

# HERALD ВІСНИК

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## Centennial Celebration in Welland



Photo: Wilfred Szczesny

On October 21, AUUC Welland Branch celebrated the centennial of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians concert and banquet at the Ukrainian Labour Temple. Featured entertainers were the Beryozka Choir of the Federation of Russian Canadians (Ontario), accompanied by Vasile Julea on the accordion. A report on the event, with photos, appears on Page 12.

## Steve Fobister

In the last few years, the name Steve Fobister has appeared on these pages several times. He was a relentless campaigner, seeking better care and support for the people of Grassy Narrows as they sickened and died of mercury poisoning brought on by the polluted waters of the Wabigoon River.

He died in a hospital in Kenora, Ontario, on October 11, at age 66, a victim of the illness which has ravished his community. He was buried on October 16 on his reserve.

In the 1960s, the pulp and paper mill operated by Reed Paper in Dryden, dumped 10 tonnes of mercury into the Wabigoon River, upstream from Grassy Narrows. The mercury contaminated the fish and poisoned the people who ate it, resulting in tremors, slurred speech, tunnel vision, and lost muscle coordination. Japanese scientists diagnosed the condition as Minamata disease, also known as methylmercury poisoning.

In those days, Steve Fobister was a trapper and fishing guide, and frequently ate the contaminated fish. Leg cramps and a loss of balance forced him to stop working as a railroad engineer in the early 1970s. He became a politically active band councillor on the reserve.

Over his lifetime, he was the Grand Chief of Treaty #3, Chief of Grassy Narrows for five terms, a probation officer, environmentalist, hunter, Ball Lake Lodge manager, and hockey coach of the "Famous Grassy Narrows Rockies".

Steve Fobister worked with government officials in the mid-1980s to set up the Mercury Disability Board to compensate those who can demonstrate symptoms consistent with mercury poisoning.

Since then, the board has long been criticized as being **(Continued on Page 6.)**

## Economic Matters

Ukraine's Ministry of Economic Development and Trade reported that Ukraine's exports of goods increased by 12.7% (to \$26.9 billion) in the first 7 months of 2018, compared to the same period in 2017. The largest gains were in metallurgy, machine products, chemicals, wood and paper, various industrial goods, and light industry.

Exports of goods to the European Union, Ukraine's largest trading partner, grew by 18.7% in the first 7 months of 2018, compared with the same period in 2017.

European marketers are expanding in Ukraine.

Germany's self-service wholesaler Metro Cash & Carry plans to open 15 to 20 small stores across Ukraine in coming years. Metro has been in Ukraine for 15 years, and has 27 stores, mostly hypermarkets. The new ones will be smaller, reflecting a belief that widespread smaller stores will be more profitable than a few large ones.

Sweden's IKEA is also planning a major expansion, going into Ukraine. IKEA has nothing in Ukraine; its first step will be the opening in 2019 of a 5,000 square metre store in the projected new Ocean Mall shopping centre in Kyiv.

Foxtrot, a major electronics and household appliances re-

tailer, is spending \$150 million this year to renovate 40 stores and to open 10 new ones. Currently, Foxtrot has 161 stores in 90 cities in Ukraine.

The United Nations Development Program is providing technical assistance, including consultancy in the process of technical documentation development, as well as the search for the most relevant project financial mechanisms, to 15 municipal projects using agricultural biomass for heating.

The projects feature new, or reconstructed boiler houses, with boilers using agricultural biomass (for instance, straw, corn stalks, sunflowers, energy crops) for fuel. This alternative-source energy allows municipalities to save both fuel and energy resources.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is the largest foreign financial investor in Ukraine, having invested 12.1 billion Euros in 400 Ukraine projects since 1993. Its 5-year plan through to 2023, inclusive, targets five areas for investment: energy — efficiency, renewables and market reform; privatization and better governance in the state sector; strengthening banking and capital markets; facilitating foreign investment and trade; and modernizing infrastructure and ties to the European Union.

China-Ukraine economic relations are burgeoning. Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers reports that Ukraine and China intend to double their mutual trade, up to \$10 billion. New opportunities are being

explored for cooperation in agribusiness, construction, infrastructure projects, energy and other spheres. The areas of mutual interest are expanding.

