do so.

The question has been posed why France has been the frequent target of Muslim extremists. Generally speaking, those people who are not engaged in defending the country's "values" by telling Muslims what they have to wear agree that much of the problem is precisely the French marginalization of the Muslims in their midst.

The Muslim population tends to be concentrated in ghettos with high levels of unemployment

On the one hand, Arabs and other Muslims in France, particularly from West Africa, are among the most disadvantaged in Europe. It is reported that 60% of French Prisoners are Muslims, though Muslims are only 8% of the population.

In addition, France maintains more of a presence in its former colonies than do other European countries. This tends to create an alienation from French society which is heightened by measures like the ban of burkinis that are attacks on the legitimacy of believers in Islam.

It is increasingly being recognized that social alienation underlies much of the movement to violent extremism. Harsher treatment of the alienated, tougher policing, more arbitrary detention and other such measures tend to increase the problem. In France, as in most other countries, unfortunately, "tough on crime" and "zero tolerance for deviation" are politically the most expedient approach to the problem.

### Turning a Pay Hike into a Cut

The Liberal government of Ontario has quite a reputation for being less than honest. It has, in fact, become quite adept at learning from other government how to lie effectively, but it has also been very creative in generating new ways to lie and giving new twists to old techniques.

On August 8, Bob Hepburn had a story in the *Toronto Star* which presented an excellent example of Premier Kathy Wynne's genius at the shell game.

The story was that in 2015 Premier Wynne announced that thousands of personal support workers (PSWs) in the province would have their minimum base pay raised by \$4.00/hour over three years.

The PSWs, many of whom were earning \$12.50/hour, were understandably pleased.

What was not included in Ms. Wynne's announcement was the information that the agencies who employ the

PSWs would cut the time they could spend with clients, as well as reducing the number of clients they see.

The result is that many of the personal support workers now earn less money than they did before the Premier trumpeted the pay raise.

The 34,000 PSWs, 21,000 of whom are members of the Ontario Personal Support Workers Association, have seen changes such as a reduction from an hour to 45 minutes in the time they are allowed to spend with a client.

The result is that the workers are only paid for 45 minutes, instead of 60 minutes (a 25% cut), while clients may only get one shower a week instead of two, as well as facing other reductions in assistance.

Many PSWs are blaming CCACs instead of the government. But the 14 Community Care Access Centres which oversee home and community

care in Ontario are government agencies, so it is unreasonable to let the government off the hook.

Actually, following a series of articles in the "Star" exposing widespread mismanagement and exceedingly high executive pay raises, the province is supposedly planning to eliminate the CCACs. "Supposedly", because the word of the government should not be accepted at face value, and because the agency which will take over the work of the CCACs may be even worse.

That, unfortunately, is what is to be expected from this government.

We have earlier experience. For example, following a campaign opposing unfair pricing policies by auto insurers and calls for a public system of automobile insurance, Ms. Wynne promised to correct the problems and reduce insurance rates. She produced slightly lower rates in a system that left drivers with reduced coverage, left the insurance companies with even higher profits, and left predatory pricing in place.

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny

## Trilateral Peace Conference

Historically the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians has been an organizational member of the Canadian Peace Congress, and a supporter of the work of the CPC. When information was received that the Peace Congress was to host the Third Trilateral Peace conference, the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* gladly took the opportunity to monitor the meeting in Toronto and report on it for our readers.

July 18 and 19 were devoted to a Regional Meeting of the World Peace Council. The WPC was represented by President Socorro Gomes, Executive Secretary Iraklis Tsavdaridis, and Americas Regional Coordinator Silvio Platero.

Participating were repre-

sentatives of the Canadian Peace Congress, the US Peace Council, and Movimiento Mexicano por la Paz y el Desarrollo (Mexican Movement for Peace and Disarmament). Also attending were peace organizations from Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Columbia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Jamaica, and Venezuela.

The Regional Meeting was followed on July 20 and 21 by the Trilateral Peace Conference, which was open to the public.

The sessions of the Peace Conference were based on four panel discussions, each panel hearing from a representative of the three countries, followed by questions and discussion from the floor, with a moderator presiding.

Consecutive interpretation between English and Spanish was provided throughout.

The Trilateral Conference adopted the following proposals for coordinated action.

1. Prepare a joint statement in the name of the peace movements in the three countries that exposes the link between current wars and social needs of peoples in all countries; that identifies xenophobia, the militarization of the police, and the widespread and violent repression in Mexico, as components of current war and aggression; and that calls for a joint day of action against war across the three countries.

2. Organize a report-back, in all three countries, from the upcoming peace tour to Syria including use of video resources.

3. Prepare a declaration against foreign military bases, including reference to policies and programs like the Merida



The third panel of the conference addressed “Strengthening the Campaign against Nuclear Weapons”. Left to right are: Rodrigo Leon, interpreter; Dave McKee, moderator and President of the Canadian Peace Congress; Henry Lowendorf, US Peace Council; Cesar Jaramillo, Project Ploughshares; and Ed Lehman, Regina Peace Council.

Initiative, which allow the US military to function through national police; seek endorsements from a broad range of peace and progressive organizations; and work toward a joint day of action against foreign military bases.

4. Help mobilize youth in the three countries for the 2017 World Festival of Youth and Students in Sochi, Russia, as a way to build the peace

movement among youth and students.

5. Issue a letter, in the name of the Trilateral Peace Conference, to the Canadian government that encourages the government to endorse and support OPANAL (Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean) and the Zone of Peace in Latin America and the Caribbean.

6. Increase our work, in the name of the Trilateral Peace Conference, for nuclear disarmament, including participation in the Keep Space for Peace Week, October 1-8, 2016; build opposition to NATO; help to build existing campaigns against nuclear arms and promote an anti-imperialist analysis to the broader peace movement; and build joint actions for days like the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

7. Work together to oppose colonialism in the Americas, drawing links between colonialism, militarism and economic development, by:

- actively supporting and promoting the struggles of Indigenous peoples against genocide and in defence of their sovereignty;

- exposing and opposing the reality of state violence and repression of human rights in Mexico;

- supporting the struggle of the Puerto Rican people for self-determination; and

- helping to mobilize against the Trans-Pacific Partnership in all three countries, in particular for the November 4, 2016 Continental Day of Action for Democracy and Against Neo-liberalism.

## AUUC National Committee Meets

There was a new spirit in the air when the National Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians met in Winnipeg on July 16 and 17.

The difference was that, for the first time in years, the NC was able to look positively to the future, instead of coping with negative and debilitating issues.

The new factor was the receipt of proceeds from the sale of two pieces of property, allowing for the reinstatement of programs that had been suspended, as well as providing room for new initiatives.

Treasurer Kathy Schubert, in a preface to her report, noted that the opposition out of Calgary to the sale of the

land near Sylvan Lake had cost the AUUC nationally about \$600,000 and some three years in growth and development. The financial cost was a decrease in sale income after an offer to purchase had to be declined. Another \$30,000 was lost in legal costs tied to court proceedings.

On the positive side was the sale of property in Oakville. Resisting years of pressure to sell this piece of real estate as raw and idle land, the Lands Development Committee composed of representatives of the AUUC and the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation, with the capable guidance of a group of advisors, was able to substantially raise the value

of the land.

While the National Committee was elated that the national AUUC was, at long last, financially secure, nevertheless the first concern was for the prudent management of the funds. To this end, the NC put in place a number of measures to explore options.

The new situation will be reflected at the 46th AUUC National Convention, in the proposals put forward to the delegates.

One example is the reinstatement of the National Grants Committee, which was suspended at the 45th Convention. Reflective of the new caution, the committee is charged with establishing a robust process for applications and a reporting requirement. No grants will be given until the system is completely in place.

