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Centennial Celebration in Edmonton

— Photo: Wilfred Szczesny



AUUC Edmonton Branch Branch held a two-day celebration of the AUUC centennial. The second day, November 4, was devoted to a presentation of AUUC history and “a celebration of 100 years of social justice activism”. Much of the entertainment was provided by the Notre Dames des Bananes Choir, shown above.

A report on the first day of the celebration begins on Page 8, with the second day reported on Page 9.

Renovations Underway



This is how the basement at 1604 Bloor Street West in Toronto looked on November 15, three days into the renovation project, when AUUC National Vice-President Wilfred Szczesny, shown with workers Vitaliy Zvarich and Nykolay Synycyn, went on an inspection tour.

With the last items removed on November 12, when signage was placed, renovations to the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto began in earnest on November 13. The building will be completely gutted, and reconstructed as the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum.

The renovation was designed by Christopher McCormack, architect, with project management by William Bezanson of Prodigy. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in about six months.

The cost of the renovation will be shared by the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, and the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum and Memorial Park Foundation.

The Next Issue

The next issue of the “UCH” will be dated January, 2019. Announcements of events in January or early February, 2019, as well as articles for the January, 2019, issue, should be in our office by December 10. Thank you for your consideration.

NOTICE

Because the Toronto location of the “UCH” Editorial Office is undergoing remodelling, we request that postal communications be addressed to 658 Constellation Drive, Mississauga ON, L5R 3H6. We were able to retain our phone number, so phone calls can be made to 416-588-1639. Internet communications will remain unchanged.

We anticipate a return to our Toronto address in about six months.

Bacterial Threat Grows

All living organisms are killed by the noxious substances in their environment or they survive the attack and contribute to the development of immunity. This is a natural phenomenon which has operated for millions of years. It applies to bacteria just as it does to other organisms.

Because bacteria generally have a relatively short life span, a species can develop immunity quickly. When antibiotics are used, most bacteria may be killed, but some survive, and add their immunity to the gene pool of their species. Because antibiotics are used so frequently and so generously, this process is accelerated, and antibiotic resistance grows quickly.

Now doctors are worried about the decreasing effectiveness of antibiotics, especially since new antibiotics are not being developed. Why? Because it is not cost-effective (i.e., profitable) to develop new antibiotics.

The search for a new antibiotic is very expensive, but when they are developed they are either too expensive for widespread use, they are used only for short times (compared to drugs for chronic illnesses, which are used for life), and bacteria develop immunity to them.

The result of antibiotic resistance is that people are falling victim to illnesses which were treatable a few years ago but now are not. The possibility is being discussed that, by 2050, humanity will be back in the state which existed before the discovery of penicillin in the 1940s. In the

1930s, more people died from infections than from any other single cause.

That situation can return. By 2050, it has been estimated, antibiotic resistance could cause 10 million deaths world-wide annually, at a cost of \$US 100 trillion.

Nor is this a problem affecting only poor countries, or poor people. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development anticipates an extra 2.4 million deaths in the developed countries.

Researchers say that governmental action is needed to reduce the problem (which, as

(Continued on Page 12.)

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Best Wishes of the Season!



The publishers and staff of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* extend best season's greetings to our readers and supporters, and to their families and friends.



May you enjoy the festive season in happiness, safety and good health, and may the new year bring everything that you truly desire!



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Goodbye to 1604



This welcoming display at the entrance appeared at many celebrations of Oktoberfest.

On Sunday, October 28, AUUC Toronto Branch held an historic banquet marking the closing of its hall at 1604 Bloor St. W., a building that it had called home for the past 23 years. This event was also the Branch's salute to the 100th anniversary of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians.

As each of the 80 guests entered the front door, they were greeted with a souvenir button, and invited to reminisce about the Branch's events at the hall during the last several years. In the foyer area, titled *Remembering 1604*, a display of original posters from annual events lined the walls. Most prominently displayed were the most successful events: Canada/Shevchenko Day and Oktoberfest, and totally dominating the bar area, Grey Cup and Super Bowl.

Accompanying each poster were photos taken through the years of that particular event. You could easily tell that memories were being stirred by seeing the pointing fingers and chuckles of laughter as the guests poured over pictures from the Camp Palermo reunion, the Adam Timoon concert, the annual Love & Laughter, the AUUC Welland Orchestra concert, and the various tribute banquets in honour of certain members.

To ensure that this grand finale would be remembered as one with dignity and class, the main area, titled *Celebrating 1604*, was transformed into an elegant dining room.

With off-white linens covering both tables and chairs, the monochromatic décor was accompanied by accents of gold. On the walls were gold figures of Ukrainian dancers in traditional dance positions, and suspended from the ceiling were golden spirals, paper pinwheels and golden wreaths. To add a little splash of colour, and to reflect the season at hand, the centrepiece at each table was a brilliant autumn flower arrangement.

As the guests mingled and chatted at the tables, they were treated to the sounds of talented accordionist Albert Iaboni, as he strolled among the tables playing several heartwarming tunes.

A silent slide show of past events was simultaneously presented on the large TV screen in the bar area.

To commence the program, MC Connie Prince welcomed everyone, focusing on the positive aspect of the bitter-sweet event. While it marked the end of an era, it was a great reunion and an experience of sharing many wonderful memories.

Connie created the spirit of the day by emphasizing the two titles that had welcomed the guests as they entered the hall: *Remembering 1604* and *Celebrating 1604*. She thanked the current Executive members for all the hard work that went into the preparations for the day. She also thanked several others who had consistently contributed to the success of the Branch's activities.

Connie continued to set the spirit of the day by reciting a saying attributed to Dr. Seuss: *Don't be sad that it's over.... Be happy that it happened.*

Toronto Branch President Jerry Dobrowolsky thanked the guests for coming to the banquet, and explained that the decision to close the hall had been a difficult one. But with the Branch's continually declining membership, the outcome had become inevitable.

He stated that, although the building as we know it will change, the Branch offers its best wishes to the Shevchenko



The event on the closing of the AUUC Cultural Centre, marking the centennial of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, drew a nostalgic full house.



Museum to continue to grow and flourish in this location as a vibrant cultural gathering place for the Toronto community at large.

Jerry assured the audience that the Branch would continue to exist, and would continue to celebrate the camaraderie of its members and friends. He encouraged everyone to stay tuned for news of future get-togethers and possible venues in which to assemble.

The afternoon proceeded with a greatly anticipated traditional Ukrainian meal, catered by Baby Point Lounge. The crowd was most satisfied after completing the meal, as they had been on many other special events throughout the past 23 years.

As is warranted on an occasion like this, the Branch was honoured to welcome as its guests representatives both from AUUC leadership and from fraternal organizations, and to receive their greetings.