TouchStone Capital Group Holdings, a London-based Chinese investment firm, has presented plans for a \$1 billion, one gigawatt combined solar and wind power plant on Ukraine's Black Sea shelf. The plant would balance sun and wind to provide an even electricity flow. An added benefit for Ukraine: the project foresees that more than 30% of components would be of Ukrainian production.

Ukraine intends to send a delegation to the China International Import Expo 2018.

As suggested above, power generation from renewable sources is a big item in Ukraine. Since 2015, \$1 billion has **(Continued on Page 6.)**

## The Next Issue

The next issue of the "UCH" will be dated December, 2018. Announcements of events in December or early January, 2019, as well as articles for the December, 2018, issue, should be in our office by November 10. Thank you for your consideration.

## NOTICES

Because of unforeseen circumstances, this issue of the "UCH" has been reduced from 12 to 8 pages. Missing features will return next month.

Because the Toronto location of the "UCH" Editorial Office is undergoing remodelling, starting on November 1, 2018, we request that postal communications be addressed to 658 Constellation Drive, Mississauga ON, L5R 3H6, and phone calls be made to 416-428-9583 as of November 1. Internet communications will remain unchanged.

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

## In This Issue

Arms Race Looms .....	2
Centennial Celebration in Welland .....	8
Commentary .....	2
Concerning USMCA .....	2
Correction .....	6
Editorial .....	2
Greeting from Kyiv .....	5
Happy Birthday, Friends!..	7
International Law Symposium .....	3
Join Us! .....	7
Museum Unveils Exhibition .....	5
Seasons Greeting ad .....	6
Sustaining Fund .....	6
Who, What, When, Where.	7

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Signed articles represent the viewpoint of the author, and do  
not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.**Arms Race Looms****AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY**

News that the USA was withdrawing from the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty is very disquieting. The justification put forward by the administration of President Trump is that Russia has violated the treaty, which banned ground-launched missiles with a range of 500 to 5,500 kilometres, and that China, which is not party to the treaty, has been developing such weapons, putting the USA at a disadvantage in the western Pacific.

Critics of the American move point out that there are other options which should have been pursued, including negotiations to bring Russia into compliance with the treaty, as well as working toward bringing China into the treaty.

However, there are reasons to believe that the USA is deliberately eliminating restrictions on its arms options. These reasons include the USA withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in 2002, and the apparent decision by the USA to seek military hegemony in outer space.

The USA may really believe that it can attain the kind of military dominance that would make it invulnerable to any attack or counter-attack by any other country. That was part of the thinking in 2002, when the USA wanted to deploy anti-ballistic-missile missiles, banned under the ABM treaty, and moved to set up a missile shield in Europe.

If so, the USA should study the lessons drawn during the cold war, which included the knowledge that parity was not needed for defence. All that was needed was enough strength to retaliate effectively — the condition called mutually assured destruction.

The USA may also believe that the cost of the arms race was the decisive factor in sinking the USSR, and that another arms race would severely weaken its current competitors.

If so, it should consider that the balance of forces has shifted toward greater instability, with more centres of substantial power and greater international tension. A country ringed by hostile force may, at some point, decide that the options are to launch a pre-emptive strike or surrender before it is invaded or otherwise attacked. A tense situation may not be conducive to the optimal human-positive decision.

The USA, often supported by Britain, has withdrawn from several international treaties designed to make the world a safer place. The move toward a renewed and re-energized nuclear arms race may be fatal.

**COMMENTARY****Concerning USMCA**

At the beginning of October, it was announced that negotiation of the United States Mexico Canada Agreement had been successfully negotiated. The government of Canada touted it as an excellent agreement, representing a win for Canada, but not everyone agreed.

In late October, Chrystia Freeland, issued the op-ed "A Good Deal for Canadians" which was distributed to media across Canada. In this article, she listed the positive aspects of the agreement as the government sees them. Before listing the benefits, she pointed out that both the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, "which represents 200,000 business of all sizes", and Unifor, "Canada's largest labour union" strongly welcomed the agreement.

