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Fidel Castro

(August 13, 1926 – November 25, 2016)



The death of Fidel Castro was met with sorrow and expressions of praise by many people around the world. Among those expressing regrets and kind words at the passing of this giant of human history was Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Many others spoke up to attack the leader who had dared oppose American imperialism, as well as those who thought highly of him. Capitulating to the voices of those whose most prominent charge was that the revolutionary government of Cuba had confiscated the property through which their family had added to the oppression of the Cuban people, Justin Trudeau decided not to attend the funeral. The Governor-General of Canada went instead. For more about Fidel Castro and some of the issues, see Page 2.

The Next Issue

The next issue of the "UCH" will be dated February, 2017. Announcements of events in February, 2017, or early March, 2017, as well as articles for the February, 2017, issue should be in our office by January 10. Thank you for your consideration.

Justice Has to Wait

Edmund Metatawabini and a woman whose identity is not being revealed, survivors of the St. Anne's residential school in Fort Albany, Ontario, will have to wait until March just to find out whether the courts will consider their case seeking compensation for the abuse they suffered.

Taken into the church-run, federally funded institution as young children, the two suffered terrible torture, including being shocked in an electrified chair and being forced to eat their own vomit.

Over 700 survivors who told the Ontario Provincial Police what happened to them did not have their testimony included in the records of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. However, they did not know of the omissions because the records were not made public until 2014.

Because of the delay, the victims were deprived of compensation under a class action settlement reached earlier.

Ontario Supreme Court Justice Paul Purell told a packed courtroom that he was not sure he had jurisdiction in the case because of the many issues.

He also felt the need to wait for an Appeals Court written decision concerning jurisdiction which had been decided in favour of the federal government.

Survivors charge that the government has not disclosed all relevant information.

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR —
3 НОВИМ РОКОМ!**

The National Executive Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians extends best wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful 2017 to all members and friends of the AUUC and readers and supporters of *The Ukrainian Canadian Herald!*

Comandante Fidel: Combatant to the End

(The article below has appeared in numerous media. It has been re-edited to conform with “UCH” style.)

Fidel’s genius was his ability to meet the need for tactical steps, responding to the day’s urgencies, without losing sight of the strategic direction.

It could have been the armed struggle, terrorism, assassination or the serious illness which, at his own admission, nearly killed him in 2006; but in the end Fidel Castro lived through it all to die in peace.

His death, at 90, on November 25, 2016, has dominated news around the world. In Cuba, there will be several days of mourning, a proces-

sion through the island, and a funeral on December 4. Most Cubans on the island will mourn Fidel and pay their respects. Somewhere, rising up through their grief will be a sense of pride; that nature took *el Comandante*, and not the enemy.

It must have been a source of comfort for Cuba’s Commander-in-Chief. He was a man that led the call to arms from the front against Batista’s dictatorship, against US imperialism, against the “Batistiano” — the former Cuban elite who never ceased plotting their inglorious return to power, a group he labelled “worms” (*gusanos*).

Right up to his scathing reflection about “brother Obama” following the US

president’s visit to Cuba early this year, Fidel never stopped fighting for the sovereign, independent and socialist Cuba he pledged to build.

Trained as a lawyer and tested as a soldier, Fidel’s genius was his ability to meet the need for tactical steps, responding to the day’s urgencies, without losing sight of the strategic direction. Dismissing him as a “dictator” censors a rich history of debate, experimentation, and collective learning that has taken place in Cuba under Fidel’s guidance.

In the 1950s, Fidel set out the Moncada Program, which committed to bring social welfare and land reform to the Cuban people, and confiscate the ill-gotten gains of the Cuban elite. This was his promise to the Cuban people, who came out in their masses to cheer Fidel on the long road to Havana in the first days of

1959. And in this, clearly, Fidel has been absolved by history.

Also in those first years, one million Cubans left the island, most of them for the United States, where they formed a pocket of violent opposition to Fidel and the Cuban Revolution.

Who were they? They were the landowners, the businessmen, the politicians, who surpassed even previously shocking standards of graft and corruption.

They fled the island, temporarily they thought. However, despite the financial, military, political and ideological support they received from successive US administrations and state institutions, the Revolution could not be dislodged: not through mercenary invasions, sabotage, terrorism or biological warfare, not through the threat of nuclear war, not through regional and international isolation, not through the US blockade, not through inducements, or corruption, or assassinations.

It is these Cuban exiles, and their allies, who have dominated US policy-making on Cuba — converting Cuba into a domestic political issue. They have established the paradigm for academic writing and commentary on Cuba, controlled the media narrative, and in general obstructed our ability to understand Cuba as a country, Fidel as a man, and socialism as an alternative development strategy.

So none of us should be surprised that upon his death, unlike Mandela, Fidel is not forgiven his “crimes”, but continues to be lambasted as a dictator, supposedly the oppressor of an entire nation.

Elsewhere, however, and well beyond the shores of Cuba, millions in the world will mourn a leader they claimed as their own; the leader of a revolution which defeated a US-backed invasion, who stood up to US imperialism, who sent doctors, educators and development workers to the poorest regions on the earth — almost as soon as they were trained, for free, in Cuba.

In the 1960s, Fidel railed against imperialism and colonialism in the United Nations, supported revolutionary movements in Latin America, Africa and elsewhere, and hosted the Tricontinental Conference to coordinate anti-imperialist forces internationally.

From the 1970s, Fidel sent the first of some 400,000 Cubans to defend Angola from the colonial aspirations of apartheid South African.

In the 1980s Fidel condemned third-world debt as unpayable.

In the 1990s he denounced the devastating human costs of neoliberalism and warned the world about the ecologi-

cal crisis which threatened humanity and the planet.

In the 2000s he opened the doors of the Latin American School of Medicine (set up in 1999) to poor students from Africa, Asia and elsewhere, so that they too could study for free and return to serve their poor communities, and the Battle of Ideas he led showed what could be achieved in the field of culture and education.

Cuba today is incomparable with the Cuba of 1959; just consider the island’s achievements in health, medicine, biotechnology, culture, art, sport, and combatting discrimination of every kind. They have built a new and alternative system of democracy, without political parties, and political celebrities, in which politics is not a career, and principles are not invented by publicists responding to the latest polls.

Yes, there have been mistakes and shameful episodes. But Fidel’s strongest serious critic was always himself; just listen to his interviews with Ignacio Ramonet and Oliver Stone.

One thing we can assert is that Fidel stuck to his principles. A recent book by William LeoGrande and Peter Kornbluh on the secret history of negotiations between Washington and Havana documents that, almost as soon as diplomatic relations were broken, their respective governments pursued avenues to restore or improve them.

What is also clear, however, is that at various moments in history Fidel rejected an offer to reduce hostilities, to lift the US blockade for example, because they were pre-conditioned on abandoning some anti-imperialist (or in the case of Angola, anti-racist) internationalist cause: withdrawing troops from Southern Africa, stopping vociferous support for Puerto Rican independence, ending support for the Central America revolutionary movements, and cutting off ties to the Soviet Union. These were demands that Fidel would not countenance.

Commitment to international anti-imperialism could not be traded. “Men make their own history,” observed Karl Marx, “but they do not make it as they please; they do not make it under self-selected circumstances, but under circumstances existing already, given and transmitted from the past.”

Fidel has made history, and history has absolved him, even as, in his death, those ideological enemies continue to rage against his life.

— Dr. Helen Yaffe

(Dr. Helen Yaffe, the author of *Che Guevara: The Economics of Revolution, is a specialist on Cuban and Latin American economic history.*)

Fidel Castro

(This name uses Spanish naming customs: the first or paternal family name is *Castro* and the second or maternal family name is *Ruz*.)

Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz (August 13, 1926 – November 25, 2016) was a Cuban revolutionary and politician who governed the Republic of Cuba as Prime Minister from 1959 to 1976 and then as President from 1976 to 2008.

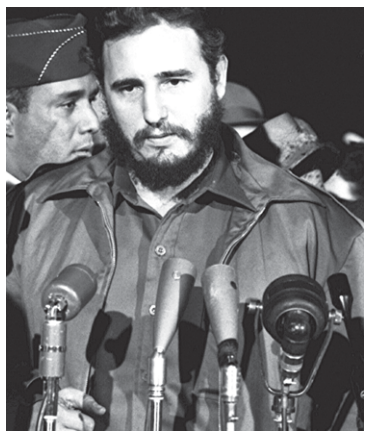
Politically a Marxist-Leninist and Cuban nationalist, he also served as the First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba from 1961 until 2011. Under his administration, Cuba became a one-party socialist state; industry and business were nationalized, and state socialist reforms were implemented throughout society.

Born in Birán, Oriente, as the son of a wealthy Spanish farmer, Castro adopted leftist anti-imperialist politics while studying law at the University of Havana.

After participating in rebellions against right-wing governments in the Dominican Republic and Colombia, he planned the overthrow of Cuban President Fulgencio Batista, launching a failed attack on the Moncada Barracks in 1953.

After a year’s imprisonment, he travelled to Mexico where he formed a revolutionary group, the 26th of July Movement, with his brother Raúl Castro and Che Guevara. Returning to Cuba, Castro took a key role in the Cuban Revolution by leading the Movement in a guerrilla war against Batista’s forces from the Sierra Maestra.