Among the guests to acknowledge both the closing of the hall and the centennial of the AUUC were:

Bob Seychuk – National President of the AUUC;

Ginger Kautto – Shevchenko Musical Ensemble;



AUUC Welland Branch President Wanda Lukan spoke on behalf of her Branch.



AUUC National President Bob Seychuk represented the National Committee.

Lily Mitchell – Federation of Russian Canadians of Ontario;

Wanda Lukan – AUUC Welland Branch;

Elizabeth Hill – Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association;

Lyudmyla Pogoryelova – Taras Shevchenko Museum.

Unfortunately, because of an error in recording the date, the representative from the United Jewish Peoples' Order did not attend. However, President David Abramowitz has since expressed his regrets, and offered his congratulations to the AUUC and best wishes to the Branch.

And now to the jovial festivities of entertainment!

Lorna Clark and Wilfred Szczesny, accompanied by Peter Krochak on the keyboard, lifted the spirit of celebration by performing Ukr-
(Continued on Page 11.)



The Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association was ably represented by Liz Hill, a long-time leading member.



Speaking on behalf of the Taras Shevchenko Museum was Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelova.



Ginger Kautto spoke on behalf of the Shevchenko Musical Ensemble Guild of Canada.



FRCO Treasurer Lily Mitchell spoke on behalf of the Federation of Russian Canadians (Ontario).



Elaborate displays reflecting the life of AUUC Toronto Branch were weeks in preparation.

Ukrainian Miscellany

Multicultural Ukraine

When people in part of Eastern Ukraine separated from Ukraine, one of the concerns they cited was the possibility that the regime installed by a coup in 2014 would attack minority rights, including language rights. The bases of these concerns included, among others, events in the Baltic states in the 1990s, and the considerable influence on the government of the far right, ultranationalist, and even neo-fascist elements, in the country.

While Ukraine and its supporters in Europe and North America constantly harp on the failure of the government's opponents to adhere to the Minsk agreements, they do not mention Ukraine's failure to meet its obligations under those agreements: to amend the country's constitution to guarantee the rights of minorities. On the day after the 2014 coup d'état, the Supreme Council, Ukraine's parliament, cancelled a vote on ratifying the European Charter on Regional and Minority Languages.

More recently, Ukraine has amended its laws governing minority rights, so as to impose new limits. Not only Russia, but also Poland, Hungary, and other neighbours of Ukraine have expressed concern about the changes.

On September 18, the regional council of Lviv banned all public use of the Russian language, calling it unconstitutional. This large western Ukrainian area is calling on the Supreme Council to adopt similar legislation.

Another cause for concern is the attitude of the far-right groups toward minorities. In one instance, such a group posted on the internet a list of 500 names of people who, they said, had dual Hungarian-Ukrainian citizenship. Since dual citizenship is forbidden by Ukraine, this act put the people on the list in jeopardy.

The ultra-right, which has been waging war against Roma, demonstrated once again its ability to act with impunity against Ukraine's minorities.

Ukrainian Economics

According to a report by *Ukraine Business News*, Ukraine expects to finish 2018 with the second-largest grain harvest ever — 64 million tons, compared to 66 million tons in 2016.

The strong finish is due to a bumper corn crop.

During the current marketing year, which ends next June 30, Ukraine expects to export 42.5 million tons of grain, up 7.8% from last year.

In another report, *Ukraine Business News* wrote that Ukraine has raised \$2 billion in Eurobonds, of which \$750 million was for five years, and \$1.25 billion was for 10 years. The final annual interest rate on the 5-year bonds was 9%, and on the 10-year bonds it was 9.75%. \$725 million will be used to redeem a bond that matures in February.

Ukraine borrowed \$3 billion one year ago.

The government has authorized Naftogaz to raise \$1 billion for up to five years via Eurobonds. However, it has been reported that Naftogaz will postpone this loan because

of depressed market prices for its products.

Ukraine and Germany are planning to raise their two-way trade to 10 billion Euros annually, compared to the current \$US 8 billion. The planning has been called "strategic", which may be another word for "wishful thinking".

If things went according to plan, Israel and Ukraine signed a free trade agreement before November ended. *Ukraine Business News* reported that the deal would drop duties on most trade in industrial goods and remove all Israeli duties on Ukrainian agricultural products by 2025. The target is to double bilateral trade in three years, from the current \$1 billion level.

Three years ago, Ukraine ended a contract with a Russian company to build two 1,000 MW nuclear reactors at Khmelnytskyi. Now, Ukraine is considering bids by Chinese, South Korean and Slovakian firms to complete the construction.

Doubling the plants's production would enable Ukraine

to become a major electricity exporter to Poland and Hungary, boosting Ukraine's Gross Domestic Product by six or seven percent.

The Cabinet of Ministers has already approved a project to connect Khmelnytskyi to European Union power lines.

A *Ukraine Business News* report said that, Ukraine's exports through August were up 12.4% year-over-year, to \$30.9 billion. Exports to the EU grew by 18.3% to \$13 billion, representing 42% of Ukraine's exports through August.

Two-way trade between the USA and Ukraine grew by 16% through August, reaching almost \$2.6 billion.

Ryanair, Europe's largest airline, has begun service between Kyiv Boryspil and 12 EU cities, as well as between Lviv and five EU cities. Plans to expand may include Kherson, Kharkiv and Odesa.

The Dublin-based airline carries more international passengers than any other airline in the world.

International Influence

Ukraine is hopeful that it will get some more money (perhaps as much as \$1.9 billion) from the International Monetary Fund by the end of the year. On the positive side (at least for the IMF), is the announcement that Naftogaz has raised household gas prices by 23.5%, a long-time IMF demand. Nevertheless, there was a catch. To get IMF Board approval for the support program, the Supreme Council of Ukraine had to approve the government's 2019 budget by December 1.

The European Union is

also in the influence game, having issued the Association Implementation Report which reports on Ukrainian implementation of commitments under the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. The report says that Ukraine has made some important progress, but still has a long way to go "so that Ukrainian citizens can fully reap the benefits of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement and its Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area."

In particular, the report expresses concern about the

slowing pace of reforms in the areas of the judiciary and anti-corruption measures, noting that there have been only a few convictions in high-level corruption cases so far. The report noted that "The selection ... of the international experts who will assist Ukraine in selecting the judges of the High Anti-Corruption Court is an encouraging sign."

The USA is also in the game, encouraging Ukraine to take action "on matters such as the Production Sharing Agreement~ data sharing, regulatory predictability, and legal transparency as necessary steps for further U.S. investment."

Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Furthermore, in the past, President Poroshenko and other Ukrainian "patriots" have said words to the effect that Ukrainian religion is the soul of Ukraine. The "super-patriots" of Azov and other militant right-wing formations can be expected to readily identify the enemy.

When they decided to make autocephaly an issue for the government's action, President Poroshenko's administration surely knew that they were creating another source of division in the country. It is hard not to conclude, their current protestations to the contrary notwithstanding, that they were looking for yet another way to distinguish between Ukrainian "patriots" and Russophiles.

Weaponizing Place Names

In the war against the Russian threat, nothing escapes the sharp minds sitting in the Ukraine's government.

Whether it be matters of the Orthodox Church or other items with centuries of history, President Poroshenko and the patriots he has gathered around himself will eventually establish that the fault (and when it comes to Russia there is always a fault) has its roots in the USSR, with the deliberate anti-Ukrainian continuation by President Putin.

A recent theme picked up in Kyiv's self-defence against Russia is the USSR's distortion of Ukrainian place names. Apparently, many countries and organizations are using "outdated, Soviet-era place names" when referring to Ukraine.

In spite of Ukraine's 27 years of independence "Soviet-era versions of many geographic names" stubbornly persist in international practice. "Archaic Soviet-era spelling" includes Kiev, Lvov, Rovno, Odessa.

That these English-language versions mostly precede by decades (even centuries) the emergence of the USSR is of no consequence. President Poroshenko's administration pleads that "... we are once again experiencing Russification as a tactic that attempts to destabilize and

delegitimize our country. You will appreciate, we hope, how the use of Soviet-era place names rooted in the Russian language — is especially painful and unacceptable to the people of Ukraine."

Kyiv is nothing if not helpful. To better inform the international community about the correct forms of Ukrainian place names and to avoid mistakes, Ukraine is launching the campaign #CorrectUA. A short list of "correct" names has been published.

Readers of the "UCH" will be pleased to know that, for decades, we have been using most of the "correct" spellings in the list. When the word came down, we changed to Kyiv. We are ready to switch to Odesa (instead of Odessa).

However, we do hope that this movement does not become too widespread. Learning the global changes — learning that Vienna is actually Wien, Moscow is actually Moskva, Finland is actually Suomi, and Cameroon is actually Kameroon (presumably because German imperialism was preferable to the British variant) — might be more than we can bear.

Should the movement grip the world, we would join in, starting with the demand that Ukraine stop calling our country Kanada, and its capital Ottawa.

Autocephaly for UOC

The USA issued a somewhat strange statement on the issue, maintaining the right of Ukraine's religious community to conduct its affairs, expressing confidence in its ability to do so without governmental interference, and ending with affirmation of continuing support for Ukraine.

It read as though the government of the USA was politely declining a request by the government of Ukraine to support autocephaly for Ukraine's Orthodox community.

The government of Ukraine was less circumspect. On October 14, President Poroshenko took pains to insist that there was not, and would not be, a state church

in Ukraine. According to the statement, the rights both of those who decide to stay with the Russian Orthodox Church and those who decide to create a "unified Ukrainian Orthodox Autocephalous Church" will be respected by the government.

The government has signed an agreement on cooperation with the new church. How many other religions have such an agreement with the Ukrainian government?

Those who choose to stay with the centuries-old Russian Orthodox Church may rightfully be fearful. President Poroshenko's statement makes it clear that patriots will support the autocephalous

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.**The 300th Issue**

AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY

This is the 300th issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*. In many ways, it is very fitting that this milestone falls at this particular time.

One way is that this issue coincides with a time when reports of celebrations of the centennial take up about half of our 12 pages. This emphasizes that the first job of the "UCH" is to serve the AUUC by reflecting the organization on our pages to our readers, both inside the AUUC and outside its ranks. Through the years, we have been proud to do so, and in the process, help promote the unity of the AUUC and help it grow.

It is also fitting because the "UCH" is at several crossroads in its path. Perhaps the most significant change ahead is the move to the internet, expected to take place in time for the coming AUUC National Convention. We are certain that this change will expand our reach into the community, both near and far, and so enhance our ability to carry our message into the world. This important step will require learning new skills, and adapting to new work rhythms.

Another major change, this one immediate, is the relocation of the editorial office from space in the Toronto AUUC Cultural Centre to a room in the editor's home. That too takes some adapting, as things are not where they used to be — not to mention the disruption created by a couple of dozen boxes clogging up the living room.

In about six months, the process of moving will probably be repeated — unless the office at home becomes too comfortable.

What will not change is our essential message, the message which is carried by each of the 300 issues and all the issues of all the publications which are our history. It is a message of hope and optimism that the world can, and will, be a better place — a place where the necessities of a happy and healthy life are available to all, a place where everyone feels needed and wanted and accepted.

Our message is that such a world will not just happen; it must be created by people who work to create it. That work will demand to be done in groups, collectively, because the task is too large for individuals.

We look forward to the change and challenge as we set out toward the next 300 issues, and we invite you to come along. With you, we are stronger, and with us, you become stronger. Without you, we are one hand clapping. Be our other hand to make a noise together.

DEMOCRACY CUBAN STYLE**COMMENTARY**

As various jurisdictions in our hemisphere go through what is viewed as the ultimate expression of democracy, namely elections, the citizens of Cuba are engaging in a mass consultation on a revision of their constitution. The process followed is typical of how governance occurs in this socialist country. Unlike most of the rest of the world, where citizens exercise their influence over their elected representatives only at election time, in Cuba everyone over the age of sixteen has influence over what their various levels of government are doing on an ongoing basis.

New laws are sent out to the citizenry for discussion and modification. Thousands of these consultations take place at the grassroots level, starting with the Committees for the Defence of the Revolution [CDRs], typically comprising 100–200 people in a neighbourhood. Such consultations also occur in work places, in the municipal and provincial assemblies, and in the mass organizations, which are the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and organizations representing workers, farmers, women, and students at both university and high school levels.

Members of the Commission charged with constitutional revision preside over these meetings, going over the draft constitution line by line. Those assembled propose modifications or raise concerns which the delegation duly records. The Commission looks at all of these submissions and takes them into consideration in preparing the next draft.

The Commission itself is composed of selected members of the National Assembly and the other levels of government, as well as reps from the mass organizations. Before the end of this year, that draft will be presented to the National Assembly for discussion and a vote.

As for the electoral system itself, what the Cubans have devised is profoundly democratic. The current system,

which could be seen in action throughout this year and resulted in the election of a new leader to replace Raul Castro, also works from the grassroots up. There are three levels of government — municipal, provincial and national — with their corresponding assemblies. The municipal elections take place every two and a half years and the others every five years.