Ms. Freeland claims that the agreement protects "more than \$2-billion a day in cross-border trade and tariff-free access for more than 70 per cent of Canadian exports".

Included in that trade is the auto industry. The agreement preserves crucial cross-border auto supply chains, and improves wages and labour rights for Mexican workers, which levels the playing field for workers here at home."

The agreement is good for Canadian exporters because it "preserves Canada's preferential access to the U.S. market", while bringing in new areas like "digital trade, telecommunications, and anti-corruption".

Combined with CETA in Europe and CPTPP in the Pacific, USMCA means that Canada "now has tariff-free access to 1.5 billion consumers around the world".

"The USMCA retains, in its entirety, the impartial dispute system," Ms. Freeland writes, "which Canada fought so hard to include in the original NAFTA".

The cultural exemption, which helps safeguard 650,000 jobs in cultural indus-

tries (including media), has been protected.

The USMCA "preserves tariff-free access to the U.S. market for Canadian ranchers and grain farmers", while "it maintains supply management in dairy, eggs and poultry".

A NAFTA clause that "preventing our country from controlling where we sell our energy resources" is gone. At the same time, "... administrative improvements (...) will save the energy sector more than \$60 million a year in duties and other fees."

This agreement "contains a new environment chapter, with strong, enforceable standards for clean air and water".

The USMCA, Ms. Freeland indicates, strongly supports Women's and minority rights, and "contains language that recognizes and upholds the unique role of First Nations, Métis and Inuit in protecting and preserving the environment".

Ms Freeland writes, "Perhaps one of the achievements I'm most proud of is that the investor-state dispute resolution system, which in the past allowed foreign companies to sue Canada, will be gone. This means that Canada can make its own rules, about public health and safety, for example, without the risk of being sued by foreign corporations."

If Unifor welcomes the agreement, not all labour unions do.

The Canadian Union of Public Employees is among the critics.

CUPE says that the agreement "is anything but 'progressive', and it will set Canada back on critical priorities like Pharmacare."

While applauding the elimination of the Chapter 11 (investor-state dispute settlement) mechanism, the union is disappointed with the chapters on gender, labour and Indigenous rights, and the environment.

CUPE is also "extremely

disappointed to see patent protections extended for biologics, which will drive drug costs up dramatically, and threaten the viability of a national Pharmacare plan".

Nor is the United Steelworkers union very pleased.

USW Canadian Director Ken Neumann says that "tens of thousands of Canadian families have been left in the lurch" as the "Canadian government struck a deal with the U.S. that fails to remove the senseless and damaging tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminium imposed by the Trump administration in June".

Labour Unions were not the only critics.

In a joint statement, Common Frontiers, the Council of Canadians, and the Trade Justice Network urged the Canadian Parliament "to undertake a robust public consultation before ratifying the agreement".

The three organizations say that, "Early analysis shows that the new agreement fails to address many of the long-term problems caused by NAFTA: wage stagnation and rising inequality, deterioration of farmer livelihoods, inadequate protection of public services, and environmental degradation. In fact, USMCA may worsen the situation for many communities and industries."

Like others, this statement notes that the extension of the patent protection term for biologic medicines to 10 years (from 8 years) will delay the entry of generic drugs into the market and contribute to rising drug costs, impeding access to affordable medicines and making it more difficult to develop a Pharmacare program in Canada.

Like liberalization under the CPTPP (Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership), USMCA opens up 3.59% of Canada's supply management system to US dairy products. In addition to endangering decent farmer livelihoods, this will imperil high quality, affordable products for consumers.

This statement, too, is critical of the "limited environmental provisions" and lack of ef-

(Continued on Page 4.)

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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.

— Story photos: David Kattenburg

## International Law Symposium

On the weekend of September 7–9, Winnipeg was the host city for the *Israel, Palestine & International Law Symposium*, a world-class international law symposium at the Hotel Fort Garry, which brought the rights of occupied people to the forefront.

The original venue for the event was to be the University of Winnipeg, but after the university received complaints from organizations like B'nai Brith, conference organizers approached the Hotel Fort Garry, and the location was moved.