After Batista’s overthrow in 1959, Castro assumed military and political power as



Fidel Castro visited the USA in early 1959 on a so-called charm offensive. He was not impressed by Richard Nixon when he met him.

Cuba’s Prime Minister. The United States came to oppose Castro’s government, and unsuccessfully attempted to remove him by assassination, economic blockade, and counter-revolution, including the Bay of Pigs Invasion of 1961.

Countering these threats, Castro formed an alliance with the Soviet Union and allowed the Soviets to place nuclear weapons on Cuba, sparking the Cuban Missile Crisis — a defining incident of the Cold War — in 1962.

Adopting a Marxist-Leninist model of development, Castro converted Cuba into a one-party, socialist state under Communist Party rule, the first in the Western Hemisphere. Policies introducing central economic planning and expanding health care and education were accompanied by state control of the press and the suppression of internal dissent.

Abroad, Castro supported anti-imperialist revolutionary groups, backing the establishment of Marxist governments in Chile, Nicaragua, and Grenada, and sending troops to aid allies in the Yom Kippur War, Ogaden War, and

Angolan Civil War. These actions, coupled with Castro’s leadership of the Non-Aligned Movement from 1979 to 1983 and Cuba’s medical internationalism, increased Cuba’s profile on the world stage.

Following the Soviet Union’s dissolution in 1991, Castro led Cuba into its “Special Period” and embraced environmentalist and anti-globalization ideas.

In the 2000s he forged alliances in the Latin American “pink tide” — namely with Hugo Chávez’s Venezuela — and signed Cuba to the Bolivarian Alliance for the Americas.

In 2006 he transferred his responsibilities to Vice-President Raúl Castro, who was elected to the presidency by the National Assembly in 2008.

Castro is a polarizing world figure. His supporters laud him as a champion of socialism and anti-imperialism whose revolutionary regime advanced economic and social justice while securing Cuba’s independence from American imperialism. Critics view him as a dictator whose administration oversaw human-rights abuses, the exodus of a large number of Cubans, and the impoverishment of the country’s economy.

He was decorated with various international awards and significantly influenced various individuals and groups across the world.

(From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

**Now is a
good time
to renew
your sub!**

Current Eclectic

Prison Violence

When the Canadian government headed by Prime Minister Harper was energetically devising ways to put more people into prison for longer periods with fewer rehabilitation options, less “coddling” (stuff like decent food, opportunities to earn extras, recreation, and adequate personal space), and other “tough on crime” measures, they were warned.

Many people, including prison employees and knowledgeable other voices who were concerned, warned that the government’s measures would make prisons more dan-

gerous, increase recidivism rates, and make society more, not less, insecure. For their good advice, these people were accused of being “soft on crime”, of lacking concern for victims, and generally, of being bad people.

Now the chickens are coming home to roost.

One indication is a sharp rise (93%) in the last decade of prisoner-on-prisoner violence in federal prisons. In 2006-7, there were 301 such assaults; in 2014-15, the number rose to 581.

Such violence, which can lead to severe injuries, and

even death, is so common that, often, neither nearby prisoners nor guards watching on television monitors intervene.

Much of the violence is the result of too many men being crowded into too little space, with too much frustration. One former inmate told a CBC interviewer that most of the violence arises from what he called “domestic issues”, friction arising from the routines of day-to-day life.

With the elimination of prison farms, educational programs, and recreational options, as well as a 50% reduction in pay rates for work done by prisoners, there is increased aimlessness and boredom, breeding grounds for grudges and testiness in interpersonal relations.

The tensions are increased by the reduced standards and living conditions. The ex-convict mentioned above mentioned the recent change to powdered milk. A prison riot in a Saskatchewan penitentiary, involving 185 inmates and resulting in the death of a prisoner, reportedly arose over meal portion sizes.

In the given circumstances, with inadequate resources, prison administrations have some trouble coping. One of the go-to solutions is to put inmates into solitary confinement, often for periods which, under international agreements, are forbidden and constitute cruel punishment. The United Nations considers 15 consecutive days of solitary confinement to be a form of torture.

In Canada, cases include Ashley Smith, who committed suicide after 1000 days, Adam Capay, segregated (in a provincial jail) for almost four years, Chris Brazeau who was segregated for periods of up to a year, and others.

In particular, inmates with mental health issues find themselves isolated for long periods, in the absence of treatment options.

In mid-December, Superior Court Justice Paul Perell ruled that a class action lawsuit seeking compensation for mistreatment in federal jails could proceed.

The suit against the Canadian Ministry of Justice is seeking \$600 million for thousands (potentially tens of thousands) of current and former prisoners with diagnosed mental illnesses.

Under public pressure because of Adam Capay, and facing a review in January of its use of solitary confinement, the government of Ontario announced in December that it would spend \$33 million to ease the “immediate pressures” in its jails by hiring 239 additional staff and upgrading recreational areas.

However, the government of Ontario has a reputation for under-delivering on promises.

Jobs Picture Remains Bleak

Following the November employment survey issued by Statistics Canada, headlines crowed about 10,700 added jobs. The details gave little to crow about.

The report showed that the Canadian economy lost another 8,700 full-time jobs. Whatever the government, the commercial press, or anyone else may think, the 19,400 part-time positions which were added do not “more than offset” the losses.

Compared to a year earlier, November, 2015, Canada lost 30,500 full-time jobs, while adding 213,700 part-time positions. Manufacturing and

construction were hit hard

Those numbers include full-time workers who were fired and replaced by two or three part-time workers. The lost full-time job represents hardship for an entire family, including the children, but more profit to the company through lower pay rates and, more significant, elimination of the costs of fringe benefits.

The rate of unemployment fell slightly, as fewer people (now happily employed part time) were looking for work.

Eliminate good full time work in favour of precarious part time jobs — quite the way to fight child poverty!

Rise in Refugee Claimants from USA

Before the US elections in November, 2016, many people said that they would move to Canada if Donald Trump won. Such declarations are not uncommon in pre-election periods, apparently, and are seldom followed by action.

In November, 2016, however, there was a noticeable increase in the number of Americans seeking refugee status in Canada. Compared to a year earlier, when five applied, there was a five-fold increase to 28 applicants in November, 2106. The numbers are small, but...

It is unlikely that the refugee claimants were the high-profile people who made their declarations in the autumn. If they do move, they will probably choose other paths.

Nevertheless the increase is probably more than coinci-

dence. Many people feel threatened in the USA, and many have actually experienced attacks, in the wake of an election campaign which evoked racism, homophobia, misogyny, and other hostile attitudes — and gave permission for their expression.

Many people in the USA, it seems, including many children, are living in fear not only of their neighbours, but also of the possible actions of Congress and President Trump.

Normally, refugee claims from the USA find little favour in Canada (not one succeeded in 2015). However, a Trump presidency with a Republican Congress may create conditions producing applications which must be treated seriously.

Only time will tell.

Banks Hit New Highs

It can never be repeated too often that, The richer the banks get, the poorer the rest of us get.”

As concerns rise, once again, about the levels of debt incurred by the people of Canada, the annual financial reports of the big banks reveal yet another year of record profits.

The first to report in November was Scotiabank. This bank reported a net income of \$7.37 billion — yes, that’s billion — up from \$7.21 billion the year before. That’s an added \$160 million!

The Royal Bank of Canada failed to meet its targets in the fourth quarter, but still ended up with a record-profit year. Its net income of the 2016 fiscal year was \$10.46 billion. That was \$430 million more than last year’s \$10.03 billion!

Looking forward, RBC President and Chief Executive

Officer Dave McKay said the bank was lowering its expectations for return on investment — to 16%. (How much do they pay on your investments?) With their lowered expectations, their actual results will look so much better.

The TD Bank group reported net income of \$8.936 billion, up by \$912 million over the \$8.024 billion reported in 2015 — that’s an increase of almost 11.4%!

CIBC also had a good year, with net income of \$4.3 billion (up by 700 million from last year’s \$3.6 billion) and a return on equity of 19.9%.

The year, the Bank of Montreal “earned” \$4.63 billion, up \$220 million from last year’s \$4.41 billion.

The five big banks had total profits of \$35.69 billion, an increase of 7% from last year. Think about that when they increase their fees in 2017.

Breakfast Council

Butter or margarine? How many eggs is too many for health? Is beef or pork the healthier meat? Does smoking cause cancer?

The latest recommendation on which food is better for you, and even what practice will kill you, seems so often to depend on which marketing board or company is doing a major promotion or advertising campaign.

Invariably the claims are said to be supported by an expert or a board of specialists, whether it be “nine out of ten dentists”, a “renowned expert in the field” who has “studied the subject for umpteens years”, or a “council on this or that”.

Why should breakfast cereal be any different?

Well, it isn’t.

An Associated Press story

by Candice Choi in November, 2016, revealed that cereal-maker Kellogg was the power behind the Breakfast Council highlighted on the Kellogg website.

The council of “independent experts” was actually people paid an average of \$13,000 annually, given talking points, and prohibited from provided media services for “products competitive or negative to cereal”.

Among the ways in which Kellogg used the Breakfast Council was to try to influence the US governments dietary guidelines.

Associated Press evidence for the revelations included a copy of a contract and e-mails.

The council, which existed from 2011 to 2016, has been discontinued.