Emily Halldorson (Chair),

Kathy Schubert, and Glenn Michalchuk were appointed to the committee.

With Branches commenting on the deleterious effects created by the lack of national dance seminars, Dianna Kleparchuk was reaffirmed as National Cultural Coordinator, and the Cultural Committee was given the task of drafting dance seminar plans.

The National Committee decided to upgrade its office equipment in Winnipeg, as well as the computer system used by Kobzar Publishing in Toronto. (The NC AUUC is the Board of Directors of Kobzar Publishing Company Ltd.)

The NC AUUC also considered the need for upgrades to the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg, as well as the National Office. A process was established to determine priorities and manage the changes.

Of course, the most urgent project facing the AUUC National Committee was the 46th AUUC National Convention, to take place at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg on October 8-10. Following the review of preparations to the time of the meeting, and several decisions which were approved, it appears that preparations are progressing well.

In addition to convention sessions, the weekend will include a banquet and a concert.

Among the other matters considered by the National Committee at this meeting were: staffing issues, direction to the Investment Committee, the work of the Constitution Committee, status of certain AUUC Branches, archives, the Annual General Meeting of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation, and others.

## Poltava Performs on Canada Day

— Photo: Mark Greschner



On an invitation from the Government of Saskatchewan, Provincial Capital Commission, Parks, Culture and Sport, the Regina AUUC Poltava Dancers and vocalist Valeria Honchar participated in the opening ceremonies that took place in front of the Saskatchewan Legislature on Canada Day.

Valeria opened the ceremony with the national anthem sung in both English and French, and to close the noon-hour ceremony Poltava performed “Hopak” as a dedication to the 125th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

The Regina Canada Day celebrations attracted more than 40,000 people, and the members of the Poltava Ensemble were proud to be a part of the celebration.

— Lisa Wanner

## Ignorance

(Continued from Page 1.) the recruitment process included bar-hopping.

One of the recruits, during his trial, said that he felt like an immigrant in Algeria and a “dirty Arab” in France.

The findings of the report are consistent with opinions that recruits to extremist organizations, including the Islamic, tend to be alienated people looking for acceptance, and, therefore, vulnerable.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.**Barbaric  
“War on Terror”**

AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY

Some accounts of what has been done in the name of fighting terrorism make the goriest episodes of *Game of Thrones* seem like a church social.

Some additional information came out in June, as a result of a freedom of information lawsuit by the American Civil Liberties Union, including files relating to the death by hyperthermia (freezing to death) of Gul Rahman in a secret CIA prison in Afghanistan.

Information on the treatment of prisoners includes being kept naked or only in a diaper in freezing temperatures, being forced to stand on broken legs and/or feet for days, being waterboarded, being deprived of sleep for up to 180 hours, being subjected to unnecessary rectal feedings and being subjected to mock executions.

The files obtained by the ACLU, just scratching the surface of the whole horror story, show that at least two detainees died, one lost an eye, many hallucinated and many begged to be killed.

At least 26 people in this limited sample were imprisoned and tortured by mistake.

The governments of the USA and the UK, among others, officially approved this torture, claimed that it was necessary to thwart terrorist actions, and protected the torturers from prosecution. They have the temerity to accuse others of barbaric practices.

The government of Canada was very much complicit in the program of illegal detention, rendition, and torture conducted by the government of the USA and its accomplices. Canadian citizens have been among those victimized by the “war on terror”. The government of Canada cooperated with, and assisted, the agencies of foreign governments who were torturing citizens of this country.

That is why we should treat with suspicion official claims that security laws like Bill C-51 are intended to keep us safe.

That is why we should be sceptical when our governments and the commercial media demonize other countries.

That is why we should treat with disdain proclamations like that of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, as he threatens to bring in martial law, that “nothing is more important than.... our freedom and our democracy.”

Our governments have lied to us, and can be expected to continue to lie to us. We must do our best to see through their lies to defend ourselves and maintain our humanity.

**COMMENTARY****A Dangerous Game**

For years, NATO has been following a very aggressive policy against Russia. In Europe it very quickly accepted into membership the Baltic countries that had been part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and established its military presence on the very borders of Russia. It followed a similar policy with countries, like Poland, that had been part of the socialist community of nations. In Ukraine, it engineered a regime change to install a government which would help complete the iron ring around the Russian federation.

In other regions, and particularly North Africa and the Middle East, through the so-called Arab Spring, it engineered more regime change, intending to impose its own dominance in these areas and to remove governments (like that in Libya) which were too friendly with Russia. The process continues in Syria.

It is not unreasonable to see recent changes in US policy toward Iran and Cuba as part of the process of undermining relations between Russia and countries with no other option than to be friendly with those America casts as villains.

Recently, the USA embarked on a “pivot to the East”. In Asia, with the cooperation of countries like Australia and Japan (not to mention the ever-compliant Canada) the USA has undertaken a number of initiatives, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

These initiatives, an immediate threat to China and its sphere of influence in the region, are also an indirect threat to Russia.

As part of this process, NATO’s international reach is extended, both because the USA and Canada, as NATO members, carry the threat of NATO with them wherever they go, but also because military pacts and other agreements are being signed be-

tween NATO and NATO members, and countries of the Asian Pacific.

It is surely more than coincidence that Ukraine recently embarked on a campaign to drum up trade in Asia. This included promoting facilities at Ukrainian ports (sea gates of the new silk road) to access Europe while by-passing Russia.

Increasingly anti-Chinese propaganda is joining the anti-Russian noise in international discourse.

The American propaganda machine has effectively controlled the public discourse on these matters throughout most of Europe and in much of the rest of the West. Part of the result is that the public in those areas has no effective insight into the real situation in the world. For example, with all the attention devoted to Syria, it is very easy to lose sight of the fact that the regime change in Libya has not been a success yet, that civil war still plagues the country even though the government of Quaddafi is long gone.

A person also has to be paying close attention to be aware of all the discussion about the remilitarization of Japan.

If the leadership of NATO starts to believe its own propaganda and makes certain kinds of miscalculations, such as underestimating the strength and resolve of Russia, or China, or Russia and China combined, the result could be a disaster — even a nuclear disaster.

However, the possibilities are not limited to the two (eventual NATO global domination or a nuclear holocaust). NATO’s (meaning primarily America’s) progress is not proceeding all that smoothly, and there are definite cracks, even fractures, appearing in the structure.

Consider, for example, what has been happening in Europe.

There appears to a growing disagreement about the

application of sanctions against Russia, but that is the least of the problems. Britain’s vote to leave the European Union is symptomatic of a far broader problem, a problem which includes not only the economic difficulties faced in the last few years by countries mostly in southern Europe, but also encompasses the growing dissatisfaction with Europe in a host of other countries.

Even in Ukraine, there is a strong trend among the ultranationalists to dislike Europe as much as they dislike Russia. For the moment they can only send their militias to fight the population of the Donbas and make forays into Crimea. When they decide that the government’s sell-off to foreigners of Ukrainian land, resources and other assets is too much, things could get pretty nasty.

But Ukraine is not unique in this respect. Hungary has a similar movement, and so do a number of other countries, including France.

Only the future will show how important this phenomenon is destined to be, but a fractured Europe would mean a fractured NATO. It is not to be ruled out that the global war between NATO and whoever may be forestalled by regional European conflicts as countries struggle to redistribute the continent’s wealth.

Another factor which it may be well to consider is the official position of the two major presidential candidates in the US elections. While Donald Trump will not be in a position to act on his opposition to the TPP, and Hillary Clinton may be lying about it, the very fact that both candidates felt compelled to oppose free trade agreements in favour of a more isolationist stance may signal an undercurrent in American life with potentially far-reaching consequences.