Some people who didn't like the conference's subject matter didn't give up, though, and the hotel received a number of phone calls from individuals who requested the hotel back away and cancel the conference booking. Not only did the Hotel Fort Garry stand firm in its commitment to host the conference, it also offered to host similar events on Israel/Palestine in years to come.

The *Israel, Palestine & International Law Symposium* featured a diverse mix of international, award-winning experts speaking on key issues such as Israel's legal status in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza. One such issue, for example, was Israel's obligations to the Palestinian people under international humanitarian and human rights law.

Another vital question was what role international law should play in resolving the 70-year Israeli-Palestine conflict. An additional one was whether the International Criminal Court in The Hague should become involved in determining a just and peaceful outcome for Palestinians and Israelis.

Michael Lynk, the Canadian United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the Palestinian

Territories of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza, explained how the Israel/Palestine conflict is the basis for all international law today. He also outlined the Geneva Convention and how it applies specifically to Palestine.

Also attending was Suha Jarrar, a Palestinian human rights researcher and advocate, who is based in Amman, Jordan. Jarrar talked in depth about Israel's theft of Palestine's natural resources.

Dimitri Lascaris, a lawyer, activist and well known journalist for the Real News Network, outlined human rights violations that occurred during the Great March of Return, and also explained Canada's obligations to the Palestine people under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Dr. Virginia Tilley, a professor of Political Science at Illinois University, provided a succinct analysis that Israel is an apartheid state, behaving much like South Africa.

David Matas, the local international human rights, refugee and immigration lawyer (he is also the lawyer for B'nai Brith), was also invited to speak.

Finally, the weekend also featured Jonathan Kuttab, a Palestinian human rights lawyer who participated via Skype from Ramallah. His talk, with Suha Jarrar, focused on the Great March of Return and Palestine's obligations to its own people.

Michael Lynk stated that Israel-Palestine is the best-documented conflict in the world, and argued that this conflict has contributed to international lawmaking, specifically in regards to human rights law and refugee rights. He said that, while the international community may see Israel as a lawful occupier of the Palestinian Territories, liberal Israeli scholars have argued that an occupier can

cross the "tipping point" into illegality.

Mr. Lynk explained that illegality occurs when the occupying power turns an occupation into a conquest, and thus becomes an illegal occupier. States, he argued, cannot engage in conquests. He also pointed to UN Security Council Resolution 242 (November 22, 1967), which states that an occupying power cannot annex part of the territory it occupies.

Mr. Lynk went on to state that Israel can offer no compelling reason for the length of the current occupation. He said that Israel has not acted in the best interests of the people it occupies (which the Fourth Geneva Convention stipulates) and, therefore, Israel is in breach of the precepts of International Law. The occupying power is under a legal obligation to act in good faith; this is a cardinal rule in modern international law, and Israel has not done so. Mr. Lynk said we only have to look at Palestinians in the West Bank, who live in inferior civil and social conditions, with restrictions on their freedom of movement, while Palestinians in Gaza continue to live under a ten-year blockade, as indications that Israel has not acted in good faith.

Mr. Lynk also gave those in attendance a crash course on how international law, and specifically the Fourth Geneva Convention, applies to Israel and its ongoing occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Suha Jarrar's discussion, "Pillage, Usufruct (the right to use or take someone else's property) & the Right to Hygiene & Sanitation", provided many examples of Israel's theft of Palestinian natural resources. The crux of Ms. Jarrar's argument is that, because they live as an occupied people, Palestinians cannot benefit from their own natural resources.

For instance, Ms. Jarrar focused on the example of Ahava Cosmetics' mining of Dead Sea mud in violation of international law, and said that, even though Jordan and Israel share a coastline, it is off limits to Palestinians. Many people who follow the Boycott, Divestment and Sanction [BDS] movement and Palestinian justice issues will also recall that Ahava has been the target of many global boycotts, including here in Winnipeg.