Canada’s Economy Still in Trouble

The economic news is not good for Canada. A strong surge in sales of energy saw real gross domestic product grow at an annual rate of 3.5%, but if the energy sector is removed the growth was only 0.1%.

In the third quarter, exports of goods and services grew by 2.2%, but that was preceded by a drop of 3.9% in the second quarter.

There was a continuing decline in business investment, which would suggest slow growth, if any at all.

If the threat of isolationism growing from the election of Donald Trump materializes, Canada could be in serious trouble indeed. Canada had a global trade deficit of \$1.1 billion in October, but a trade surplus of \$3.0 billion with the

USA. That would be a lot to lose.

Even without the Trump threat, however, Canada has been facing trading problems.

For the first time ever, Canada is being edged out as the second largest exporter of goods to the USA. Mexico, the third member of the North American Free Trade agreement, is growing as a car manufacturer, and in the first 10 months of 2016, shipped twice as much car value to the USA as Canada.

However, cars are not the only problem. Canadian exports to the USA dropped by 7.7% in the first 10 months of 2016.

Aside from the USA, Canada has a trade deficit of billions of dollars with the rest of the world.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.**Looking to the Future**

AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY

In the cusp between one year and the next, it is traditional to review the old year and prophesy the new. Today, I will go with tradition, albeit in a limited way.

It strikes me that, in 2016, we started to hear more mainstream voices talking about the need to change capitalism or face revolution. In some measure and in some way, we started to see the revolution, in the form of Brexit and the election of Donald Trump.

What we have not seen is any change which would alleviate the despair of so many working people, reduced to no work or precarious work. I dare to say that we shall not see any such changes — certainly not to any significant extent.

Furthermore, the “revolutions” we have seen will neither ease the condition of the working people nor reduce the deepening chasm between the workers and the owners. Quite the contrary, Brexit and President Trump will make worse the state of those who, with little or nothing to lose, lashed out against the status quo.

Systemic pressure continues to be toward more of the same, because it is a law of this society to eat or be eaten, to grow or die. Ultimately, only a real revolution, a revolution which sweeps away the capitalist system and its need for acquisition, can bring an end to the pain.

Perhaps it's more a hope than an expectation, but perhaps the new year will bring a growing realization among wider circles of people that lashing out won't help, that moderating capitalism won't happen, that something entirely different is required.

Such fundamental change will not happen in 2017, but perhaps movement toward it will.

However, there will be some movement in 2017. It looks probable that Europe, and perhaps North America, will continue to decline in influence and power, and countries like India and China will continue to grow in stature. This will mean heightened international competition, higher levels of global militarization, and a greater danger of more and bigger wars.

Global warming will not be stopped, let alone reversed. For most people, the world will become a harder, meaner place; the privileged few will feel more threatened and not be able to do anything to ease their fears.

On the positive side, the world will not stop and human civilization will not come to an end — at least, not in 2017.

All this seems like a safe bet, but then, so did dismissing the possible election of Donald Trump.

Lesya Ukrainka

Larysa Petrivna Kosach-Kvitka, better known under her literary pseudonym Lesya Ukrainka was one of Ukraine's best-known poets and writers, and the foremost woman writer in Ukrainian literature. She was also a political, civil, and feminist activist.

Ukrainka was born in 1871 in the town of Novohrad-Volynskiy of Ukraine. She was the second child of Ukrainian writer and publisher Olha Drahomanova-Kosach, better known under her literary pseudonym Olena Pchilka.

Ukrainka's father was Petro Antonovych Kosach, who came from the northern part of Chemihiv province.

Despite his non-Ukrainian (Belarusian) background, Kosach was devoted to the advancement of Ukrainian culture and financially supported Ukrainian publishing ventures.

Lesya knew English, German, French, Italian, Greek, Latin, Polish, Russian, Bulgarian, and her native Ukrainian.

Lesya's mother, a poet, wrote poetry and short stories for children, in Ukrainian. She was also active in the women's movement and published a feminist almanac.

Ukrainka's mother played a significant role in her upbringing. The Ukrainian language was the only language used in the household, and to enforce this practice, the children were educated by Ukrainian tutors at home.

Ukrainka learned how to read at the age of four, and could read foreign languages well enough to read literature in the original.

By the time she was eight, Ukrainka wrote her first poem, “Hope”, which was composed in reaction to the arrest and exile of her aunt, Olena Kosach, for taking part in a political movement against the tsarist autocracy.

In 1879, her family moved to Lutsk.

It was at this time that her uncle, Mykhaylo Drahomanov, encouraged her to study Ukrainian folk songs, folk stories, and history, as well to

peruse the Bible for its inspired poetry and eternal themes.

She also was influenced by the well-known composer Mykola Lysenko, and the famous Ukrainian dramatist and poet Mykhailo Starytsky.

At age thirteen, her first published poem, “Lily of the Valley”, appeared in the journal *Zoria* in Lviv. It was here that she first used her pseudonym, which was suggested by her mother, because in the Russian Empire, publications in the Ukrainian language were forbidden.

Ukrainka's first collection of poetry had to be published secretly in western Ukraine and smuggled into Kyiv.

The poems and plays of Ukrainka are associated with her belief in her country's freedom and independence. Between 1895 and 1897, she became a member of the Literary and Artistic Society in Kyiv, which was banned in 1905 because of its relations with revolutionary activists.

In 1888, when Ukrainka was seventeen, she and her brother organized a literary circle called Pleyada (The Pleiades), which they founded to promote the development of Ukrainian literature and translation of foreign classics into Ukrainian.

The organization's gatherings were joined by Mykola Lysenko, P. Kosach, Kostiantyn Mykhalchuk, Mykhailo Starytsky, and others.

One of the works they translated was Nikolai Gogol's *Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka*.

Taras Shevchenko and Ivan Franko were the main inspiration of her early poetry, which was associated with the poet's loneliness, social isolation and adoration of the Ukrainian nation's freedom. Her first collection of poetry, *Na krylakh pisen' (On the Wings of Songs)*, was published in 1893.

Since Ukrainian publications were banned by the Russian Empire, this book was published in Western Ukraine, which was part of Austria-Hungary at the time, and

smuggled into Kyiv.

Ukrainka's illness made it necessary for her to travel to places where the climate was dry. As a result, she spent extended periods of time in Germany, Austria, Italy, Bulgaria, Crimea, the Caucasus, and Egypt. She loved experiencing other cultures, which was evident in her literary works such as *The Ancient History of Oriental Peoples*. The book was published in Lviv. It included her early poems, such as “Seven Strings”, “The Starry Sky”, “Tears-Pearls”, “The Journey to the Sea”, “Crimean Memories”, and “In the Children's Circle”.

Ukrainka also wrote epic poems, prose dramas, prose, several articles of literary criticism, and a number of socio-political essays. She was best known for her plays *Boyarynya (The Noblewoman)*, a psychological tragedy centred on the Ukrainian family in the 17th century, and *Lisova pisnya (The Forest Song)*, the characters of which include mythological beings from Ukrainian folklore.

In 1897, while being treated in Yalta, Ukrainka met Serhiy Merzhynsky, an official from Minsk who was also receiving treatment for tuberculosis. Her feelings for Merzhynsky were responsible for “Your Letters Always Smell of Withered Roses”, “To Leave Everything and Fly to You”, and “I'd Like to Wind Around You Like Ivy”, which were unpublished in her lifetime. Merzhynsky died on March 3, 1901. She wrote the entire dramatic poem “Oderzhyma” (“The Possessed”) in one night at his deathbed.

Ukrainka actively opposed Russian tsarism and was a member of Ukrainian Marxist organizations. In 1902 she translated the *Communist Manifesto* into Ukrainian. She was briefly arrested in 1907 by tsarist police, and remained under surveillance thereafter.

In 1907, Ukrainka married Klyment Kvitka, a court official. They settled first in Crimea, then moved to Georgia.

Ukrainka died on August 1, 1913 at a health resort in Surami, Georgia.

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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.

“Defence” Spending Continues to Grow

It may be a bit of a shock to learn that global spending on arms in 2015 could be described as “lacklustre”, but that seems to be how it is characterized by the annual *Jane’s Defence Budget Reports*, released in London on December 12 by IHS Markit.

However, if you are an arms manufacturer, don’t worry — the report says that your market picked up in 2016 to \$1.57 trillion, and the outlook is for “a decade of stronger global defence expenditure”.

“Defence spending should recover to pre-financial crisis levels by 2018,” according to Fenella McGerty, principal analyst at IHS Jane’s.

The IHS Jane’s Defence Budgets team produces the annual *Jane’s Defence Budget Report* every December. The report examines and forecasts defence expenditure for countries and captures 99% of global defence spending.

Among other things, the 2016 IHS *Jane’s Defence Budget Report* says, concerning the **Asia Pacific** (APAC) that the gradual shift in focus from territorial defence to power projection could prompt even faster budget growth in APAC in the medium term. Defence spending in this area has boomed in recent years, driven by economic expansion in the region. Rising tensions around the South China Sea could see growth accelerate further.

Between 2011 and 2015, the key states surrounding the South China Sea spent \$166 billion on the procurement of defence equipment. Between 2016 and 2020, that number is expected to increase to \$250 billion, with priorities shifting towards air and naval capabilities.