Prospective candidates are nominated at the CDR/local neighbourhood level by a show of hands. There is no such thing as acclamation in Cuba. There must be at least two candidates nominated for each electoral unit, but no more than eight. Thus there is always a vote, which is by secret ballot. If no one gets over 50% of the vote, then there is a run-off, or a new nomination process with new candidates.

So the Cubans could never have seen a Stephen Harper rule the country for a decade with only 40% of the popular vote.

At the municipal level, all the representatives are directly elected by the population they serve. At the provincial and national levels, half of the representatives are taken from these same municipal reps and the other half of the seats are reserved for reps of the mass organizations. No elected reps except the president and secretary of the electoral unit receive a salary, but all others continue to receive their regular salary from their place of work.

The Communist Party is the only political party allowed to exist in Cuba. However, it is barred from participating in any way in elections, although reps at all levels are indeed members. Nevertheless, many members of the various assemblies are not Communist Party members.

Campaigning is forbidden. Candidates have their resumes posted in designated public places and a version of

"all-candidates" meetings are held across the jurisdiction. These are in the form of question-and-answer sessions with electors.

Under the current constitution, the President of the Republic can only be in office for two terms. There may be some modification of this provision in the new constitution, permitting a person to sit out a term and run again.

Voting is not compulsory in Cuba, but voter turnout is always in the 90th percentile. Clearly citizen "buy-in" is very high. This is very understandable considering the high level of citizen inclusion in all levels of government and all aspects of society.

The current round of constitutional consultations is but one in an ongoing series of such mass consultations in which the Cubans have engaged over the course of their socialist history. That is why commentators such as Arnold August* and Isaac Saney** use the term "revolution in motion" to describe what has been going on in Cuba since the triumph of their revolution in 1959.

*AUGUST, Arnold, *Democracy in Cuba and the 1997-98 Elections*, Editorial José Martí, 1999; *Cuba and Its Neighbours: Democracy in Motion*, Fernwood Publishing, 2013; *Cuba-U.S. Relations: Obama and Beyond*, Fernwood Publishing, 2017

**SANEY, Isaac, *Cuba: A Revolution in Motion*, Fernwood Publishing, 2004.

— Rosemary Hnatiuk

Where's the Sense?

Donald Trump told his base that his duty was to look after his shareholders. Having been elected, he is doing exactly that. Why should we be surprised that he, and others like him, take from the poor and give to the rich?

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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.

Edmonton AUUC Branch Celebrates 100

AUUC Edmonton Branch spread its celebration of the centennial of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians over the two days of the November 3-4 weekend. The commemoration at the Ukrainian Centre reflected the uniqueness of the Branch.

The celebration on the first day, Saturday, November 3, started with a late-afternoon banquet, a delicious Ukrainian catered buffet. The lower level of the Ukrainian Centre was filled to capacity with happy diners.

After everyone had enjoyed their fill of the fine food, AUUC Edmonton Branch President Andrew Thompson set the program in the main hall in motion, with an estimated 190 in the audience and 30 performers. After welcoming those present and making a few housekeeping com-

ments, he called on Treaty 8 Elder Gilman Cardinal for a blessing.

Elder Cardinal began by recognizing that the gathering was taking place on Treaty 6 land. His remarks stressed the shared humanity of all people, and the fundamental importance of loving one's neighbour.

The blessing was followed by the trio Asani. After singing "O Canada" in a mélange of English, French and Cree, they entertained with two other songs in Cree.

The Trembita Choir, followed with "Laskavo pro symo". This song of welcome, traditional at AUUC events, was accompanied, as is the custom, with a presentation of bread and salt.

Jessica Littlewood, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville, took the floor with provincial greetings.

Ms. Littlewood's remarks were followed by the Trembita Children's Choir. This choir sang three numbers: "Au-



AUUC Edmonton Branch President Andrew Thompson was the Master of Ceremonies.



MLA Jessica Littlewood (NDP) spoke on behalf of the province.



The traditional bread and salt was presented after the Trembita Choir sang the song of welcome.

turn", "Rain", and "Singing for Ukraine". Appearing as duets and trio were Lida Clark, Dasha Lavrinenko and Elizabeth Shemchuk.

AUUC National President Bob Seychuk followed the children's choir. Mr. Seychuk referred to the positive spirit which currently infuses the AUUC. He spoke about major projects under way in the organization and the assistance being given to Branches. After speaking of the coming AUUC National Convention,



Winston Gereluk made a presentation on the early years of the AUUC.

Mr. Seychuk ended with a note about the "politically progressive" history of the AUUC.

Next on the program were the Junior Boys of the Trembita Arts School, wielding their swords dramatically as they danced through the steps of "Young Cossacks".

Winston Gereluk's brief presentation on the early years of the AUUC included an interesting selection of graphics projected on a large screen at the back of the stage.

The first half of the program ended with the performance of "Spring Dance" by the Kalyna Dancers of the Trembita Arts School.

The second part of the program began with the "Hutsul Dance", performed by the Lileya Dancers of the Trembita Arts School. The dance stressed character, with the sole male dancer successfully carrying much of the load.

Having appeared in the first half with a welcoming song, the Trembita Choir now made its second of three appear-



ances. They opened this set with the rousing "Kozatskomy rodu nema perevodu" (here called The Cossack Family Will Never Be Forgotten, also known as Nothing Like a Cossack).

While their other songs were all standard AUUC concert favourites, the second number in this set was somewhat off the beaten path. "Dona Nobis Pacem" (Give Us Peace), sung in Latin, is a selection from the Roman Catholic mass, which has been the subject of many composers. The song is often sung as a stand-alone number both for its intrinsic qualities and to highlight a singer's voice. Soloist Kimberley Cochrane ably rendered the beauty of the piece.

(Continued on Page 8,)

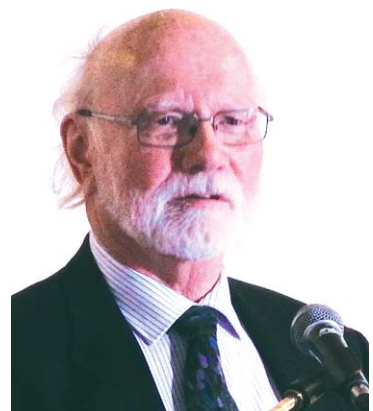
— Story photos: Wilfred Szczesny, except as noted.



Asani sang the national anthem in English, French and Cree, and entertained with two other Cree songs.



Elder Gilman Cardinal of Bigstone Cree Nation pronounced a blessing on the event.



AUUC National President Bob Seychuk struck a positive note.



The Trembita Children's Choir appeared with three songs.



The celebration started with a Ukrainian buffet served in the lower level of the Ukrainian Centre.