Ms. Jarrar also discussed in detail the daily water shortages Palestinian families in Gaza face, and the fear that Israel has the power to turn off the Palestinian water supply at any time. She pointed out that 95% of the water in Gaza is unfit to drink and that the damage done to Gaza's in-



David Matas (left), lawyer for B'nai Brith, spoke at the symposium, as did Michael Lynk, the Canadian United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the Palestinian Territories of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza.

frastructure during Israel's 2014 invasion left 450,000 Palestinians without access to water.

Settlers also get their water at low rates, and receive incentives to move into the West Bank. Moreover, 500,000 Jewish settlers consume six times more water than their Palestinian neighbours.

Ms. Jarrar also participated in a Skype discussion with Jonathan Kuttab on "Palestinian Rights & Obligations in Gaza: Right of Return and to Protest [Great March of Return]", and "Palestine's Obligations to Its Own People". Mr. Kuttab highlighted what he called the "apartheid nature" of the occupation and how much more blatant it is now since the collapse of the two-state solution.

Both Ms. Jarrar and Mr. Kuttab stated that an organization like the Palestinian Authority would not be allowed to remain in existence if it did not somehow serve the interests of the Israeli occupation. Mr. Kuttab noted that elites in both Hamas and the Palestinian Authority are complicit in violations that are taking place, and that the international community was also complicit when it chose not to act when Palestinian protesters were attacked at the Gaza border during the Great March of Return.

Mr. Kuttab also encouraged individuals and grass roots organizations who work on behalf of justice and peace for Palestine-Israel to continue their important work, because change is beginning to take place around the world.

Dr. Virginia Tilley, who lived in apartheid South Africa for a number of years, presented an authoritative, compelling argument that Israel has devolved into an apartheid regime. Dr. Tilley stated unequivocally that the only way to hold a state accountable is to use the international legal definition of apartheid, which is found in the International Convention of Suppression on the Crime of Apartheid [1973]. In international law, apartheid is defined as a system of establishing and maintaining domination of one group over another group.

Furthermore, Dr. Tilley argued that it is an institutional regime that ensures Jewish national privileges over the non-Jewish Arab population. Israel's policies are similar to apartheid South Africa, she said.

Dr. Tilley used Israel's newly enacted Nation-State Law as an example of maintaining Israel as a Jewish only state.

Dr. Tilley went on to outline how Israel divides Palestinians and their rights based

(Continued on Page 4.)



The question and answer session generated lively participation.



Answers to perceptive questions enriched the content of the symposium.

## International Law Symposium

(Continued from Page 5.) on geography. For example, she explained that, while Palestinian citizens of the State of Israel can vote in elections, they cannot vote for a political party that calls for the end of Israel as a state. Palestinian citizens of Israel who live in East Jerusalem may vote in municipal elections but not in Israel. Meanwhile, Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza have no voting rights, and are excluded from these rights through the ongoing occupation. Finally, Palestinian refugees in the diaspora have no right of return to Palestine and no vote in elections.

Simply put, Dr. Tilley argued, Israel has to hold the land occupied to prevent Palestinians from voting and becoming citizens. She also argued persuasively that Israel's occupation of Palestine is essential because freedom of movement of populations will demolish racial divides, ultimately leading to interracial marriages and families.

Dimitri Lascaris criticized both the Canadian Liberal and Conservative governments arguing that, as a signatory to the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, Canada has failed to abide by its legal obligations under the Convention in respect to protecting the human rights of the Palestinian people. Moreover, Mr. Lascaris argued that Canada has a reputation for assisting and defending Israel at the United Nations, and that the Canadian government has rapidly increased its support for Israel in the last 15 years.

Mr. Lascaris, in his lecture "Canada's Rights and Obligations Under Article 1 of the

Fourth Geneva Convention", explained how Canada is aiding Israel in a number of ways. He gave the examples of the arms trade, technology exports and ammunition sales, and other forms of economic aid and assistance.

He also cited the experience of local activist David Kattenburg's formal complaint to the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) about the labelling of West Bank Settlement wines as a Product of Israel. The Canadian Food and Inspection Agency concluded in June, 2017, that the West Bank is *not* part of Israel, and therefore the wines cannot be labelled as such, and ordered the wines be removed from store shelves. It took the CFIA six months to make a decision.