“A key trend in APAC is the shift from a traditional focus on territorial defence towards power projection,” said Craig Caffrey, principal analyst, IHS Jane’s. “This is new for the region and is likely to increase military-to-military contact between states. Rising defence spending could therefore be indirectly responsible for increased tension within the region which in turn, could spur faster budget growth.”

China’s defence budget will almost double within 10 years — from \$123 billion in 2010 to \$233 billion in 2020. By 2020, China’s defence budget will be about four times bigger than the UK’s and more than the entire Western European regional defence spend combined.

By 2025, China is expected to outspend all other states in APAC combined.

In 2016, **India** overtook

Saudi Arabia and Russia to become the country with the fourth biggest defence budget in the world for the first time. The modernisation drive has pushed India above Saudi Arabia and Russia. With growth expected to accelerate over the next two years, India will become the third largest defence budget globally in 2018, surpassing the UK.

“Procurement spending has been constrained in India over the last three years as personnel costs have increased,” Craig Caffrey said. “However, what we expect to see from 2017 onwards is a military focused on modernisation. India needs new equipment to fulfil its modernisation drive. Over the next three years, India will re-emerge as a key growth market for defence suppliers.”

Instability in the **Middle East** has ensured that defence spending continues to be protected from significant cuts, despite the budgetary constraints caused by low oil prices.

Despite fiscal concerns and a lower oil price, defence budgets in the Middle East are forecast to recover to the spending highs of 2014 by 2019 at the latest.

The Middle East was the fastest growing region in terms of defence spending between 2012 and 2014. Spending dipped due to the dramatic drop in oil prices. However, even at the ‘low point’, regional defence spending in 2015 and 2016 will still be higher than 2013 figures.

“We’ve seen a pause in growth in the Gulf States as a result of the collapse in oil prices,” Caffrey said. “However, generally speaking, defence has been protected from cuts due to regional instability. In the cases of **Kuwait** and **Qatar**, we’ve actually seen significant increases in defence spending.”

Saudi Arabia’s defence budget dipped slightly from \$50.5 billion in 2015 to \$48.7 billion in 2016. **Algeria’s** defence budget increases since 2010 pushed the country into the top 20 this year.

NATO defence expenditure increased for the first time since 2010 as a result of an end to cuts in the US and stronger growth in Europe in response to growing strategic challenges posed by the Islamic State and Russia.

A deteriorating security situation has caused **Western European** defence budgets to rise for the first time in six years. Approximately \$10 billion will be added to Western European defence budgets across the next five years.

“Fuelled by an increasingly

uncertain security environment and growing international pressure, Western European defence spending increased for the first time since 2009 and we expect growth to continue to strengthen over the next decade,” McGerty said. “However, growth could be set back if the region’s economic recovery is derailed by the ongoing difficulties in Southern Europe as well as uncertainty surrounding the UK’s negotiations to leave the EU.”

The combined defence budget for the **European Union** in 2016 is \$219 billion. In 2020, the combined defence budget will be \$230.4 billion, China’s defence budget will be bigger than the European Union’s in 2020.

If a weaker pound persists, India will spend more on defence than the **UK** by 2018 — pushing the UK out of the top three. In 2015, the UK’s defence budget was \$53.5 billion. It slightly increased to \$53.8 billion in 2016 and will rise to \$55.1 billion by 2020.

Baltic region statelets have the fastest rate of growth of military spending. Tensions with their neighbour, Russia, will boost defence spending from \$981 million in 2014 to \$2.1 billion by 2020. The region is starting from a small number, but is growing faster than any other.

Since the Ukraine crisis began, defence investment in the Baltics has doubled and will double again in the next two years. “The profile of defence spending in the Baltics has changed dramatically in the past two years,” McGerty said.

In 2005, the region’s total defence spending came to \$930 million in real terms. By 2014, this had grown marginally to \$981 million but by 2016, it had soared to \$1.45 billion.

“Their defence budgets will all be over 2 percent of GDP by 2018, and each country will have doubled or tripled their budgets from 10 years ago. Annual growth in the region reached 27 percent in 2016 and by 2020, the region’s defence spending will reach \$2.1 billion. This growth is faster than any other region globally,” McGerty said.

Japan’s defence budget will hover around the \$41 billion mark between now and 2020. “Although the Abe administration has started to increase defence spending after a decade of cuts, there are still

severe budgetary constraints in place in Japan,” said Paul Burton, director, IHS Jane’s. “Japan cannot realistically match the kind of budget growth we continue to see in China, so the government is focusing upon spending its defence budget more efficiently and trying to provide more capability for the same amount of money.”

2015 is expected to represent the zenith of **Russian** defence expenditures for the foreseeable future. The 2016 budget included the first reduction in Russian defence expenditures seen since the late 1990s and this year saw Russia drop to the number six position — the first time it has been out of the top five in years.

“The surge in Indian defence spending pushed Russia below Saudi Arabia and down into the number six slot,” Caffrey said. “We expect the Russian defence budget to fall again next year and it will sit below France in the number seven position by 2020, based on current plans, with a total defence budget of \$41.4 billion.”

Since September 11, 2001, (9/11) over \$9.35 trillion has been allocated to the **US** defence budget. In 2016, the US defence budget rose to \$622 billion from \$615.7 billion in 2015. The 2016 US figure represents about 40 percent of the year’s global defence spend.

“Since 9/11, over \$9.35 trillion has been allocated to the US defence budget, with the Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) accounting for \$1.62 trillion or 17.3 percent of the total US Department of Defence budget,” said Guy Eastman, senior ana-

lyst, IHS Jane’s. After 9/11 a buildup took place through 2010 to support operations in the Middle East and elsewhere, followed by decreasing OCO budgets and troop reductions, bringing the US Department of Defence (DoD) budget to the 2016 value of \$622 billion.

“US DoD investment levels going forward were to decrease by 1.1 percent in real terms, but with the election of Donald Trump, the expectation is that both investment and readiness will receive injections of much-needed funds,” Eastman said.


About 45 percent of investment funding will go toward procurement and modification of aircraft, ship, submarine and military ground vehicle platforms. When the new administration takes office in January, 2017, actions toward the proposed goals to increase ground forces, increased ship and tactical aircraft numbers and readiness levels will commence along with RDT&E investment in innovation, according to the IHS Jane’s report.

(The IHS *Jane’s Annual Defence Budgets Report* is the world’s most comprehensive, forward-looking study of governments’ defence budgets. Tracking 99 percent of the global defence expenditure from 105 of the world’s largest defence budgets, data is compiled from IHS Jane’s Defence Budgets online solution platform. It includes five-year forecasts, historical data, budget charting, trend evaluation and in-depth analysis by country. In this study, values are based on constant 2016 US dollars. The intelligence cut off for this report is 6 December 2016.)

TOP 20 DEFENCE BUDGETS FOR 2015 AND 2016 (IN MILLIONS US DOLLARS). FOR THIS STUDY, VALUES BASED ON CONSTANT 2016 US DOLLARS.

2015		2016	
1 United States	615,746	1 United States	622,035
2 China	180,523	2 China	191,752
3 United Kingdom	53,532	3 United Kingdom	53,811
4 Russian Federation	51,844	4 India	50,678
5 Saudi Arabia	50,531	5 Saudi Arabia	48,686
6 India	46,645	6 Russian Federation	48,446
7 France	44,244	7 France	44,349
8 Japan	42,192	8 Japan	41,686
9 Germany	35,935	9 Germany	35,754
10 Korea, South	32,275	10 Korea, South	33,477
Top 10 Total	1,153,467	Top 10 Total	1,170,674
% Global Spending	74%	% Global Spending	75%
11 Australia	27,445	11 Australia	26,842
12 Brazil	24,439	12 Italy	23,055
13 Italy	22,986	13 Brazil	22,936
14 UAE*	18,584	14 UAE	19,063
15 Canada	14,658	15 Canada	14,015
16 Taiwan	13,711	16 Israel	13,805
17 Israel	13,277	17 Taiwan	13,791
18 Turkey	12,131	18 Turkey	12,709
19 Spain	10,991	19 Spain	11,008
20 Iraq	10,653	20 Algeria	10,460
Top 20 Total	1,322,341	Top 20 Total	1,338,358
Global Total 2015	1,553,612	Global Total 2016	1,568,440

*United Arab Emirates



The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians hosts

Malanka

A Ukrainian New Year's Celebration

Saturday, January 21, 2017

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
805 East Pender Street
Vancouver, B.C.

5:30 p.m. Doors open for cocktails

6:15 p.m. Ukrainian programme by the Vancouver AUUC performing arts groups

Then Ukrainian New Year's traditional buffet dinner, followed by dancing to live music

Admission: \$50.00/person
Dance only tickets available.
\$10.00 admittance after 9:00 p.m.
Don't be disappointed – get your tickets before they sell out.
For tickets, call (604)254-3436

NC AUUC Plans Celebration

The newly elected National Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians held its first post-Convention meeting in mid-November in Winnipeg.

The full National Committee, with Alternate Members and invited guests, met for a two-day event. The first day dealt with routine AUUC/NC concerns; the second day was devoted almost exclusively to discussion of the upcoming 100th anniversary of the AUUC in 2018.

The next issue of the "Herald" will have a full report on the proceedings of the meeting, but I would like to give you some insight into the decisions made regarding the 100th anniversary.