The Junior Boys of the Trembita Arts School enthusiastically waving their sabres, presented "Young Cossacks".

Edmonton AUUC Branch Celebrates II

— Story photos: Wilfred Szczesny



There were over 80 paid admissions and about 25 presenters at the Ukrainian Centre in Edmonton on November 4, the second day of celebration of the centennial of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, when the focus was on the history of social justice activism by the AUUC.

The script called it a concert, but the event on November 4, the second day of the AUUC Edmonton Branch celebration of the centennial of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, felt like something quite different, a hybrid of some kind. Though the event at the Ukrainian Centre was liberally sprinkled with music and dance, it was also generously endowed with historical commentary and reflections of the solidarity actions of the AUUC over the decades.



Master of ceremonies Winston Gereluk was also the main historical commentator.

The master of ceremonies for the afternoon was Winston Gereluk, who was also the main historical commentator. After calling the 110 people present to order, he called on The Honourable Deron Bilous, Alberta Minister of Economic Development.

Mr. Bilous started by recognizing that the assembly was being held on Treaty 6 land. He congratulated the AUUC on its hundred-year history and its social activism. He said that the AUUC has been “an outstanding organization”. He also spoke of the accomplishments of the government led by Premier Notley.

It was time for history lesson #1 by Winston Gereluk. Titled “Reasons Why They Formed the AUUC”, the content was basically the same as Mr. Gereluk’s presentation on the previous evening. It was later brought to his attention that the Ukrainian Labour

Temple in Winnipeg was not the first (that honour belongs to Welland, Ontario), a common misconception, but it was the one which led to the formation of the Ukrainian Labour-Farmer Temple Association, forerunner of the AUUC.

Mr. Gereluk’s presentation was followed by two songs sung by the Notre Dame des Bananes Choir. This choir sings without accompaniment and without a conductor. The titles of their songs are familiar from various struggles, but the arrangements are usually more complex than the well known sing-along variants. Nevertheless, the fifteen singers appearing on November 4, most of whom have day jobs, combined to produce a professional sound with pleasing harmonies and interesting rhythms.

On its first appearance, the choir sang “Bandera Rossa” (The Red Flag) and the “Internationale”.

In history lesson #2, Winston Gereluk spoke about the depression years, and the role of the AUUC. Each of his commentaries was accompanied by a slide show showing related scenes.

After this history lesson, Notre Dame des Bananes



The Honourable Deron Bilous, Alberta Minister of Economic Development, spoke in praise of the government of which he is part, with kind congratulatory words for the AUUC.



Maureen Werlin presented a very informative talk on the women’s movement and the anti-apartheid struggle.



Corinne Benson spoke about AUUC support to Edmonton Cuba Solidarity.



Humberto Novella was the featured soloist in the song “Guantanamera” by the Notre Dames des Bananes.



A presentation by Muriel Stanley Venne opened the second part of the afternoon’s program.

made its second appearance.

The choir’s first selection was “Hold the Fort”, a song rooted in the American civil war, which was adopted by the trade union movement

The second number was “Edmonton Hunger March”, based on an event in the city’s Great Depression history.

Mr. Gereluk next spoke about the AUUC stance when fascism was rising and, later, during the Cold War. Among the themes were the Spanish Civil War, the confiscation of the Labour and Farmer temples, and the peace and solidarity struggles in the ’50s and the decades which followed, to the present.

Following this presentation, the Notre Dame des Bananes Choir sang just one song: “Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream”, one of the favourites of the peace movement. Reflecting current times, the words were adapted to include women in the full room of dec-

laration signers.

The next historical presentation was by Maureen Werlin, who spoke about the women’s movement, as well as the Citizens Against Racism and Apartheid, in both of which the AUUC was active. Ms. Werlin touched on the Congress of Canadian Women and the Women’s International Democratic Federation and some of the campaigns and struggles they undertook. She spoke about the Voice of Women and the National Action Committee.

Turning to Citizens Against Racism and Apartheid, Ms. Werlin spoke about the widespread support for the movement and its actions. She cited the history of the struggle in the Republic of South Africa.

Ms. Werlin’s presentation was followed by two songs sung by the Notre Dame des Bananes Choir: “Nkosi Sikelel iAfrika” (God Bless Africa) and “Oh Freedom”.

Corinne Benson spoke about Edmonton Cuba Solidarity and the supportive role of the AUUC.

Ms. Benson’s presentation was followed by two songs from the Notre Dame des Bananes Choir. The first was “Guantanamera”, the world-famous song, with soloist Humberto Novella singing and playing the guitar.

The second was the less well known “Your Daughters and Your Sons”.

That brought the first half to an end. Light refreshments were served during the break. With the excellent turn-out surpassing expectations, the food ran out. An order went out for pizza, which was delivered during the second half of the program.

The second half of the afternoon’s program began with a presentation by Muriel Stanley Venne, founder and

(Continued on Page 7.)



Appearing in the second half, the Calafquen Dance Group, a Chilean collective, presented a dance reflecting the repression under the Pinochet dictatorship.



The Notre Dame des Bananes Choir sang nine songs in five sets.

Edmonton AUUC Branch Celebrates II

(Continued from Page 6.) President of the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women.

The first scheduled speaker



Malena Alvarado of Amigas & Guatemala spoke of the support shown by the Ukrainian Centre.



Daniel Villalobos performed two songs by Victor Jara.



Sandre Azocar spoke of the welcoming space provided at the Ukrainian Centre to Chilean refugees.



The last speaker of the afternoon was Edwin Viscarra of the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front of El Salvador.

in the second part, which focused on AUUC solidarity with struggles around the world, was Malena Alvarado of Amigas & Guatemala. Ms. Alvarado spoke of the solidarity support shown by the Ukrainian Centre.

This presentation was followed by two songs performed by Daniel Villalobos. Accompanying himself on the guitar, Mr. Villalobos performed pieces written by the popular Victor Jara, who was victimized by the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile.

Next to speak was Sandre Azocar of the Chilean community. Ms. Azocar spoke of coming to Canada as refugees and needing to form a community. The Ukrainian Centre provided a welcoming space for this healing process. The Chilean community and the Edmonton AUUC share similar commitments — to social justice and movements like Friends of Medicare.

The dance which followed, by Calafquen Dance Group portrayed the repression Chilean progressives knew under Pinochet. Though it had smooth-flowing lyrical movements, it also had very intense representation of the violence of the regime. Taped English-language voice-over provided context to the brutality depicted on the stage.

Well done! A very evocative work!

The final speaker of the afternoon was Edwin Viscarra of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front of El Salvador. Mr. Viscarra, like all the other speakers congratulated the AUUC on its centenary, and thanked the organization for its solidarity.