The more widely NATO spreads itself around the world, the more dangerous the game becomes as more nuclear-armed states come into play. The question may well be whether the forces of disintegration weaken NATO before somebody starts shooting in an escalating war.

**SEE US ON THE WEB!****AUUC (National)**  
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We invite readers to submit their views in letters to the editor. Letters must be signed. Letters may be edited, but their sense will not be changed.

# July 1 Celebration at Toronto AUUC

— Story photos: Jerry Dobrowolsky



Participants at the AUUC Toronto Branch celebration of Canada Day/Shevchenko Day were treated to a taped 1994 performance by the Virsky Dancers of Ukraine, which ended by displaying a large image of Taras Shevchenko, Bard of Ukraine.



Pat Dzatko greeted participants at the door.



Connie Prince was the vivacious M.C.



Bernardine Dobrowolsky (left), acting for the Shevchenko Museum, and Lorna Clark, on behalf of AUUC Toronto Branch, placed a pot of flowers at a symbolic Shevchenko statue, flanked by flags of Canada and Ukraine.



Natalka Mochoruk sold tickets for a raffle of items of embroidered art which she created and donated.

Say “tradition”, and many people will think of something static, the purpose of which has long been lost.

The annual celebration of Canada Day/Shevchenko Day by AUUC Toronto Branch is proof positive that not all traditions fit that description.

This particular tradition traces its roots back 65 years, to July 1, 1951, when a monument to Taras Shevchenko, the first in the Americas, was unveiled in the presence of tens of thousands of people — one estimate is 45,000 — in what was then Palermo, Ontario.

Events on that day included the picnic which had been celebrated since a farm was bought in the mid-40s, and a gathering on a piece of that land which had been set aside and designated Taras H. Shevchenko Memorial Park.

The focus at that first July 1 Shevchenko celebration was on the unveiling of the statue, which included appropriate ceremonies and included musical performances.

In subsequent years, those attending the picnic gathered in a particular location on the grounds and, colourful banners flying, paraded to the monument for a tribute to Taras Shevchenko.

Over the next 46 years this march was an annual tradition.

When the camp was sold, the parade stopped, but the picnic and the tribute to Taras Shevchenko continued, all celebrated at Taras H. Shevchenko Memorial Park, where



Russ Garrett (left) and Joe Dzatko were among the many participants who selected a prize after the Canadian trivia contest.



Mark Stewart and Connie Prince (among others) drew on the services of Diane Garrett at the bar.

the statue still stood tall.

After the statue was stolen, the celebration of Canada Day/Shevchenko Day was moved to the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto. This year, the tradition was 65 years old.

Participants were met at the door by Pat Dzatko, who took their admission price and gave them the traditional lapel ribbon (now paper), printed with a historical picture of the Shevchenko monument, a Canadian flag, and welcoming text identifying the event and date.

On entering the main hall, each person received a sheet of Canadian trivia questions,

an activity which has become a more recent tradition of the day.

Socializing, answering the trivia questions, and enjoying the munchies with a libation were among the activities of the early minutes.

The informality came to an end when M.C. Connie Prince started the program by calling on the gathering to sing “O Canada”.

The tribute to Shevchenko began with the setting of a pot of flowers at the base of the picture of the Shevchenko statue. Acting for the Taras Shevchenko Museum was



Natalka Mochoruk read Shevchenko’s “Zapovit”, after which Wilfred Szczesny read “My Testament”, the English translation.

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# Winnipeg's Annual Picnic in the Park

On Saturday, August 13, AUUC Winnipeg Branch took part in the annual Picnic in the Park. This is the Branch's

third year participating in the community event which is hosted by the North End Community Renewal Corporation

and Aboriginal Music Week, in partnership with many community organizations, including the AUUC.

— Story photos: Lezlie Brooks



This little lady liked our Ukrainian Easter egg colouring sheets.



A family that visited us posed for a photo.



AUUC volunteers Lezlie Brooks (left) and Tusia Kozub, with Tim and Gloria Gordienko "dressed" as Ukrainian dancers.

Picnic in the Park is a free community event that started in 1999. The event celebrates the cultural diversity of the North End, and aims to present a positive image of the

community. The event now has over 4,000 community members attending, and that number continues to grow. There is free food, children's activities, cultural entertainment, prizes, and organization information booths.

The AUUC's booth is always located right in the midst of the children's activities.

The North End is a young and energetic neighbourhood, and hundreds of children and their parents visit us throughout the day.

At our booth, picnickers can "dress up" as a Ukrainian dancer (see the picture) and learn about our dance school and other cultural groups. We

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## Ukrainian Heritage Celebration Concert

— Story photos: Trista Bailey



Chervony Venochek, in Hutsul costumes, are instructed by Natasha Jeanson, assisted by Liza Makarova.



Ruchnyky, instructed by Dianne Gereluk, is the intermediate dance group. They presented "Hospodarochka"



The Harniy Sharavary all-male group, choreographed by Dianne Gereluk with the able assistance of David Klassen, performed the joyous and comedic "Povzunets".

On Saturday, May 14, Calgary Hopak Ensemble, with guest artists, the Edmonton Trembita Choir, presented its Ukrainian Heritage Celebration Concert in the Leacock Theatre at Mount Royal University.

The wonderful afternoon of music, dance and song, began with the Hopak Dancers and Hopak Orchestra welcoming all with a traditional Ukrainian greeting, and ended with the combined Calgary Hopak Ensemble and Trembita Choir finale.

From Cherevichky's "Hopachok" to the Harniy Sharavary all-boy group's

performance of "Povzunets", the stage was ablaze with colourful costumes, engaging smiles, and fast-moving feet! The audience could not have been more appreciative and delighted with each successive program number.

Many thanks to Violetta Dimitrova, Calgary Hopak Ensemble choir and orchestra Director; Trista Bailey, Dance School Director; Leah Vollhoffer, Hopak Dance Director, and a special "thank you" to Edmonton's Trembita Choir, under the direction of Marina Lavrinenko.

— Darlene Hrynchyshyn



Cherevichky, aged 4 and 5, is the youngest group. Instructed by Caitlin Kaminsky, they performed "Hopachok".



Tynok, aged 6 and 7, is instructed by Kathryn Komusi. They performed a Moldavian dance.

## Shevchenko Museum to Launch New Exhibition

On Sunday, September 11, the Taras Shevchenko Museum in Toronto will host *Promised Land*, an exhibit commemorating 125 years of Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

The arrival in 1891 of Wasyl Eleniak and Ivan Pylypiw from Galicia is officially recognized as the beginning of Ukrainian immigration to Canada. Their reports home on farming conditions, coupled with Canada's aggressive campaign to entice settlers, led to a flood of immigration from impoverished western Ukrainian lands, which at the time were under the social, national and economic oppression of Austro Hungarian rule.

Between 1891 and 1914, up to 180,000 Ukrainians left their homeland for Canada. Most set up homesteads in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta where, due to challenging climatic conditions, a short growing season, language barriers and discrimination, life for these early settlers was extremely difficult. Poverty often drove the men to leave their families on the homestead for months at a time to work in coal mines, lumber camps and on the rail-

(Continued on Page 8.)

— Story photos: Mark Greschner

# Regina's Mosaic Remains Popular

Sponsored by the Regina Multicultural Council, Mosaic, a Festival of Cultures, was held on June 2, 3 and 4, with the participation of the Regina AUUC Poltava Ukrainian Pavilion as one of 18 pavilions scattered throughout the city.