The attendees came to the meeting with much enthusiasm, and with an underlying hope that an event as grand and inspiring as past presentations which marked significant AUUC events could be presented for this 100th anniversary.

With this in mind, on the second day, the large group split into four smaller groups in which discussions took

place, analyses were expressed, estimates and tallies of potential contributors were weighed, and suggestions for other types of events were generated. The group discussions were comprehensive and all-embracing, and included a multitude of ideas.

The groups reassembled into a "Committee of the Whole", and presented their findings and preferences to each other. The discussion was intensive and somewhat frank, but at the end of the day decisions had been made.

Perhaps the most significant was the decision not to stage a National Festival of Music Song and Dance. This was a disappointment for many NC members, but after considering the realities of today's AUUC, there was an understanding that a National Festival would be an overwhelming task.

There was agreement to emphasize local and regional events.

In addition to celebrating 100 years of cultural achievement, it was acknowledged that the AUUC and its forerunners were much more than music, song and dance.

Toronto AUUC Executive Christmas



On Wednesday, December 14, AUUC Toronto Branch Executive, with a few guests, gathered for their annual pot luck Christmas luncheon at the AUUC Cultural Centre. Attending this year were: (seated left to right) Bill Harasym, whose contribution over the years has been invaluable; Vera Borusiewich; Nancy Stewart, Branch Treasurer; Natalka Mochoruk, Executive Member; (standing left to right) George Borusiewich, Executive Member; Bernardine Dobrowolsky, Branch Recording Secretary; Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, Shevchenko Museum Director; Jerry Dobrowolsky, Branch President; Lorna Clark, Executive Member; and Wilfred Szczesny. Not attending were Executive Member Connie Prince and Hall Manager Mark Stewart.

There was no secret eleventh person. The picture was taken by George Borusiewich, who was then photoshopped into the photo by Jerry Dobrowolsky, using an image Jerry had captured.

This also had to be noted and celebrated. The year 2017 would see the start of a three-year timeline of celebrations — 2017, 2018, 2019.

The year 2017 is Canada's 150th celebration and the 100th anniversary of the Welland Ukrainian Labour Temple. 2018 is the 100th anniversary of the AUUC and its forerunners, the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association (ULTA) and the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association (ULFTA), and of the start of construction in Winnipeg of the Ukrainian Labour Temple. 2019 marks the 100th Anniversary of the Winnipeg General Strike, during which the ULTA and the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party (USDP) supported and encouraged the rise of unionism (One Big Union) and labour solidarity in Canada.

It was the desire of the National Committee that a Centennial Celebration Committee be established immediately, with each active Branch of the AUUC electing/naming an individual to sit on this committee. The National President and the National Treasurer would also be part of this group.

The purpose of the Committee would be to work with the Branches to coordinate, to assist and help plan various activities in each Branch and region to celebrate events as

they relate to the AUUC and its forerunners. It was proposed that this Centennial Celebration Committee would call its first meeting in early 2017, and for the most part it would meet via telephone conference call.

The National Committee also decided to launch a logo contest for the creation of an official AUUC logo for the 2018, 100th anniversary year, of the AUUC. The contest starts now, is open to all, and closes on March 1, 2017. The design criteria include: the

green AUUC maple leaf; the dates 1918 – 2018; trilingual – English, Ukrainian and French; and no blue/yellow *tryzub* (trident). The logo will be used on promotional posters for all centennial events and on a national letterhead, and be adapted to fit on a lapel pin and/or other promotional items.

All are encouraged and invited to submit a design.

— **Bob Seychuk**
(Mr. Seychuk is the National President of the AUUC.)

Welland Perogy Makers Party

On Sunday, December 4, the perogy makers of the Welland Shevchenko Seniors and AUUC Welland Branch, with their guests, gathered at the Ukrainian Labour Temple for a well-earned Christmas celebration, to enjoy each other's company in a relaxed and informal context.

This year, the pizza and wings traditionally served at this event gave way to a catered turkey and ham dinner with all the trimmings. Of course, among the sides were the delicious perogies which they lovingly produce every two weeks.

Presiding over whatever formalities were required for the meal was Shevchenko Seniors President Joan Sitak, with ready help from the group. Mainly, that meant supervising the raffling of the two poinsettias that decorated each table.

When the meal was done, the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra (AUUC), conducted by Rudy Wasylenky, took their places to present a program of 17 numbers. Most of the selections were songs of the season, with a smattering of other numbers.

Vocal soloists would have been Margaret Card, Wayne Hosick and Wilfred Szczesny — "would have been", because the audience (encouraged by the singers, the Master of Ceremonies and the conductor) wholeheartedly joined the singing of the well-known tunes.

When they weren't singing, some audience members were happy to dance to such lively numbers as "Pennsylvania Polka" and "Beer Barrel Polka".

Master of Ceremonies for the concert was Bill Luken.

— **Carl Honor**

**Why not
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now?**

**Canadian Society
for
Ukrainian Labour
Research**

A HAPPY 2016 TO ALL

Sophie Nemis Celebrates 100th

On Saturday, December 3, about 135 guests gathered at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg to celebrate Sophie Nemis's 100th birthday. Family and friends were joined by some 60 talented performing artists who presented a celebratory concert.

Guests greeted Sophie, who was elegantly dressed in a long, black, sequined dress, with a black bow in her hair and flawless make-up. She looked years younger, as she proudly surveyed the room with a beaming smile, knowing that this was a very special birthday.

According to her daughter Jean Anderson, who created the event and was the MC, "Sophie has the most amazing memory, and after seventy years of attending every concert, remembers everyone by name, pleasing her guests."

Sophie Borris was the first of seven children, and outlived all her siblings: Stella, Mary, Ollie, Johnny, Eugene and Mike.

She was born in Detroit, and at two years old moved to a farm near Poplarville, Manitoba, where she learned the survival skills necessary for her long life. At seven years old, she was getting up at five in the morning to help her mother with the many farm chores; at eight she learned to sew; at nine she learned to bake bread; and at ten she could run the farm. She could saddle a horse, or harness one to a plough or a horse-drawn grass mower.

There was no central heating, electricity, plumbing, appliances, TV, radio or telephone. She learned to live off the land. She watched her mother give birth to six of her siblings in a two-room farm house.

She learned early that there was no such thing as an excuse, and never, "I don't want to do that." She learned to tough it out at an early age;



The four dances by the Yunist Senior Dancers were high-energy, innovative, and fast-paced.

crying was not allowed. There was no time to feel sorry for yourself. She learned early the meaning of good nutrition, and passed her skills on to her children.

"She learned as a young girl to be resilient, to be responsible, disciplined, creative, innovative and patient, with a strong work ethic. She built strong inner foundations. These virtues overflowed, creating enough love and respect for herself, with so much left over for others," said Jean in a heartwarming tribute to her Mom, a story encapsulating Sophie's outstanding life.

Attending the event, many of them travelling from Toronto, were:

Sophie's nieces and nephews — Sandra Graham, Patsy Ignaczewski, Fred Borris



Sophie spoke with many well-wishers



Wishing Sophie a happy birthday are (left to right) orchestra director Annis Kozub, Sophie's daughter Jean Anderson, and Annis's sister Ilena Zaramba.

(with Marilyn), Rozanne, Darla, Donna, Lisa and Jimmy Stackaruk, and Linda and Diana Borris;

Sophie's six children — Patricia Dzatko, Jean Anderson, and Mary, Dan, Len and Robert Nemis;

Sophie's nine grandchildren — Lisa and Lara Dzatko, Jaclyn, Michelle and Brandon Nemis, Jeannie Alexander, Mikyla Hildebrand, and Allie and Sam Nemis; and

Sophie's seven great-grandchildren — Sophie and Max, Brady and Walter, Brooke and Ava, and Felix.

The celebration began with the Festival Choir, directed by Lina Streltsov and accompanied by pianist Anna Khomenko. The group performed three beautiful, well-loved songs, sending joy through the audience.

Sophie's smile never stopped — she was overjoyed.

The Yunist Senior Dancers, directed by Elise Pierre, delighted the audience with four high-energy, innovative, and fast-paced dances. Their stunning performances and their vibrant costumes created a magic that radiated throughout their dances.

Talented Annis Kozub, conductor of the Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, led his twenty-two musicians through a varied set of instrumental music that intoxicated the listeners.

The talent kept coming, with soloist Ilena Zaramba, accompanied by her sister Tusia Kozub on piano, singing two heartwarming songs that exuded passion.

The junior dance group, instructed by Kim Boss, showed much promising talent, stirring the audience to clap with excitement.

To conclude the concert, the Three Blind Mice (Annis Kozub, Ilena Zaramba, and Murray MacKay) mesmerized the guests with three high-energy songs in beautiful harmony to create a grand finale.

A delicious, full-service, catered turkey dinner was served by Ludwick Catering, (Continued on Page 8.)



Sophie and her children: Patricia Dzatko, Mary Nemis, Jean Anderson, and Dan, Len and Robert Nemis.



Grandchildren and great-grandchildren were among those present



The Yunist Senior Dancers presented four dances in concert before posing with Sophie.

— Story photos: Michelle Nemis, Holly Oleson and Dennis Lewycky.



The Festival Choir sang three songs during the concert, and performed a beautiful rendition of "Mnohaya lita" to wish Sophie a happy birthday.