On a more philosophical note, he spoke about history as a lesson.

The final dance of the afternoon was performed by the Guatemalan Folklore Ixchel Dancers. The movement of this brother-sister team was a calm, controlled pas-de-deux exuding serenity.

The final act of the afternoon was provided by singers from the Trembita Choir. First, the duet of Tatiana Shepel and Olesya Nazarenko sang the Ukrainian song of tragic love “Oy chey to kin stoyit?” (Whose Horse Is That?)

Then, the duet of Sam H. Muratovic and Tatiana Shepel sang the modern (from Soviet times) classic “Ridna maty moye!” (My Dear Mother!) in which the singers lovingly recall the selfless care provided by their mother.

The program was over, but not the gathering. Participants lingered over the few remaining slices of pizza, but were driven by an even greater appetite for a few more friendly words in conversation with other celebrants.

The centennial celebration by AUUC Edmonton Branch was interesting for a number of reasons, first of all for its similarities shared with other Branches. Like most other AUUC Branches, AUUC Edmonton Branch had a banquet and a concert. The banquet featured the traditional AUUC Ukrainian meal, with a meat (and/or poultry) dish, cabbage rolls, perogies, mashed potatoes, salad, and mushroom gravy, all prepared with regional variations.

The concert presented (as most of them did) all the per-

(Continued on Page 9.)



The dance by the Calafquen Dance Group depicted the brutal violence of the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile, with taped voice-over providing context.



The dance by Guatemalan Folklore Ixchel Dancers stood in complete contrast to the preceding dance by the Calafquen Dance Group. The brother-sister team were the embodiment of serenity as they flowed slowly through their duet.



The duet of Olesya Nazarenko and Tatiana Shepel, Trembita Choir participants, sang “Oy chey to kin stoyit?”



The duet of Sam H. Muratovic and Tatiana Shepel, Trembita Choir participants, sang “Ridna maty moye!”

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UKRAINIAN CULTURAL CENTRE, 805 E. PENDER ST

The 47th AUUC National Convention will take place on the Thanksgiving Day Weekend in 2019.

Edmonton AUUC Branch Celebrates I

(Continued from Page 5.)

The set closed with the perennial favourite “Dyvlyusya na nebo” (I Gaze at the Heavens). Featured as soloist in this number was Orest Hrechukh.

This choral set was followed by more history, with Corinne Benson speaking on the history of women in the AUUC. Like the presentation by Winston Gereluk, the speech by Ms. Benson was brief, but filled with interesting information.

In its last set, the Trembita choir sang two songs. The first was “Oy pid vyshneyu” (Under the Cherry Tree). The choir’s last song was standard AUUC concert fare — with an Edmonton twist. At the Ukrainian Centre, “This Land Is Your Land” is done

in Ukrainian translation as “Tse nasha zemlya”. Soloists were Winston Gereluk and Ed Bilyk.

After a few words from



Kimberley Cochrane stepped out of the Trembita Choir to perform the solo in “Dona Nobis Pacem”.

— Photo: Johanna Silver

the President of the AUUC Edmonton Branch and its Executive, Lileya took the stage to close the concert with “Hopak”, the fast-paced, energetic and ever-popular dance which features strenuous virtuosity.

AUUC Edmonton Branch



Orest Hrechukh was featured as the soloist in “Dyvlyusya na nebo” with the Trembita Choir.

has gone through some difficult times in the last couple of decades, almost totally destroying the performing arts program. This evening demonstrated that the rebuilding process is progressing well.

The Trembita Choir, which was the least affected, is strong. The children’s program, which was completely gone, is recovering, both in quantity and quality. The senior dancers are slowly com-

ing back — it was a pleasure to see the improvement in the Lileya Dancers, and particularly in the male dancer since “Tak bulo”, staged just a couple of years ago.

If the Branch can retain their current effective cadre of conductors and instructors, it will not be long before they are once again challenging the Poltava and Dovbush ensembles.

—Wilfred Szczesny



The Lileya Dancers closed the concert with the very energetic and popular “Hopak”.



Corinne Benson spoke about the history of women in the AUUC.



The crowd-pleasing “Hopak” is a strenuous dance.

— Photo: Johanna Silver



The first half of the program ended with “Spring Dance”, performed by the Kalyna Dancers of the Trembita Arts School.

— Photo: Johanna Silver



Dasha Lavrinenko and Elizabeth Shemchuk danced a Bukovynian duet.



The Lileya Dancers of the Trembita Arts School opened the second part of the program with “Hutsul Dance”.



In its three appearances, the Trembita Choir performed a total of six selections. The choices were varied, and well presented.

Who, What, When, Where

Vancouver — The AUUC Vancouver Branch will present Ukrainian New Year's Celebration "Malanka" from 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 19. Tickets: \$60.00. for more information, see the ad on Page 7, visit auucvancouver.ca or watch this space next month..

* * *

Calgary — The Calgary Hopak Ensemble will present "Winter Concert" at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 9, at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 3316 – 28 Avenue SW Tickets: \$15.00 at the door. For reservations, call Darlene at 403-271-2379. Join us for refreshments after the concert.

* * *

Calgary—AUUC Calgary Branch presents Malanka at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 3316–28 Avenue SW, on January 12. Cocktails will be served from 6:00 p.m., a Traditional Ukrainian Supper at 7:00 p.m., and a program at 8:30 p.m., followed by dancing to a live band from 9:15 p.m. Come early and stay late! Join us as we bring in the New Year. Tickets are \$55.00 and can be purchased by calling 403-816-9613.

* * *

Regina — The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians will sponsor the Ukrainian New Year's Celebration "Malanka" at the Regina Performing Arts Council (RPAC), 1077 Angus at 4th Avenue, on Saturday, January 19. Cocktail Hour, Banquet, Cultural Program by the AUUC Poltava Ensemble and Dance. Admission: \$60.00. Reserve and purchase tickets only by calling the RPAC Box Office at 779 - 2277.

* * *

Winnipeg— Dancers from the Yunist School of Dance will participate in the Dobriansky Christmas Concert and Party in the Blessed Virgin Mary Church basement, 965 Boyd, starting at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 9. Also on the program are the Dobriansky School of Folk Dance and the Sokol Polish Dancers. The \$ 5.00 admission charge includes light food and desserts. For tickets, call Kim (204-293-7105). Reserved tickets will be available at the door.

* * *

Toronto — Taras Shevchenko Museum at 1614 Bloor Street West will feature the display Picturesque Ukraine: an Exhibition of Contemporary Ukrainian Art to December 20. The museum is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and noon to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, and by appointment on weekends. Admission is free; donations are appreciated.

* * *

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.