2016 marked the 49<sup>th</sup> year for Mosaic. The Festival commenced in 1967, with participating member groups on city stages. In 1977, the Festival format changed to pavilions throughout the city, with the AUUC at its Ukrainian Cultural Centre.

In time, the Centre came to be too small for the number of patrons wanting to visit the Pavilion; thus, in 1989, the AUUC moved into the Regina Performing Arts Centre, where it remains today and for the anticipated future.

The Regina AUUC can be extremely proud that it has been a participant in Mosaic, a Festival of Cultures, for the entire 49 years.

Open for 19 hours (over 3 evenings and one afternoon), this year the Poltava Pavilion was visited by almost 8,000 patrons.

Five days prior to the start of Mosaic, over half the Pavilion is moved from the Ukrainian Cultural Centre to the Performing Arts Centre.

The Pavilion display celebrated 125 years of Ukrainian immigration to Canada through artifacts, clothing and a brief description of how the immigration occurred and its results. Thanks to Gerry Shmyr for putting together this important part of the pavilion.

Also featured, courtesy of Mark Greschner, was a photo display of the trip to Portugal by the Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance. The display showed various aspects of the tour in the summer of 2015.

Audiences enjoyed 21 half-hour performances — 16 by the 50 plus members of the Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance and five by the 65 students of the AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts.

Of course, the Pavilion is also known for its Ukrainian cuisine, which included varenyky (perogies), borsch, cabbage rolls, sausage, pickled herring, poppy seed squares and cheese cake, with Ukrainian imported beer, the house speciality drink, Balalaika, and the ever popular Poltava Shooter.

Recognition must be given to the kitchen staff, managed by Jennifer Swicheniuk and Gerry Shmyr, for the hundreds of hours of food preparation, in particular the 10,000 varenyky needed for the pavilion.

The success of the Poltava Pavilion was made possible by over 100 volunteers who prepared for, and staffed, the Pavilion.

Directing the cultural component were Dance Director Lisa Wanner, graduate of the University of Regina Bachelor of Music program, and Ballet Mistress Tatiana Moisey, formerly of the Bolshoi Ballet.

The Ensemble Orchestra under the direction of Natalia Osypenko, graduate of the Kyiv Conservatory, accompanied all the dances and featured its own selections. Programming was directed by Zoya Shmyr.

The AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts is under the direction of Emery Millette, Daniel Hebert, Julia Pringle, Nicholas Dymterko, Kayla Swicheniuk and Luke Melenchuk.

Gratitude is also expressed to Pavilion Manager David Yaffe, Personnel Coordinator Wanda Lapchuk, Bar Coordinator Shawn Swicheniuk, the Masters of Ceremonies Ken Lozinsky and Dave Wilson, Pavilion Ambassadors Dion Tchorzewski and Noah Evanchuk, Youth Ambassadors Bob Millette and Jordyn Bidyk. Finances were handled by Lynne Lapchuk and Joanne Laslo.

These individuals took a leading role in making Mosaic 2016 such an outstanding success. The Regina AUUC is indebted to all of them.

— **Sasha Lapchuk**



The AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts perform Hopak featured 65 students aged 3 to 13.



The Poltava Ensemble Orchestra, under the direction of Natalia Osypenko, accompanied all of the Poltava dances, as well as being featured throughout the 3 days.



Above and below, Poltava Ensemble performs "Palekeh Box". This dance returned to the Ensemble's repertoire after a nearly-20-year hiatus, and had the crowd wanting more each time it was performed.



Poltava Ensemble female dancers performed the crowd favorite "Lacemakers".



Pavilion Ambassador Dion Tchorzewski, Youth Ambassador Bob Millette, and Poltava Dancer (and former Youth Ambassador) Anna Lekatch.



It was standing room only to see many of the performances throughout the three days of Mosaic, a Festival of Cultures.

## Winnipeg “Thoughts and Reflections”



— Photos: Douglas Thomas. Courtesy of the Winnipeg Arts Council

Author Glen Michalchuk and Margaret Glavina, Treasurer of Peace Alliance Winnipeg, at a stencilled message on the pedestrian walkway.

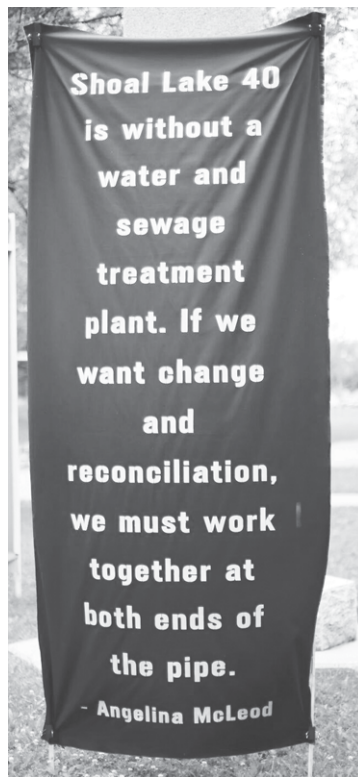
With only a few exceptions, Canadians living in cities or towns, on farms, or at their cottages and camp sites have access to safe drinking water. The same is not true for First Nations peoples.

It is a national disgrace that in Canada, a first-world country and one which internationally boasts of its democratic and human values, 169 First Nations communities do not have access to safe drinking

water.

The situation is particularly significant to Winnipeg, which obtains its water from Shoal Lake, located on Shoal Lake 40 First Nations territory.

Between 1913 and 1919, an aqueduct was constructed from Shoal Lake to carry the water to Winnipeg. Official histories often omit the fact that the territory surrounding the intake at the Lake was expropriated from the Shoal



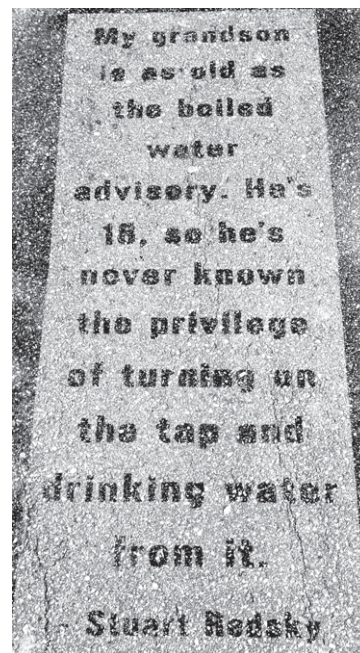
The stencilled “thoughts and reflections” were displayed on blue banners.

Lake 40 Band. While the people of Winnipeg enjoy clean and safe water the people of Shoal Lake have, for the last 19 years, relied on bottled water for their everyday needs.

Many in Winnipeg have highlighted this injustice to the people of Shoal Lake, and it has become a source of activism for many in the community.

On July 16, a special event in the form a public art project along the pedestrian walkway that follows the Red River through downtown Winnipeg took place to highlight the situation.

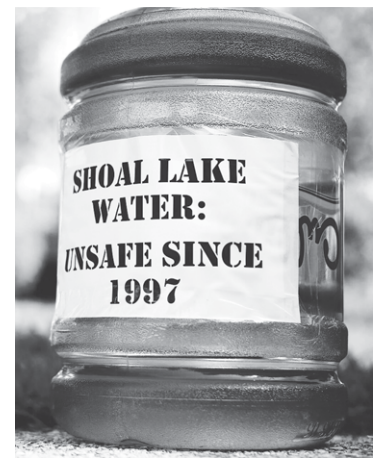
Under the banner of the Winnipeg Arts Council, “With Art” program local artist Leah



Whether it's Shoal Lake, Grassy Narrows, or any one of 167 other First Nations communities, this message reflects a shameful reality.