Refugees and Family Reunification

Recently, the Federal Liberal Government announced immigration targets for 2017. The total target for all immigrant classes remained stable at 300,000, but economic class immigrants were disproportionately prioritized. “Economic class” immigrants increased from a target of 160,600 in 2016 to a target of 172,500.

“Family class” increased from a target of 80,000 to 84,000. “Refugees and Protected Persons” decreased from 55,800 to 40,000. “Humanitarian and Compassionate and Other” decreased from 3,600 to 3,500.

The above numbers suggest a relative tilt away from the humanitarian objectives and towards using immigration to “build the economy”. This trend has been occurring for some time. In recent years, Canada’s immigration system has witnessed an increase in low-skilled migrants, and, in the majority of instances, the foreclosing of pathways to permanent residency for them, the liberalizing of conditions of entry for business class and high-skilled immigrants, and restricted entry for family members of economic migrants.

We must re-orient our thinking from narrowly calculating the economic contributions and costs of newcomers to considering what makes sense for families as a whole.

Family disunity affects refugee families who are being

relocated for humanitarian, not economic, purposes. The Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) is calling for an express entry program for family reunification, which would commit to reuniting children with their parents in a maximum of six months.

Why is such a commitment necessary? The CCR reports that many children wait over two years before being reunited with their parent(s) in Canada, and that overseas processing of family members of refugees takes an average of 31 months.

Furthermore, Canada is a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which confers a legal obligation to process applications that would reunite parents and children “in a positive, human and expeditious manner”.

The CCR notes numerous barriers to family reunification for refugees, including “a narrow definition of family (excluding, for example, non-biological children), costly and time-consuming DNA testing, bars on sponsorship if the sponsor is receiving social assistance, a category of ‘excluded family members,’ and administrative delays”.

Overseas family members often remain in conflict zones and in acute danger. Some have died or disappeared with applications in process.

In 2002, the federal government created a category of excluded family members, which imposes a lifetime ban

on the sponsorship of a family member who was not examined by an immigration officer when the sponsor immigrated to Canada. Such a rule discriminates against emerging from the chaos of conflict zones.

Refugees experiencing delays, if not permanent obstacles, to family reunification are denied the security and stability provided by both nuclear and extended family networks. Family reunification restores basic dignity to their lives and enhances their emotional and physical well-being. Moreover, it is essential to facilitating both short and long term settlement in Canada.

In addition to the interpersonal and emotional, physical, and mental health consequences attributed to being apart from one’s family, prolonged family separation also has economic implications. Refugees who have resettled in Canada often send remittances to their family members who remain abroad. Remitting portions of one’s income puts a significant amount of stress on the family member in Canada who, as a recently arrived refugee, often takes entry level, precarious, and poorly-compensated work or remains on social assistance.

Therefore, sending money to their families can be a fi-

nancial burden as it causes difficulties paying for basic living necessities, such as food and housing.

In our ongoing research into the housing situations of resettled refugees in Winnipeg, we constantly hear stories from members of families who remain separated across international borders. In some cases, the person or family in Winnipeg is supporting family members overseas who have no aspirations to move. But others are separated from their immediate family and awaiting reunification.

One of our interviewees, originally from Congo, who has resettled in Winnipeg with his wife and four children but who has two children remaining in Africa, told us the following:

I cannot sleep because my kids are always calling me to ask for money. They don’t have shoes, they don’t have clothes. All the money we get here, we just send to these kids. Sometimes we send money, but those people taking care of the kids don’t use the money the way we want. If it is possible for our kids to finally come to Canada, that would be great. We would like to know; we informed them [immigration officials] about our kids in Africa; why is it taking so long?

Expediting family reunification for refugees makes both

ethical and economic sense.

While refugee-serving organizations across the country continued to seek expedited family reunification, an Express Entry program for certain economic immigration streams (the Federal Skilled Worker Program, Federal Skilled Trades Program, Canadian Experience Class and “a portion of the Provincial Nominee program”) was launched in January, 2015.

Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) reports that “[with this] program the processing time commitment of 6-months for 80% of cases has been met.”

If economic immigrants who have been selected as a “flexible” solution to labour requirements of Canadian businesses can receive express entry, then Canada’s immigration system has demonstrated the capacity to process applicants in an expedited manner. Why can’t the same be achieved for the children and other family members of resettled refugees?

(References available upon request.)

— Ray Silviou
— Emily Halldorson
— Jessica Praznik

(Printed by permission of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. Original title: “Towards a Family-Friendly Immigration System: Refugees and Family Reunification”)

Sophie Nemis’s 100th

(Continued from Page 7.)

in a hall gloriously decorated with white tablecloths, red napkins and glistening red balloons. Of course, a champagne toast to Sophie was part of the exquisite banquet.

The birthday celebration would not have been complete without “Happy Birthday”, sung by all her well-wishers, and a Ukrainian birthday celebration would not have been complete without a beautiful rendition of “*Mnohaya lita*” by the Festival Choir.

For dessert, the family served the most decadent of chocolate cakes, from High Tea, with four levels, ganache chocolate filling, and white icing in a bed of rich red roses.

As family served the cake and thanked everyone for coming and sharing this most magical and heartwarming day, talented accordionist Mike Moskal wandered among the tables, entertaining the guests and inspiring some of them to dance.

Kathy Schubert, National Treasurer of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadi-

ans, spoke about Sophie. Letters were read from Queen Elizabeth and Governor General Johnston.

During dinner there was a slide show presentation, with over 500 pictures of Sophie’s life, arranged by Jean and John Anderson.

MC Jean Anderson recognized those responsible for making this elegant affair possible. A special “Thank you” to Gloria Gordienko for her endless help; to Emily Halldorson for her support and Eugene Semanowich for his technical and audio support; and to Kathy Schubert, who gave an elegant speech on Sophie’s life, spanning some seventy years.

Special recognition was extended to all the directors, conductors, pianists, soloists and the accordionist.

Sincere thanks to AUUC Winnipeg Branch for allowing the magic of this momentous occasion to unfold.

**With files from
— Jean Anderson and
Dennis Lewycky**

Solving the Food Crisis

There is a food crisis.

Food banks are being swamped with record numbers of people seeking their assistance. Families with two waged breadwinners are having to choose between buying food and paying their rent. School children are losing their breakfasts as school boards cut breakfast program funds.

The pressure to help the environment and sustain small-scale farmers by eating local organic food grown by ecologically sustainable methods is creating feelings of profound guilt in anyone who can not afford to “pay a little extra”.

Additional problems arise from the plethora of free trade agreements which allow agribusiness to market genetically modified Franken-produce containing god-knows-what without trade inhibiting warning labels.

Not only is there a food crisis, but it’s a serious food crisis.

There have been some interesting suggestions for resolving the crisis. Much has been made of the possibility of eating insects, a plentiful renewable source of high-quality protein which can be easily and economically pro-

duced.

For those who can not afford the commercial product, naturally occurring options are available for the harvesting.

Unfortunately, widespread adoption of insects as food would soon lead to problems common to other animal husbandry: unscrupulous practices and rising prices.

The wild varieties would soon become endangered species, as would the birds and other life forms which rely on them.

Another interesting proposal was the product known as Solent green. That one fails due to the need for expensive processing by monopolistic corporations.

There is a possible food source which, so far has not been investigated. It is a source which is plentiful everywhere and available to everyone. It is already widely used, and requires no processing, though it could be prepared in various ways for the discerning palates of gourmets.

Best of all, for the time being it is usually free.

That source is air.

If people were willing to eat air the food crisis could be entirely resolved. “Let them eat cake!” may be an eco-

nomically unsound proposal, but once it was accepted as a foodstuff, “Let them eat air!” would be totally practical.

As a food, air would have great advantages. It contains such lifegiving elements as oxygen, a boon to the entire human body. It contains nitrogen, which in combination with oxygen can lead to great joy.

These are only a few of the very beneficial nutrients in this potential food.

There are other health benefits to air as a food. One is that it has few, if any, calories. If everyone ate air, all the health problems associated with obesity would be eliminated!

The objections to this proposal are incredibly predictable. One would be that air may be plentiful, but clean air is not. But that, in fact, is actually an argument in favour of air as food.

Without extra cost or work people could enjoy the benefits, for example, of additional nutrients like carbon, in the form of soot, carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide, to mention a few. Carbon is an important element in carbohydrates, which our bodies need for energy.

Depending on the location, the air could have a preponderance of other valuable nutrients, like sulphur, in the form
(Continued on Page 10.)

Ukrainian Miscellany

Land Reform in Ukraine

When capitalism was restored in Ukraine, industrial workers were given shares in their enterprises, tenants were given their apartments, and collective farmers were given their share of the farm land. Then wages and pensions were cut off with the clearly bogus claim that there was no money to pay them.

The wage funds and pension funds mysteriously disappeared.

Most workers had to sell their shares, most tenants had to sell their apartments and most farmers had to sell their plots for money to buy food, medicine, and other necessities of life. Just as mysteriously as wage and pension funds had disappeared, people with money appeared — people who were able to buy the shares, housing, and farm land and grow into the plutocrats known as oligarchs.

In 2000, years after collective farms were disbanded, Ukraine banned the sale of

private land. By then, much of the land had been bought by large companies, foreign and domestic. (The ban was enacted to stop further foreign acquisition of land.)