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Edmonton

(Continued from Page 7.) forming arts groups of the Branch, greetings from representatives of government, from friendly organizations in the community, and from AUUC national leadership.

The celebration by AUUC Edmonton Branch was also interesting for its differences from celebrations by other Branches.

One difference was in the screening of graphics. Many Branches did none of this; others had limited, static use of audiovisual projection. At the Edmonton concert, in contrast, the screen at the back of the stage was a more intrinsic, dynamic element of the presentation than anywhere else.

Another difference in the concert was in the use of stage and floor. Many AUUC centres have stages, some don't. Those that do tend to restrict their concert to the stage, with the exception of placing the orchestra on the floor. AUUC Edmonton Branch (currently without an orchestra) put most of its performers on the stage, but its speakers' dais and dancers were placed on the floor.

However, the big difference between the celebration in Edmonton and celebrations elsewhere was the second day. Vancouver also had a two-day celebration, but one day was the concert and the other was the banquet. In Edmonton, day one was banquet and concert, while day two was speeches, separated by relevant entertainment.

With the possible exception of AUUC Winnipeg Branch, it is doubtful that an event like the second day in Edmonton would be successful in any other AUUC Branch. This was an event that had about as many speeches (admittedly brief ones) as "cultural" acts — and drew an audience of over 80 people, plus presenters. Very impressive.

Also impressive was the number of presenters from other communities, most of them Latin American. The solidarity AUUC Edmonton Branch practises is generating public support. It is also generating Branch members and participants in the performing arts programs.

For the People

Ontario's government "for the people" has, so far, mainly alienated people. The most recent, as we go to press, is the francophone community, who have lost the Commissioner for French-language services and a planned French-language university.

Even the federal government has joined the criticism of these cuts. There are over 600,000 Franco-Ontarians.

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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:

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Phone: 800-856-8242 Fax: (204) 589-3404
E-mail: mail@auuckobzar.net Web site: auuc.ca

VANCOUVER BRANCH

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

CALGARY BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
3316-28 Avenue SW
Calgary AB T3E 0R8
Phone: (403) 246-1231
E-mail: Calgaryhopak@shaw.ca

EDMONTON BRANCH

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

REGINA BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
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Phone: (306) 522-1188 Web site: www.poltava.ca

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

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: 416-588-9180
E-mail: auuctorontobranch@gmail.com

WELLAND BRANCH

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

Yes Means Yes

Yes Means Yes by Steven M. Wells is an informative novel about sexual assault on American college campuses, and the key pieces of legislation aimed at protecting students: Title IX and California Bill 967. Through his heroine, Katie, Wells explores the complexities of informed consent, the difficulties that college administrations face while enforcing Title IX and California Bill 967, and the complex ethical issues that emerge as a result.

Sexual assault can be difficult to talk about, but, cleverly on the part of Wells, we learn all about these and other issues via a graduate philosophy student who is taking a class on political philosophy and law.

Not only is Katie tasked with writing a paper on the very issues Wells wants to address, she is also a “campus ambassador”, a student paid by the university to provide free information to students, and report to the administration anything that may be construed as sexual harassment.

Wells’ main focus is on Title IX, the law that states “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance”, and California Bill 967 – the “Yes Means Yes” law – that financially penalizes schools that fail to implement an informed consent policy. But he also touches on several other pieces of legislation, such as the Clery Reports on campus crime statistics and security information that American universities are now required to publish after the rape and murder of a female student on campus.

Katie, who is smart, over-achieving, and at times judgemental, is sceptical about the possibility of establishing whether informed consent was obtained, and also has doubts about the weaker standard of proof required by new “Yes Means Yes” laws than the previous “beyond all reasonable doubt” standard of the previous “No Means No” era.

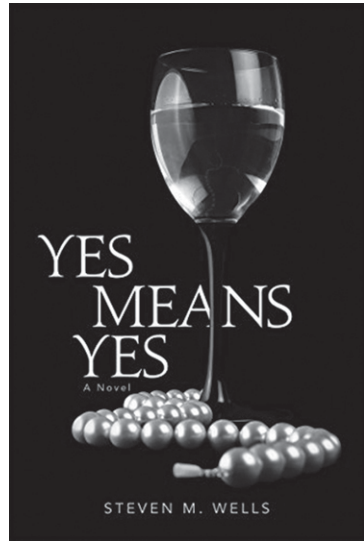
Through Katie’s doubts and her philosophical mind set, Wells is able to explore these complex ethical issues without explicitly stating his own beliefs. Yet I think we can conclude that Wells has a lot of compassion for victims of abuse by examining some of the novel’s themes.

One theme is that anyone can be vulnerable to any crime in the wrong circumstances. The novel opens with the sexual assault of a so-called “good girl”, who abstains from

alcohol out of respect for her parents and “would never show that much skin”. This effectively does away with the myth that rape only happens when it is invited.

Another theme throughout the book is that you can’t always tell who is trustworthy just by looking at them, illustrated by the two men in Katie’s life. First, she is unaware of how terrible a person her ex-boyfriend is despite living with him for two years. In contrast, her current relationship with her Teaching Assistant puts his job at risk, because the college stance on the matter is that teacher-student relationships are inherently an abuse of authority and thus expressly forbidden.

The main drawback to the novel is that it is unfocused. Not only does the novel cover sexual assault on college cam-



pus, informed consent, Title IX, and the “Yes Means Yes” law, it also touches on invasion of privacy, relationships between teachers and students on campus, trigger warnings, and the dangers of technology. Even though most of these topics do centre around relationships, Wells still tries to address too many

(Continued on Page 11.)

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About the Author

Steven M. Wells is the author of three self-published books. Two of the books, *Killer Cuvee* and *Harvest Homicide*, are murder mystery novels about a fictional wine maker. *Ginger’s Story* is a short story about divorce and single parenthood told through the eyes of a golden retriever.

Wells graduated from the University of Colorado, Boulder, with a BS in engineering, received an MBA from Seattle University, and holds a degree in wine production from South Seattle Community College and a certificate in nonfiction writing from the University of Washington. He is a former executive at Microsoft. He previously served as chair, and is currently board trustee, of the Microsoft Alumni Foundation.

Wells is the single-parent father of an adult daughter, and lives in the Pacific Northwest.

Ukrainian Canadian Herald Season’s Greetings

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, in the January, 2019, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. **See the diagram on this page for sizes.** Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

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Yes Means Yes

(Continued from Page 10.) issues at the same time. Consequently, many of these important items that could use a throughout examination are glossed over.

At times, Wells (who dedicated the book to his daughter, by the way) reminds me of a new parent who suddenly sees all the dangers the world has to offer, to any number of which their child may fall victim.