Decter undertook to stencil a series of “thoughts and reflections” on the importance of water. He worked with Peace Alliance Winnipeg and a working group comprised of Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, Shoal Lake 40 Museum of Canadian Human Rights Violations, Decolonizing Network Manitoba, Friends of Shoal Lake 40, 13 Fires Winnipeg and additional participation/support from the Council of Canadians and the University of Winnipeg Student Union.

The “thoughts and reflections” came from discussions with the people of Shoal Lake 40 First Nation. The stenciling used water gathered from Shoal Lake with the permission of the Shoal Lake 40 First Nation community.



The project used water gathered from Shoal Lake with the permission of the Shoal Lake 40 First Nation community.

The fact that water was used as the medium meant that the “reflections” were only visible for a brief time, thus reflecting the fragility of the resource and the fact that attention to important issues can also fade if not pursued.

The event attracted a great deal of local media attention, and many people joined in the process of stencilling the phrases on the walkway.

The thoughts and reflections were also produced in a pamphlet printed for the event and on blue banners that were set up in the area of the project.

For more information on Shoal Lake 40:

[http://www.vice.com/en\\_ca/video/canadas-waterless-community-shoal-lake-40](http://www.vice.com/en_ca/video/canadas-waterless-community-shoal-lake-40)

— Glenn Michalchuk  
(Glenn Michalchuk is Chair of Peace Alliance Winnipeg, and President of AUUC Winnipeg Branch.)

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(Continued from Page 5.) Bernardine Dobrowolsky, with Lorna Clark representing AUUC Toronto Branch.

Continuing the tribute, to the Bard, Natalka Mochoruk recited Shevchenko’s poem “Zapovit”, followed by the reading of the English translation, “My Testament”, by Wilfred Szczesny.

The tribute to Shevchenko ended with the screening of a DVD of a dance, performed in 1994, by Ukraine’s Virsky Ensemble. The intricate dance with ribbons culminated by displaying a tapestry of Taras Shevchenko, drawing a round of applause from the viewers.

In keeping with the picnic theme, the food which followed featured the traditional hamburgers, hot dogs and Italian sausages, barbecued by Jerry Dobrowolsky, with donated salads. Dessert included a cake specially decorated for Canada Day.

Games Mistress Bernardine Dobrowolsky announced that two teams — Diane and Russ Garrett and Pat and Joe Dzatko — had perfect scores in the trivia

contest. As she announced the remaining scores, players selected the Canada-themed prizes of their choice.

The Canada Day theme continued with the singing of four appropriate selections: “Four Strong Winds”, “I’s the B’y”, “Land of the Silver Birch” and “This Land Is Your

Land”.

Then it was back to games, beginning with the raffling of five embroidered items donated by Natalka Mochoruk. The big winners were Bill Malnychuk and Mark Stewart (each winning twice) and Nadia Geith.

Winner of the 50/50 draw

was Connie Prince.

The tradition continues to develop, so this year there was no scavenger hunt.

Ms. Prince closed the programmed part of the afternoon by thanking many people. These included Gabriele Bajin, Lorna Clark, Pat and Joe Dzatko, Bernardine and Jerry Dobrowolsky, Elizabeth Elsen, Diane Garrett, Anne Magus, Natalka Mochoruk,

Mark Stewart.

Modesty, no doubt, kept Connie from mentioning her own sizeable contribution to the event.

Like many events at the AUUC Cultural Centre, this one did not end abruptly with the formalities, but slowly died down, with guests lingering over the next hour or so. That, too, has become something of a tradition.

## New Shevchenko Museum Exhibition

(Continued from Page 6.) road, laying tracks.

During the 20th century, wars, changing regimes, shift-

ing borders, and economic, political, social and national struggles all gave rise to further waves of Ukrainian immi-

gration to Canada.

Unimaginable struggles and hardships were many and, at times, seemingly insurmountable. Nonetheless, Ukrainian immigrants to Canada, through determination and perseverance, overcame adversity and even flourished, managing to lay a solid foundation for the great strides and accomplishments of succeeding generations.

The Museum will present original works, reflecting Ukrainian Canadian life, by artists Oleh Lesiuk, Pavlo Lopata, Odarka Kish, Andrij Babytsch, Maria Styranka, Peter Shostak, Orest Sawchuk, Roksolyana

Pidhainy, Zoya Vasylychuk, Ivan Lazirko, and Jeanette Lodoen. Some art works will be available for sale.

A collection of archival photographs depicting aspects of early Ukrainian life in Canada, along with old farming, mining, and building tools, furniture, clothing, and documents, will also be on display.

A documentary on William Kurelek will be shown. Opening remarks will be delivered by Andrew Gregorovich.

The opening, to be held at the Taras Shevchenko Museum, 1614 Bloor Street West (East of Keele), is on Sunday, September 11 at 3:30 p.m., with a wine and cheese reception. The exhibition will run to November 30, 2016.





## Ukrainian Miscellany

### Ukrainian Terrorism in the Crimea?

It's another "He said, she said," situation, except that the authorities of Ukraine and Russia know the truth — and maybe some people who were there (if there actually was a "there"). Unfortunately, both sides of the conflict between those two countries (and their supporters, and their information media), are so deeply into partisan propaganda (including outright lying) that no one other than those authorities (and some of their allies, perhaps) can be certain of the truth.

As reported by *Ukrainian Journal* on August 10, "two Russian servicemen were killed in Crimea as Moscow alleged its forces had uncovered a plot to sabotage the peninsula's infrastructure. Russian President Vladimir Putin accused Ukrainian special operations troops of sending two teams of plotters to Crimea, and threatened to respond.

The FSB, Russia's security service, which controls Russia's border guards, said that on the night of August 6-7 it had lost one of its officers as it "foiled terrorist attacks on the territory of Crimea, prepared by the intelligence directorate of the Ukrainian

defence ministry". On August 8, a Russian soldier was killed in a "firefight with 'sabotage-terrorist' groups sent by the Ukrainian defence ministry".

The aim of the sabotage and terrorist attacks, the FSB said, was to destabilize the social and political situation ahead of elections in Russia and the Crimea on September 18.

The "Journal" also reported that, "Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko dismissed Putin's accusations as 'fantasies', adding that Moscow is seeking a pretext for serious military escalations."

It was not clear whether President Poroshenko was suggesting that the events had not happened at all, that they had happened but the Ukrainian government was not involved, or something else.

What was clear was that President Poroshenko proceeded to divert attention from the issue by claiming that, "It is Russia who has been generously funding and supporting terrorism on the territory of Ukraine for a long time and raising it to the level of its state policy."

Ukraine's National Security Council Chief, Oleksandr Turchynov, moved the dia-

logue forward by calling Russia's claims as "hysterical and false", and saying that Moscow was trying to stoke fear in Crimea.

The "Journal" reported that Mr. Turchynov said, "Russia is preparing for a planned escalation of the situation and disrupt the Minsk agreements," and President Putin, "has not invented anything better than a cheap theatrical production by FSB with improvised explosive devices."

Mr. Turchynov not only claims that the whole thing was not a fantasy, but "a cheap theatrical production by FSB", but also knows what kind of explosives were used.

The national security chief ended with the diversionary ritual: "As for terrorism, which the Russian President mentioned, the total terror, cynical human rights violations and massacres, it has (sic) Russia on the occupied territories of Donbas and Crimea."

Among others, The Associated Press, a Western news agency picked up the story.

The AP article repeated the exchange of claims between Russia and Ukraine, with a lot of text about events in the Crimea (with stress on Russia's military presence) and Russia's support for separatists in Ukraine's east, and speculation about "a possible

escalation of hostilities".