However, even today, 27 million hectares of land are owned by 6.7 million landowners who own an average of about 4 hectares each. Some of this land is worked by its owners, but much more of it is rented to large companies.

Ukrainian agriculture is dominated by large agricultural firms which control approximately 15 percent of the total market. By renting land for a fraction of the cost of buying it, the owners of these businesses are the main beneficiaries of the leasing system. Consequently, they fiercely oppose any change to the system.

The large Ukrainian landowners, who are interested in adding to their holdings while reducing the competition from the renters, are pressing for

changes in the law. So are foreign corporations who are interested in buying the land. Since 2000, a period spanning four different administrations, there have been eight failed attempts to change the law.

They also press for privatization of the 25 million acres of state-owned land.

The efforts to lift the ban on sale of privately held land are encouraged by foreign corporations (who want a bigger piece of the action) and the international institutions (the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, for example) which represent their interests. This land reform is one of the points being urged by the IMF in its program of aid to Ukraine.

A typical argument is one presented by Swedish economist Anders Åslund in a blog in www.atlanticcouncil.org, who wrote, “Ukraine, the breadbasket of Europe, is blessed with fertile black soil. Today it is capable of feeding half of Africa, or 600 million people. But instead of tapping into this fantastic resource, Ukrainian legislators stubbornly refuse to allow the sale of private farmland, which would unleash farmers’ productivity and massively benefit the economy.”

Mr. Åslund, in his blog, promotes a “radically new concept of land reform for Ukraine”, developed by a task force set up for that purpose. The concept calls for a “state-owned regulating company” to act as a referee in the market place and protect private sellers against market manipulators or other unscrupulous behaviour.

At a time when corruption is a major concern in Ukraine, and when public officials look after their private interests first, the idea of a “state-owned regulating company” is reminiscent of the proverbial fox guarding the henhouse.

United States.

Such a development would make the CUFTA far more valuable to Ukraine than was originally expected. Consequently, the pressure will increase to ratify the agreement in Canada and Ukraine before the American President-elect assumes office on January 20.

Trade between Canada and Ukraine has been in the area of US\$210 million annually, mostly Canadian exports to Ukraine. The main benefit to Canada of the CUFTA will be to provide Ukraine as a cheap labour base for production intended for the European Union. While labour in Ukraine is relatively cheap, the work force is third-best educated in Europe, according to Mr. Wrzesnewskyj.

IMF Mission Criticises Ukraine

An International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission, visited Kyiv during November 3-17, to initiate discussions on the third review of the authorities’ economic reform program supported under the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) arrangement. The end of mission statement by Ron van Rooden follows.

The mission held constructive discussions with the authorities on policies needed to complete the third review under the EFF arrangement. While good progress has been made, the authorities need some more time to implement policies to ensure medium-term fiscal sustainability — including adoption of the 2017 budget consistent with program targets — safeguard financial stability, and tackle corruption. Discussions on these policies will continue in the period ahead.

“At the same time, the mission discussed the outlook and challenges of the Ukrainian economy in the context of the 2016 Article IV consultation. After a difficult period, the Ukrainian economy is showing welcome signs of recovery. Decisive policy actions in the past two years have led to a dramatic reduction in external and internal imbalances. Inflation has been successfully brought down, the central bank’s international reserves have increased substantially,

and growth is expected to reach 1½ percent in 2016 and pick up to about 2½ percent in 2017. The strength and durability of the recovery, however, depend crucially on the implementation of ambitious reforms to support Ukraine’s transition to a full-fledged market economy. Per capita GDP (in PPP terms) in Ukraine is still very low—just 20 percent of the EU average, the second lowest level of all Central and Eastern European countries. Faster sustainable and inclusive growth is needed to recover lost ground and improve living standards.

“The authorities’ economic policies should continue to focus on: (i) accelerating reform of the large and inefficient state-owned enterprise sector, improving the business environment, and tackling corruption to attract investment and raise the economy’s potential; (ii) ensuring that wage increases are consistent with improvements in labor productivity, to safeguard competitiveness; (iii) continuing fiscal consolidation to ensure debt sustainability, supported by pension reform and efforts to make the tax system more efficient and growth-friendly, while improving the quality of government spending; (iv) maintaining a cautious monetary policy targeted at further reducing inflation and rebuilding reserves within a flex-

(Continued on Page 10.)

Touting Ukraine’s IT Potential

Ukraine is one of Europe’s poorest countries, with a per capita gross domestic product in 2015, according to the World Bank, of \$2,115 — one quarter of Russia’s and one fifteenth of the EU’s average.

However, Ukrainians are very well educated, with a 99.7% literacy rate — higher than Russia and higher, even, than the European Union.

That suggests that the Ukrainian work force is cheap but good.

Canada sees an opportunity to benefit by investing in Ukraine as a production base, primarily manufacturing, for

sales into the European Union. Ukraine is promoting itself as an opportunity for foreign investment in information technology.

A number of companies have already invested in research and development centres in Ukraine, reflecting a belief that the country could become a major centre in Europe for information technology and other high-tech industries.

With 90,000 IT specialists and over 1000 companies in the field, Ukraine stands out from its Central and East European neighbours.

Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement

The Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement is one of a multitude of bilateral trade agreements which Canada has negotiated. Like most of the others it is designed to protect foreign investors in the two countries.

However, the CUFTA is being touted by the Canadian government and the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce as something more: a signal to Russia that Canada will stand by Ukraine, and encouragement to Ukraine’s economic development.

Such is the message from Boris Wrzesnewskyj, Liberal Member of Parliament, cited

in *The Ukrainian Weekly* on November 24.

The election of Donald Trump to the presidency of the USA, with the possibility that the USA will withdraw from free trade agreements and enter an era of protectionism has now opened speculation about an unanticipated benefit to Ukraine: selling goods into the USA through Canada.

The thought is that, taking advantage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (assuming that agreement will not be terminated) with a minimum of manufacturing in Canada, Ukraine could sell its products into the

Privatization Problems in Ukraine

Ukraine’s Western supporters have been pressing the country to privatize public assets. That appears to be easier recommended than accomplished at this time in Ukraine.

On December 7, the news agency Reuters reported that an effort to sell state-owned Odessa Portside Plant, a fertilizer producer, to private investors had failed — for the second time. In fact, not a single offer was received, though a number of investors had expressed interest, and the base price had been reduced by more than half to \$200 million.

Among the possible reasons deterring potential investors are a company debt of more than \$200 million owed to Dmytro Firtash, who is living in exile, and an ownership dispute involving a group controlled by billionaire Ihor Kolomoisky.

A purchaser could end up in a court fight to establish

ownership.

Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman of Ukraine has blamed the failure of this sale on the incompetence of the State Property Fund.

More generally, however, blame has been attributed (as Natalie Zinets and Alessandra Prentice wrote in the Reuters article) to, “The continued influence of powerful vested interests in politics and business, and weak rule of law, are repeatedly cited as key obstacles on Ukraine’s path to reform.”

In Ukraine, as in many other countries (including Canada), privatizing public assets is seen as a path to budgetary income. Quoting from the article again, “Selling state firms is not an explicit condition of Ukraine’s \$17.5 billion aid program from the International Monetary Fund, but forms part of the fiscal rebalancing the IMF requires.”



The Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg, like all the properties of the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association, was seized in November, 1940, under the Defence of Canada Regulations. It was sold to a right-wing Ukrainian organization.

From Our History

The Case of William Tretiak

On January 6, 1941, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported that William Tretiak of Winnipeg, a McGregor Street barber, was sent to jail for smashing more than 30 windows in the Ukrainian Labour Temple, corner of Pritchard Avenue and McGregor Street. Winnipeg Police Magistrate R. B. Graham sentenced him to ten days in custody.

So far, this is a dog-bites-man story, but it gets more interesting.

On the surface one might have assumed that this was a case of public vandalism on the part of a deranged individual, and paid no more attention to it. However, if one read further into the brief *Winnipeg Free Press* article, one would have noticed that Tretiak was being defended by the young, left-wing Winnipeg lawyer Joseph Zuken!

The article went on to state that Tretiak chose to serve time in custody rather than pay damages of \$35.00 plus one eyewitness fee.

The story gets “curiouser and curiouser”.

Why would Joe Zuken defend someone who committed an act of vandalism against a Hall and organization of which Joe Zuken would have been supportive? The Ukrainian Labour Temple was the site of mass meetings during the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike, and played a leading role in the progressive Northend culture of its day. Surely Joe would have sent Tretiak to some other lawyer.

Secondly, why would anyone choose custodial time over a financial settlement? As a barber on McGregor Street, surely he could have handled a \$35.00 dollar fine.

The “Free Press” article gives us a small clue. Readily admitting to the act of vandalism, Tretiak was acting “in defence of what he believed was a principle”.

The “Free Press” article cast further light on the “principle” involved in Tretiak’s actions and Joe Zuken’s role,

stating, “Tretiak, in testifying, said he was of the opinion that a weekly paper called the *People’s Gazette*, printed in the building, was disseminating Nazi and Fascist propaganda.”

Keeping in mind that Europe was now embroiled in World War II, and that Canada had declared war on Germany and had troops in Europe fighting the Nazi war machine, this *People’s Gazette* propaganda represented the thinking of Canada’s wartime enemy.