Soon after the decision, the B'nai Brith complained and the CFIA actually reversed their decision on settlement wines within 24 hours. It is clear, Mr. Lascaris stated, that products being produced in the occupied territories are being advantaged by the Canadian government.

Mr. Lascaris also gave a second talk, "Israel's Rights & Obligations Respecting Gaza's Protesters in the Great March of Return". Specifically, he discussed how Israel violated many key aspects of UN Basic Principles in its treatment of protesters during the Great March of Return, which began March 31. These include issues such as the Principle of Proportionality, which states that whenever the use of force is unavoidable it needs to be in proportion. The Protect Life Principle states that a life can be

taken only to save another life. Mr. Lascaris argued that use of live ammunition at the border fence cannot be justified by assuming that every Palestinian who breaches the fence is an imminent threat.

On the last day of the symposium, David Matas spoke about "Israel, International Law and Peace". It is important to note that Mr. Matas himself does not support the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, nor does he believe that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies to the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza.

Specifically, Mr. Matas likes to refer to Article 49 [1] of the Convention when stating that there has been no "individual or mass forcible transfer" of Palestinians from those specific areas. Meanwhile, Jewish settlers are of-

ferred numerous incentives to move voluntarily into those very same areas, which is a violation of Article 49 [6] which states that "the Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies."

During his talk, Mr. Matas also challenged the fact that Palestinians are the only refugees who have the right to pass on their refugee status to their children and grandchildren. Michael Lynk pointed out that refugee status does indeed carry forward, but not only for Palestinians: it is also applicable to refugees from Sudan, Afghanistan and Tibet. At one point, Mr. Matas said that the purpose of international law is to delegitimize the State of Israel which is a disingenuous statement for a human rights lawyer to make.

The Zionist arguments put forward by David Matas were expertly deconstructed,

point by point, by UN Special Rapporteur Michael Lynk, using applicable UN Resolutions and appropriate international laws, such as the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Finally, Michael Lynk said, International Law *can* provide a just and durable solution for the Israel-Palestine conflict.

The symposium was sponsored by Independent Jewish Voices, Mennonite Church Working Group on Palestine-Israel, Palestinian Canadian Congress, Peace Alliance Winnipeg, United Jewish People's Order (Winnipeg) and the Winnipeg Centre Federal Green Party Association.

For anyone interested in more in-depth information on the symposium, the entire event was live-streamed and, therefore, videos of the lectures are now available at [israelpalestinelawsymposium.ca](http://israelpalestinelawsymposium.ca).

— Larry Sutherland  
— Candice Bodnaruk  
(Peace Alliance Winnipeg)

## WMO at Culture Days in Winnipeg

— Photo: Wayne Hedin



The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians appeared at Via Rail's Union Station, producing "a large and lush sound".

Culture Days is an exciting annual pan-Canadian celebration of arts and culture. It takes place on the last weekend of September in dozens of cities and towns across the country.

This year, the ninth Manitoba Culture Days featured hundreds of free events for Manitobans in all corners of the province. Since the first cross-country Culture Days, Manitoba has been a leader in both the number and the diversity of activities, and in attendance.

In Winnipeg, events are held in several downtown districts. They include crafts and arts displays, dance, film, literature and spoken word, music, talks and tours, and public visual arts.

A special feature of Culture Days is Nuit Blanche, an all-night exploration and celebration of contemporary art. From dusk to dawn, the free events, exhibits and interactive installations attract thousands of people. The streets are transformed by feature in-

stallations, and events in galleries, businesses, roof tops, patios, alleyways, parking lots and other non-traditional spaces.

The Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra, under the direction of Annis Kozub, has been performing at Culture Days Winnipeg since the beginning. Until this year, they had played at the Forks Market, a lively and busy area in downtown Winnipeg.

This year, their 45-minute "pop-up" performance took place at Via Rail's Union Station. The orchestra played under the high dome in the centre of the station, which created a large and lush sound.

As always, the orchestra's program was very eclectic. It included musical themes of Ukraine, South America, Americana, an original composition by Myron Shatulsky, and music from movies, such as the theme from *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* and "Gabriel's Oboe" from *The Mission*. This diversity of

programming is appealing to both players and listeners.