While recognizing that local media and social media users confirmed reports of a shootout, the AP said that "independent accounts" were missing. Furthermore, the AP cited a blogger who claimed (just because Russia does that) that the Ukrainian version was more credible than the Russian one.

One interesting feature of the AP report was the information that the 2015 Minsk agreement, "obliged Ukraine to grant broad autonomy to the rebel regions before it can fully regain control with the border with Russia, but those provisions haven't been implemented."

Governments followed the script. For example, on August 13, The Ukrainian Canadian Congress was pleased to quote Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, S. Dion, who reportedly stated, "I am concerned by the heightened tensions between Russia and Ukraine, and by the actions and rhetoric that are contributing to these tensions. We have seen no evidence to support recent Russian accusations. At this critical time, Canada urges all sides to intensify their diplomatic efforts and make every effort to avoid provocations. Canada continues to condemn Russia's violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and we are resolute in our position that we do not recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea. We also underscore, as have our partners and allies, the need for full implementation of the Minsk agreements, in order to end the violence and bring about a peace-

ful and durable solution in eastern Ukraine."

What is one to make of that *kasha*?

It might help to consider who stands to gain, and how much, in all of the confusion.

Unless one buys Kyiv's improbable story that Russia is preparing to invade (President Poroshenko put Ukraine's troops on combat alert and spoke of declaring martial law), or even just creating an excuse not to talk, there is little Russia has to gain by staging such an event. The one possible benefit would be gaining support for the government as the elections approach.

Ukraine's potential gain is far bigger: another opportunity to lobby internationally for more support, including more action against Russia. And in fact, that is exactly what Ukraine did.

Ukraine also had the domestic benefit of demonizing those who might criticize it in the face of the "Russian threat".

So what do we think?

We are predisposed to believe little that is stated by the government of Ukraine and its supporters.

We also doubt that Russia is interested in an overt shooting war with Ukraine, which could lead to a nuclear conflagration.

On balance, we believe that terrorists of some sort entered the Crimea from Ukraine. It is probable that the Ukrainian government was, at least, aware of the incursion.

Ukrainian soldiers may have been involved, or squads of the ultra-nationalist militias which continue to operate.

### Fighting Corruption in Ukraine

On August 2, *Ukrainian Journal* reported that some 41% of Ukrainians encountered a manifestation of corruption in the past year, according to the returns of a TNS-Ukraine poll ordered by the NGO Restoring Donbas.

The most corrupt sectors were health care (61%), education (34%), law enforcement (24%), regulatory authorities that issue licenses (19%) and local authorities (18%).

That same publication carried various reports of activities failing to pass the smell test.

August 9, for example, it reported that Ukraine's largest private bank, PrivatBank (Dnipro), had denied accusations that some managers of the bank had embezzled over UAH 19 billion of refinancing funds issued by the National Bank of Ukraine.

"Suspicions that the bank used refinancing funds to carry out any transactions, apart from return of deposits, are groundless," bank officials claimed.

The NBU supposedly's provided the money to cover

withdrawals by individuals.

Of course, the charges may indeed be groundless, but that seems like a lot of money for individual withdrawals.

On August 11, the same publication reported that Ukraine's Justice Ministry had initiated the creation of a group to combat illegal company seizures.

Based on the work of a commission that discussed claims against actions of public registrars, the government proposed legal changes to remove risks of attempts to seize property.

On August 12, *Ukrainian Journal* reported that the Ukrainian Agrarian Council had urged the Ukrainian government and Ukraine's Anti-monopoly Committee to intervene in the nitrogen fertilizers market, charging monopoly collusion to set predatory prices. This situation arose after Dmytro Firtash's Ostchem lobbied for the introduction of anti-dumping duties on Russian ammonium nitrate in 2014.

And so it goes.

Of course, reports of corruption in Ukraine surprise

nobody. Even the International Monetary Fund has been expressing concern, and using that concern as a reason for holding back loans it had negotiated with Ukraine.

To cope with the problem, Ukraine recently established its National Anti-Corruption Bureau.

With all the corruption plaguing the government of Ukraine, one might expect that the Anti-Corruption Bureau would be hard at work rooting out the culprits who currently have sticky fingers and dirty hands. Unfortunately the government of Ukraine is not particularly interested in investigating the crooks in its midst. Instead, it seems to be to be fixated on the really important corruption — corruption from the days of long-deposed President Victor Yanukovich.

Just by coincidence, of course, the investigation into the regime of ex-President Yanukovich has unearthed a connection between Victor Yanukovich and his "pro-Russian political party" and "pro-Russian" American presidential candidate Donald Trump, via Mr. Trump's campaign chairman, Paul Manafort.

It is important, after all, to get one's priorities right.

### Ukraine's Economy

Ukraine's economy continues to decline. Here are a few examples.

On August 8, *Ukrainian Journal* reported that Ukrainian seaports saw a 9.8% fall in cargo handling, falling to 74.06 million tons, in January through July, 2016, compared to the first half of 2015. Data provided by the Sea Port Authority of Ukraine show drops of 1.4%, to 56.19 million tons in export cargo handling, 10.1% to 9.28 million tons in imported cargo handling, and 42.4% in transit cargo handling which fell to 6.28 million tons.

The same publication reported on August 9 that industrial prices (which seems, in the article, to be synonymous with wholesale prices) in Ukraine rose by 18.3% in July, compared to a year earlier.

In May and June, the corresponding numbers were

16.5% and 15.7% respectively.

*Ukrainian Journal* reported on August 11 that Ukraine's metal companies were projecting that steel smelting would decrease by 4.8% (2 million tons) in September and the output of rolled steel would be 5.6% (1.7 million tons) lower. Cast iron was expected to be 4.8% lower.

These numbers were reportedly given to Interfax-Ukraine by Ukrmetallurgprom (Dnipro).

In the midst of all these declines, the State Statistics Service reported that Ukraine's real gross domestic product in the second quarter was up by 1.3% compared to 2015.

On a seasonally adjusted bases, the GDP for Q2 was up by 0.6% compared to the first quarter, which had seen a decline of 0.7%

# 125th Ukrainian Canadian Anniversary

The first wave of Ukrainian settlement in Canada started in 1891, 125 years ago. As part of the commemoration of this event, which we pinpoint as September 7, 1891, the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* will publish an 8-installment series of articles this year, discussing aspects of the Ukrainian Canadian experience. In this issue, we examine the experience of the years of World War II.

In the earliest days of Ukrainian settlement in Canada, with people relatively sparsely located on homesteads and with very limited resources, there was little occasion for ideologically or philosophically based conflict. As the population grew, schools, churches and other institutions were established, but strife was limited by the relative homogeneity of the population in an area — people in a location tended to come from the same families, the same villages or the same regions.

In the early years of the 20th century, with increasing numbers of immigrants located in towns and cities, competition and conflict became more pronounced. Nevertheless, cooperation and toleration of differences seemed to predominate.

Even the boundary between the left wing of the community and the church-oriented population was, apparently, not hard and fast, with individuals moving back and forth.

World War One and the Great October Socialist Revolution sharpened differences within the Ukrainian Canadian community. The process of differentiation grew with the advent of the second wave of immigrants, generally more politically and socially engaged than the first wave had been.

Going into WWI, there was a marked chasm between supporters of the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party, which had a class-struggle position in the work place and an anti-war international stance, and right-wing groups who were hostile to unionism in Canada and gave varying degrees of support to governments in countries at war.

Following the revolution in the Russian empire, the right wing of the Ukrainian Canadian community was further fragmented, with the churches and their secular auxiliaries competing with the Ukrainian War Veterans Association and its outgrowth, the Ukrainian National Federation.