The Ukrainian Labour Temple, and the press that the “Gazette” was using, belonged to the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association, forerunner of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, which clearly supported Canada’s war effort against the fascist Axis Powers.

Why then was the *People’s Gazette* allowed to print this fascist propaganda on the Labour Temple’s presses?

We go to the archives for correspondence on this case and an explanation for these strange circumstances.

In a letter to the *Canadian Tribune*, a left-wing English-language newspaper, dated May 28, 1941, lawyer Garfield A. King, of Vancouver, writes, “In Nov. 1940, the Hall of the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association was seized under the DCR*, and vested in the Custodian of Alien Enemy Property. The Hall was free from debt, and cost probably \$30,000. Recently it

* **Defence of Canada Regulations:** March 14, 1938. Under its provisions the Communist Party of Canada and its associated organizations such as the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association were declared illegal and the Custodian of Alien Enemy Properties was empowered to seize their holdings, which meant all of the labour temples across the country.

was sold to a group formerly known by repute as a pro-Hitler, pro-Fascist body of the Ukrainian community, for \$6000 – the cash payment being, it is alleged, \$2000.00.”

Garfield King was involved in this because a similar incident occurred in Vancouver, where he was defending another man, also for having broken the windows in the Vancouver ULT. In the letter, King added that something similar had also occurred in Regina.

This seizure under the DCR and vested in the Custodian of Alien Enemy Property also took place in Winnipeg where the renter was “a formerly well known ... pro-Hitler body, and this group proceeded to publish *People’s Gazette*, a publication using the same name as a newspaper formerly issued by the Workers and Farmers Publishing Association”.

Tretiak, along with the man charged in Vancouver and another in Regina, all followed the same *modus operandi* by smashing all the windows in their former Halls and then carefully making sure that their actions were noted by the authorities in order to make their point — their principle — clearly.

Tretiak, it seems, was a

member of the board at the ULT, and had invested some of his money in the building itself. He wanted to make his displeasure at the seizure, and the subsequent use of the Hall and its equipment by these pro-Hitlerites, abundantly clear. Hence, when faced with the alternative of damage payments or jail, he chose jail.

In his correspondence with William Tretiak, Joe Zuken also regretted the fact that the client had chosen to appear before a magistrate alone. He states in the letter, “Unfortunately by the time you consulted (Joe Zuken) about your case, you had already elected to be tried before Magistrate Graham. Had this matter been before jury, *it would have given you and your counsel an excellent opportunity to go into much more detail before the jury as to your reasons for taking the action which you did.*”

We can only imagine what Joe Zuken might have accomplished had this been the case.

— **Len Kaminski**

(Len Kaminski is a retired Professor of Social Work, University of Manitoba. After retirement, he helped establish the Seven Oaks Historical Society of Winnipeg, and served as its president and past president.)

Food

(Continued from Page 8.) of sulphuric acid or sulphur dioxide.

Pure air would be quite bland, but these days diners could enjoy such delicious natural impurities as floral scents or man-made additives such as the perfumes which pervade our homes.

The possibilities are endless.

Another objection might be that widespread adoption of air as food would deprive farmers, and other in agriculture of a way to make a living.

It is true, unfortunately, that

most changes create winners and losers. Adopting air as food would also have some negative side effects. However, these would be somewhat offset by reduced food costs for the jobless.

In addition, new jobs would be created, such as bottling air from different areas for the different flavours and nutrients they have. That would be analogous to the bottled water industry which is currently doing so well.

Technological change has always created new opportunities for the innovative individual.

Before air is widely used (Continued on Page 12.)

IMF Mission

(Continued from Page 9.)

ible exchange rate regime; and (v) repairing the financial system and reviving bank lending.

“Turning the current stabilization into strong and sustainable growth—so that Ukraine can catch up with its regional peers—will not be an easy task. This has been a challenge in the past, when stop-and-go reforms resulted in the repeated buildup of large imbalances and economic crises. The authorities should remain united in their determination to continue to advance reforms, resisting

populist pressures and overcoming opposition from vested interests. Decisive steps particularly need to be taken to fight corruption, which remains the most frequently mentioned obstacle to doing business in Ukraine. While there has been progress in setting up new institutions, including the National Anticorruption Bureau of Ukraine, and the publication of high-level officials’ asset declarations was a major step, tangible results in prosecuting and convicting corrupt high-level officials and recovering proceeds from corruption have yet to be achieved.

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
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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 T5H2M9
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 January:

- Eva Doskoch
- Victor Horon
- Rose Kereliuk
- William Maxim
- Bill 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 January celebrants:

- Lorna Clark
- Rose Nedbailik

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 January celebrant:

- Larry Kleparchuk

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

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

- Norman Boucock
- Joe Panetta
- Tony Pizzacalla
- John Sitak
- Sandra Sitak
- Mary Wasylenky

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

JoKe TiMe

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting an open heart operation. He insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation.

As he was about to get the anesthesia, he asked to speak to his son.

“Yes, Dad, what is it?”

“Don’t be nervous, son; do your best, and just remember, if it doesn’t go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife....”

Who, What, When, Where

Vancouver — AUUC Vancouver Branch will host **Malanka – Ukrainian New Year Celebration** on Saturday, **January 21**, at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre**, 805 East Pender Street. **Doors open at 5:30 p.m.** for cocktails. Cultural Performance at 6:15 p.m., with dinner and dancing to live music to follow. Tickets: **\$50.00/person**. To purchase yours, call **(604) 254-3436**.

* * *

Calgary — **Calgary Ukrainian Hopak Ensemble** will host **Malanka: A Ukrainian New Year’s Celebration**. Cocktails from **6:00 p.m.** followed by a traditional Ukrainian supper, then dance the night away to the music of a live band, on Saturday, **January 14**, at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre**, 3316–28 Avenue SW. For tickets, call the Ukrainian Cultural Centre at **403-246-1231**.

* * *

Regina — On **January 14**, Ukrainian New Year’s celebration **Malanka** will be enjoyed at the **Regina Performing Arts Councils (RPAC)**, 1077 Angus at 4th Avenue. Cocktail hour, banquet, cultural program by the AUUC Poltava Ensemble and dance — all for the low price of only **\$50.00**. Tickets available only by calling the **RPAC Box Office** at 779 -2277. **Sponsored by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.**

* * *

Regina — On **February 4**, a **Concert-Recital** featuring 125 performers from the AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts and the Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance will be presented at the **Regina Performing Arts Centre (RPAC)**, 1077 Angus St. at 4th Avenue, Regina, SK. For tickets, call the RPAC Box Office at **306-779-2277**. Admission: Adults — **\$20.00**; Children — **\$10.00**.

* * *

Winnipeg — AUUC Winnipeg Branch invites you to the **AUUC Malanka Party** at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 14, at the **Ukrainian Labour Temple** (Pritchard and McGregor).. Admission: \$10.00. To purchase tickets, call **(204)582-9269** or email **auucwinnipeg@gmail.com**

* * *

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

William Malnychuk, Mississauga ON	\$100.00
Victor Krenz, Winnipeg MB	50.00
Olga McDaid, Thunder Bay ON	50.00
Vera Seychuk, Ottawa ON	40.00
Laura Hawkins, Markham ON	14.00

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.



IVAN FRANKO MUSEUM

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Free Admission by appointment only

Best Wishes for the New Year!

The AUUC Ottawa Branch sends Warmest Greetings and Best Wishes to all AUUC members and supporters for a Happy and Peaceful 2017!

Food

(Continued from Page 10.)
for food, there are, in fact, some obstacles to be overcome.

For one thing, it is clear that new utensils would have to be developed. Clearly chopsticks can not be used to pick up a mouthful of air, nor can a fork. Spoons show more promise, but the slightest breeze would blow your mouthful away.

Of course, if you weren't too fussy you could settle for the new spoonful — who knows what delightful surprises it might contain?

Another obstacle is prevention of fraud, whether by bottlers, by unscrupulous restaurateurs, or by other supposed purveyors of fine airs. The average diner might have some difficulty detecting scams substituting inferior airs for the product they paid for.

There can be no doubt that, if air as food were widely accepted, the obstacles would soon be overcome.

PEACE AND HAPPINESS IN 2016!

Mary
Eugene & Sharon
Kathy & Wilf & Family
Susan
Michele & Family
Semanowich Family

IVAN FRANKO MUSEUM

200 McGregor Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

The Board of Directors extends wishes for the Best of Health

to all AUUC members in the New Year

A HAPPY 2017 TO ALL



AUUC Richmond Branch extends Best wishes for 2017 To all people of good will!

May the new year bring you Personal Health and Happiness, Familial Comfort and Prosperity, and Global Peace and Justice!

Happy New Year!

To the members of the AUUC, and their cultural forces, supporters, and friends across Canada, United States and Ukraine. We wish all good fortune, health and happiness in the New Year!

**AUUC Regina Branch
Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance**

Season's Greetings from the Dovbush Dancers!
Wishing all AUUC members and volunteers a happy and healthy 2017. Thank you for everything you do for us!

**Dovbush Dancers
Vancouver, B.C.**

To all friends and supporters of the AUUC —

May 2017 bring you good health, happiness, and prosperity!

AUUC Toronto Branch

Welcome to the only Taras Shevchenko Museum in the Americas!

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