The other significant downside to the novel is that the plot line is unrealistic, especially as it approaches the climax. However, *Yes Means Yes* is not meant to be a textbook about informed consent and the law; it's a novel and it's an exciting read. Katie is someone you can root for despite her shortcomings.

Overall, I recommend *Yes Means Yes* to anyone who wants to learn more about the arguments around informed consent, in a fair and objective manner, and without a strong, overarching political agenda. That Wells would even approach this topic shows his humility and compassion, and proves that it should not be "boys against girls" when establishing rights for young people on college campuses.

— Zorya Szczesny

USA and China Stymie APEC

For the first time since it was created in 1989, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation failed to produce a joint closing statement following a summit meeting.

Instead of a communiqué, the 21 countries that met in Papua New Guinea in mid-November issued a summary of discussions.

The problem was the ongoing trade dispute between the

USA and China. The USA wanted the communiqué to condemn trade practices of which it accuses China, while the latter wanted a statement of opposition to the protectionism and unilateralism of the United States.

A particular sore point was the trade tariffs imposed by the USA on hundreds of billions of dollars of Chinese

goods.

APEC is a rather important trading area, representing 60% of the global economy.

As the "UCH" went to press, there was a concern about the effect that the dispute between the two giants

would have on the meeting of the G-20, scheduled for Argentina later in November. Both President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping were expected to attend the meeting in Argentina.

While some blame both countries equally, the USA is involved in quarrels even with allies around the world.

Happy 102nd Birthday, Mom!
Love,
Patricia Dzatko and John Rybuck
Jean and John Anderson
Mary and Bob and Len and Family Nemis
Dan Nemis and family
All Great Grandchildren
Liza Datko and Mike
Lara and Julian and baby Felix
All Grandchildren

At this joyful time, thoughts turn to friends across the country. We share the task of carrying our heritage forward with every graceful dance step.

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Goodbye to 1604

(Continued from Page 2.) ainian duets with dramatic gestures of animated humour. They sang "Za nashow stodolow" (Beyond Our Barn), "Oy miy myliy varenechkiv khoche" (My Sweetheart Wants Perogies) and "Ksenya i pidpenky" (Ksenya and mushrooms). Wilfred ended the set with the solo "Osinye zoloto" (Autumn Gold).

These selections, and the fine acting skills of the singers, generated much laughter throughout the hall.

Everyone had to settle down a bit, though, to enjoy

the extraordinary talent of soprano Kyra Braun, accompanied by Peter Krochak. Peter and Kyra have collaborated on several works before and, in 2014, created the CD *Exult, Rejoice* together. The audience truly appreciated the professional level of the performance, as expressed in its prolonged applause. It was an honour to have them both.

You could tell that the joy of music was spreading through the hall, as three members of the Federation of Russian Canadians (Ontario) — Zena Bolychuk, Vicky



Peter Krochak, who accompanied the Hahilka Choir for many years, was warmly received.



The audience was pleased to welcome soprano Kyra Braun in her return engagement at the AUUC Cultural Centre.

day and the experience and the memories. Others left

slowly, but not before carefully peeling off their favourite photo from the displays as a keepsake. Some took the golden dance figures to treasure, and the winners of the centrepieces proudly carried out their bouquet — vase and all!

As Jerry had said previously in his speech, everyone present on this day had his or her own special recollections of times spent within the four walls of 1604 Bloor St. West. Hopefully, everyone walked away one last time with an extra-special memory.

To paraphrase the Dr. Seuss quotation: *Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.*

— Bernie Dobrowsky



Lorna Clark and Wilfred Szczesny, accompanied by Peter Krochak on keyboard, opened the entertainment with three Ukrainian duets.

Vuksinic and Rosemary Pollock — spontaneously stood up together and performed some lighthearted songs in both Ukrainian and Russian. Both Albert and Peter joined in, adding an instrumental background.

When the sound of music takes over a building, it can be contagious and can only escalate. Of course, what evolved was a sing-a-long of several Ukrainian, Russian and English songs to cap the day.

Following the closing remarks, most guests continued to linger... to hold on to the



FRCO members Zena Bolychuk, Vicky Vuksinic and Rosemary Pollock, accompanied by Albert Iaboni and Peter Krochak, stood in a spontaneous performance.

**Season's Greetings from the
Dovbush Dancers!**
Wishing all AUUC members
and volunteers a happy and
healthy 2019. Thank you for
everything you do for us!

Dovbush Dancers
Vancouver, B.C.

Season's Greetings from beyond
the mountains to all AUUC Per-
forming Arts Groups and friends
across Canada.
Wishing you happiness, hope and
peace this holiday season.

Barvinok Choir and Vancouver Folk Orchestra
Vancouver, BC

We greet our
AUUC family members,
friends and supporters
throughout Canada and
Ukraine.

Peace, Health and
Happiness
To all in the New Year!

Vancouver AUUC Branch

Vancouver Seniors
Hope for
Peace on Earth!

Lesya Ukrainka Manor
Vancouver BC

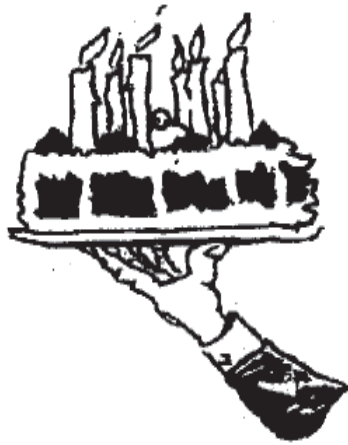
To our friends across Canada
and in Ukraine,
May the New Year bring
Good Health, Happiness,
Peace and Prosperity.

Larry and Dianna Kleparchuk
Vancouver, BC

Bacterial Threat

(Continued from Page 1.)
a natural process will probably never go away). Helpful measures would include encouraging the search for new antibiotics and alternative treatments, and curbing the use and misuse of antibiotics. Failing a successful search for a solution, procedures considered normal today, like organ transplants, leukemia treatments, treatment of premature babies — anything compromising a person's immune system will be very difficult or impossible.

Happy Birthday, Friends!



The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrant of December:
Nina Uhryn

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

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

Lydia Kit
Lori Miskevich

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

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** extends birthday greetings to December celebrant:
Elizabeth Montagliani

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

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

Pat Shipticki
Mary Sielski

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

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year
from
AUUC Richmond Branch
The Farthest Branch
in the West

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
2019!

**To All AUUC
Members and Friends**

**Best Wishes for Health,
Happiness and Prosperity
in a World of Peace!**

Winnipeg AUUC Branch

Best wishes for the holiday season
and the coming year. May all
your aspirations be fulfilled, all
your hopes be met, and all your
dreams come true.

Wilfred Szczesny
Mississauga, Ontario