Leading into World War Two, there were four main parts to the Ukrainian Canadian community.

On the left was the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association, with the Workers' Benevolent Association and other institutions.

The secular arm of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church was the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League. This group tended to support the Liberal Party in Canada and



This concert was staged in Calgary by the Association of Canadian Ukrainians in 1943. The photo is reproduced from *Our Stage*.

the Ukrainian National Republic government-in-exile.

The Ukrainian Catholic Church had as its secular arm the United Hetman Organization, earlier the Ukrainian Sich Organization. Conservative in Canadian politics, the Ukrainian orientation of this group was monarchist, supporting the aspirations of Danylo Skoropadsky.

The Catholic group also included the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood, which had a broader appeal than the Sich.

The fourth centre was the Ukrainian National Federation, formed by the Ukrainian War Veterans Association after the UWVA failed in efforts to focus the attention of other organizations exclusively to the struggle in Ukraine.

On the eve of WWII and into the war, the government of Canada had no problem deciding what to do about the ULFTA and about a dozen other left-wing organizations. When a suitable justification arose, the government of the capitalist state simply banned the anticapitalist opposition, arrested and interned their leaders, and seized their assets — all by Order-in-Council under the “Defence of Canada Regulations”.

The ULFTA had supported the republic against the attack by General Franco and his fascist backers, and ULFTA members were among those who fought in defence of democracy in the Spanish Civil War. The ULFTA had clearly stated its opposition to Nazi Germany and its belief in the need to combat fascism. The ULFTA maintained this position steadfastly throughout the war.

Nevertheless, in June, 1940, the government imposed its ban. The release of interned ULFTA leaders did not start

until December, 1941, and was extended over several months. The ban on the organization was not lifted until October 14, 1943.

Following a public campaign with widespread support, the government decided on January 25, 1945, to expropriate ULFTA halls from those to whom they had been given. An agreement on their return to the ULFTA was reached on April 10, 1945. Of 108 halls which had been seized, 92 were returned. Compensation was paid for the remaining 16. It was some time before all the halls were fully operational.

The approach of the government to the philosophically congenial the right wing of the community was utterly different.

Like many leaders in Europe and North America, including Winston Churchill, Prime Minister Mackenzie King admired Hitler and Mussolini. They shared with right wing Ukrainians a positive view of the vigour with which the Nazis and the Fascists attacked Communists, trade-unionists, Jews and other “undesirables”.

However, when the United Kingdom declared war on Germany, the pro-fascist views of the Ukrainian right wing posed a potential problem. In an effort to forestall the threat of right-wing Ukrainian Canadian undermining of the Canadian war effort, the government decided to buy their loyalty.

Using strenuous efforts through the Nationalities Branch of the War Services Department to overcome the animosity among the various groups, the government was able to join them into a single entity: the Ukrainian Canadian Committee.

For their cooperation, the

organizations would be rewarded with exclusive recognition as representatives of the community (excluding the ULFTA), the ear of the government, and some material benefits, including access to some of the assets (including, for example, publication subscription lists) confiscated from the ULFTA and other organizations when they were banned in June, 1940.

The deal was done in November, 1940. Since then, the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, now the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, has been feeding at the public trough, continuing to push its right-wing agenda and exclude the left.

About 260 leaders were interned in this crackdown on the left, about one third of them Ukrainians.

The hope that interning the leaders and confiscating the assets would kill the left-wing movement was not realized. In fact, the members of the ULFTA, and its supporters, were very active during the war, devoting much of their effort to supporting the war against fascism.

It has been estimated that 40,000 Ukrainian Canadians served in the armed forces in WWII (some estimates go as high as 70,000). Of these, up to a half were from the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community, including men whose fathers were sitting in internment camps.

In Canada, ULFTA members met in homes and in rented facilities to continue their work.

A new organization, the UAAF (Ukrainian Association to Aid the Fatherland, soon renamed the Association of Canadian Ukrainians) was formed in June, 1941, with a three-point program: to participate in the war effort; to continue the activities initiated by

the ULFTA; and to campaign to lift the ban on the ULFTA and return its property.

At its convention in 1946, the ACU (AUUC), the organization reviewed its contribution to the war effort. They bought over \$3.2 million in Victory bonds; and raised over \$678,000 for “aid purposes”, including over \$132,000 for the Red Cross, \$455,000 for aid to people in Ukraine, \$24,000 for “other humanitarian causes”, and \$50,000 in general funds. ACU Committee for Aid to Canadian Soldiers sent parcels to Canadian soldiers at the front, and over 120 tons of clothing were collected for refugees.

In *Our Stage*, translated into English by Mary Skrypyk, Peter Krawchuk provides a truly impressive list of concerts by UAAF groups, starting with a November 30, 1941, concert in Toronto with an audience of 1000.

There are reports of concerts in 1942 and 1943, and victory concerts in Toronto (June 30, 1945) and Winnipeg (July 28, 1945). The concert in Toronto had 1000 performers.

Meeting in its final Convention in January, 1946, the ULFTA decided to transfer its assets to the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, as the ACU was renamed.

The leadership of the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community recognized, coming out of World War II, that some important tasks lay ahead.

Perhaps most important among them was the need to eliminate the discrepancy between the ratio of Canadian-born in the organization (a minority) and the ratio in the Ukrainian Canadian population (60%–70%)

In January, 1946, the 2nd Convention of the ACU decided to rename the organization the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, and on November 16, 1946, the organization was registered under that name. The convention elected William Teresio, a Canadian-born high-school principal as National Chairman. On September 1, 1947, *The Ukrainian Canadian*, an English-language newspaper was born.

At the third National Convention, in 1948, it was reported that 32 English-speaking Branches, with about 1000 members, had been formed. The AUUC was well on the way to a new period in its growth.

The organizations of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee were also about to enter into a new period, as a new wave of immigrants, displaced as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics pushed west to defeat Hitler's Germany, mostly very anti-Soviet and anti-communist, mostly skilled and educated, arrived.

# JOIN US!

Join the AUUC community! Each Branch has a unique schedule of events and activities. To discover what we have to offer, contact the AUUC in your area:

## AUUC NATIONAL OFFICE

National Executive Committee AUUC  
595 Pritchard Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4  
Phone: 800-856-8242 Fax: (204) 589-3404  
E-mail: mail@auuckobzar.net Web site: auuc.ca

## VANCOUVER BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre  
805 East Pender Street  
Vancouver BC V6A 1V9  
Phone: (604) 254-3436 Fax: (604) 254-3436  
E-mail: auucvancouver@telus.net  
Website: www.auucvancouver.ca

## CALGARY BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre  
3316-28 Avenue SW  
Calgary AB T3E0R8  
Phone: (403) 246-1231  
E-mail: Calgaryhopak@shaw.ca

## EDMONTON BRANCH

Ukrainian Centre  
11018-97 Street  
Edmonton AB T5H 2M9  
Phone: (780) 424-2037 Fax: (780) 424-2013  
E-mail: auucedm@telus.net

## VEGREVILLE BRANCH

c/o Lil Humeniuk  
Box 481  
Vegreville AB T9C 1R6  
Phone: (780) 632-3021

## REGINA BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre  
1809 Toronto Street  
Regina SK S4P 1M7  
Phone: (306) 522-1188 Web site: www.poltava.ca

## WINNIPEG BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple  
591 Pritchard Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4 ult-wpg.ca  
Phone: (204) 582-9269 Fax: 589-3404

## OTTAWA BRANCH

c/o Robert Seychuk  
24 Attwood Crescent  
Ottawa ON K2E 5A9  
Phone: (613) 228-0990

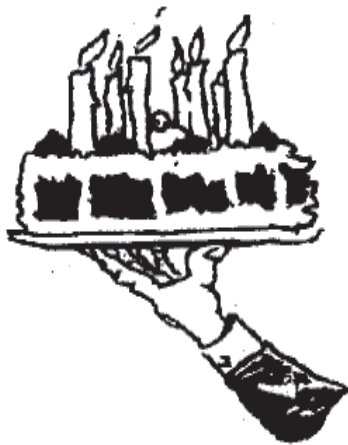
## TORONTO BRANCH

AUUC Cultural Centre  
1604 Bloor Street West  
Toronto ON M6P 1A7  
Phone: (416) 588-1639 Fax: 588-9180  
auctorontobranch@gmail.com

## WELLAND BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple  
342 Ontario Road  
Welland ON L3B 5C5  
Phone: (905) 732-5656

# Happy Birthday, Friends!



The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrants of September and October:

- Bill Askin
- Sherry Capowski
- Olga Horon
- Ann Parfeniuk
- Shirley Uhryn

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

The **Toronto AUUC Senior Citizens Club** extends best birthday wishes to September and October celebrants:

- Helen Banville
- Wilfred Szczesny
- Vicky Vuksinic

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

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** extends birthday greetings to September and October celebrant:

- Audrey Moysiuk

We wish you the best of health and happiness in the coming year!

The **Welland Shevchenko Seniors** extend a happy birthday wish to September and October celebrants:

- Clara Babi
- Anne Cain
- Lorna Jonson
- Lucy Labinsky
- Janice Robins
- Rudy Wasylenky
- Robert Young

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

# Who, What, When, Where

**Calgary** — Calgary Hopak Ensemble invites participants for the new season at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre**, 3316 – 28 Avenue SW. Groups include: **Children's Dance School** (4 years of age and up); **Hopak Dancers** (16 year old and up); **Hopak Orchestra** (Monday evenings); **Mixed Choir** (Wednesday evenings). Enjoy special cultural events throughout the year. **Phone the Centre** at 403 – 246 – 1231, or call **Debra** at 403 -289 – 8480.

\* \* \*

**Edmonton** — AUUC **Edmonton Branch** will present "**Tak bulo**" to commemorate the 125th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada at the **Ukrainian Centre**, 11108-97 Street, on Saturday, **September 24**. **Doors open at 3:30 p.m.**, a **buffet dinner at 4:00 p.m.** and the **concert at 6:30 p.m.** Admission: **\$40.00/person**.

\* \* \*

**Toronto** — The **Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation** will host a banquet at **5:00 p.m.** on Saturday, **September 10**, at the **AUUC Cultural Centre**, 1604 Bloor Street West. This is your opportunity to meet the Board of Directors of the Shevchenko Museum. Admission: **\$15.00**. For more information, call **416-534-8662**.

\* \* \*

**Toronto** — The exhibition **Promised Land – 125 Years of Ukrainians in Canada** will officially open on Sunday **September 11**, with a **wine-and-cheese reception at 3:00 p.m.** at the **Shevchenko Museum**, 1614 Bloor Street West. **Admission is free; donations are appreciated.** For more information about the exhibition, see Page 6 in this issue.

\* \* \*

**Toronto** — AUUC **Toronto Branch** will host the season's **opening banquet**, highlighting the 125th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada, at the **AUUC Cultural Centre**, 1604 Bloor Street West, on Sunday, **September 25**. An entertaining program is being planned. Admission: **\$15.00**. For reservations, phone Vera at **416-253-9821**.

\* \* \*

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.

# Sustaining Fund Donations

Tusia Kozub, Winnipeg MB	
<i>In remembrance of my dear Regina friends</i>	
Gloria Greff & Al Lapchuk.....	\$100.00
Natalie Kehoe, Edison NJ (USA).....	86.21
Clara Bibiy, Welland ON .....	70.00
Audrey Moysiuk, Vancouver BC .....	70.00
Janet Tarasoff, Calgary AB .....	50.00
Nancy Thoroski, Toronto ON .....	50.00
Anne Sadelain, Edmonton AB .....	10.00

**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.**

# JoKe TiMe

A doctor was addressing a large audience. "The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago," he said. "Red meat is awful. Soft drinks corrode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. High fat diets can be disastrous, and none of us

realizes the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water. But there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and we all have eaten, or will, eat it. Can anyone tell me what food causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?"

After several seconds of quiet, a 75-year-old man in the front row raised his hand, and softly said, "Wedding cake."

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery. He insisted that his son perform the operation. As he was about to get the anaesthesia, he asked to speak to his son.

"Don't be nervous, son," he said. "Do your best, and remember, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come to live with you and your wife."

# Hopak Ensemble at Ukrainian Festival



The women of the Hopak Dance Ensemble performed "Razeshaska", a Moldavian Dance which depicts the happiness and excitement of dance performance. It starts off slowly, but ends in a flurry of dancing feet!

— Story photos: Daniel Carson



This dance, a "Kozachok", is a traditional Ukrainian dance which features the incredible spinning and twirling abilities of our lovely dancers. That is quite a feat to master!

The Calgary Ukrainian Festival, held on June 4-5, 2016, is an annual event that draws hundreds of participants from across Alberta, and thousands of visitors from across Canada.

This year, its seventh year of operation, the festival was in celebration of the 125 years of Ukrainian settlement in Canada.

Participating for the first time as performers, the Calgary Hopak Ensemble, with dancers, choir and orchestra, was so pleased to add to the colour, sounds and beauty of our Ukrainian heritage and was delighted to perform before the enthusiastic crowds.

The Orchestra accompanied the choir and the different dance groups.

This year the Hopak Ensemble Senior Dancers were under the direction of Leah Vollhoffer. This group consisted of 13 girls who loved Ukrainian dancing. They varied in experience from those who have just started dancing to those who are seasoned veterans. These talented girls managed to keep their energy going through two days of performances. They are eager to return next year with a new group of dances to perform.

The dance school is organized into classes of children from the ages of 4 to 13. The dance school director is Trista Bailey, who is involved from costuming to music and dance selection.

This year, we were able to offer an all boys dance group, under the direction of Dianne Gereluk. What a treat it was for the boys to dance together!

From the youngest dance group to the Hopak Senior



Cherevichky, our youngest dance group, aged 4 and 5, are led through their steps by Caitlin Kaminsky. These lovely little dancers always manage to steal the show. As you can tell by their faces, they love to dance the "Hopachok"!



Chervony Venochek. This tiny group of four dancers, ages 6 and 7, were so expressive as they danced "Hutsul Dance". They may be tiny, but their performance encompassed the whole stage! This group was choreographed by Natasha Jeanson and assisted by Liza Markarova.

Girls, from the Hopak Orchestra to the Choir, this most enjoyable experience has us looking forward again to next year's activities.

Calgary Hopak Ensemble provided an information kiosk detailing the cultural activities that take place at the Calgary Ukrainian Centre.

As in past years, the — Darlene Hrynchyshyn

## Winnipeg's Picnic in the Park

(Continued from Page 6.) always bring recipes for borscht and perogies that people can take home, and Ukrainian Easter egg colouring sheets for the kids.

This year's Picnic in the Park was especially fantastic, as the weather cooperated and gave us a lovely sunny and breezy day. The park was full of people of all ages, cultures and corners of the North End, listening to great music, learning about community resources, meeting their neighbours and having fun!

There is no better way to celebrate and build community than a summer picnic!

— Emily Halldorson

At right, AUUC Member Tusia Kozub poses with the Winnipeg Police Service mascot. The WPS is one of the many organizations which took part in this event to build relationships with the community.





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