The appreciative audience consisted of those who came especially for the performance and others who were curious passers-by on their way to or from somewhere.

This type of continuing involvement by the orchestra in a variety of community events has increased its profile by introducing its music to a broad and diverse audience. The orchestra has also attracted an interesting cross-section of players, including those who grew up in our Ukrainian Labour Temple, professional and talented amateur musicians who had never been in our hall until they joined the orchestra, and others who had seen the orchestra in performance and wanted to be a part of it.

We are fortunate to have an orchestra which is so actively involved in the musical community of our city and province.

— Tusiya Kozub

## Concerning USMCA

(Continued from Page 2.) fective enforcement.

This criticism, like the others, notes the removal of the Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) mechanism between Canada and the US. Like the others, it also notes that Mexico is still subject to the ISDS mechanism.

The National Farmers' Union said that, "The Canadian government again secured a trade deal by sacrificing another vital part of domestic supply management."

The NFU affirmed that the supply management system "awarded Canadian dairy and poultry farmers a fair return for producing sufficient quality and quantity without over-production".

Weakening the system by allowing more production from elsewhere to enter the Canadian market encourages foreign producers to sell their

surpluses in the Canadian market below the cost of production, an unfair trade practice known as dumping.

The NFU believes that the entry of American dairy products into Canada will drive many farmers out of business.

In addition to concerns about the effect on the Canadian dairy industry, critics are concerned about the bovine growth hormone which is found in American milk but banned in Canada.

The opposition political parties, having supported the government in its negotiations with the USA, are now criticising the deal as too weak. The Communist Party of Canada has specific examples of sleight-of-hand in the deal, such as limitations on duty-free Canadian car production, and giving the USA a veto on Canadian deals with China, Cuba, Vietnam and others.

# Museum Unveils Exhibition

—Story photos: Jerry Dobrowsky



Many people attended the opening of the *Picturesque Ukraine* exhibition, which will be on display to December 20, including a representative of the Consulate of Ukraine in Toronto. After the museum is relocated in 2019, events like this will be more comfortably accommodated.

Rare excitement filled the air on October 14 when the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum unveiled the exhibition *Picturesque Ukraine*. After all, it is not often that lovers of art in Canada can view 49 works by over 40 contemporary Ukrainian artists, all gathered in one place.

The excitement was heightened by the first impression on entering the museum. While there are some darker canvases in the collection, the overwhelming effect is of bright colour, of energy, and of optimism.

The excitement was well justified. The participants saw a display which is accurately described as varied. Varied in all ways — in the sizes of the works, of course, but more impressively, in the range of



Introduced as guest of honour was Oleh Nedoshytko, who has three works from his series *We Write, In Blood, On Our Motherland* in the exhibition.

media and in the diversity of styles.

There were various examples of abstract art, including some which were clearly influenced by Picasso, as well as works which clearly were not. Between those extremes, the styles and techniques were representative of the richness of current Ukrainian culture.

The reception began with an opportunity to view the exhibition which was spread over all the rooms on the main floor and the display space on the second floor.

The reception formalities were opened by Museum Director Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, who bade the audience welcome, and spoke about the exhibition.

Ms. Pogoryelova reported that most of the 49 works on

display were part of the collection of 200 gathered in 2014 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko, and displayed at the National Shevchenko Museum in Kyiv, Ukraine. Following the anniversary year, Yulia Shylenko, Head of Fonds and Collections at the National Shevchenko Museum in Kyiv, arranged to make the art available to the only museum in the Americas dedicated to Taras Shevchenko.

The Taras H. Shevchenko Museum was unable to accept the entire collection, but gratefully received a selection, which arrived in August. Ms. Pogoryelova expressed the honour felt by the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum at being entrusted with these treasures of Ukrainian culture.

Ms. Pogoryelova introduced Oleh Nedoshytko, guest of honour, who has three works from his series *We Write, In Blood, On Our Motherland* in the exhibition.

Speaking in Ukrainian, with translation, Mr. Nedoshytko spoke of the art works as gifts of the artists' selves: their feelings, their outlooks, their consciousness. Ukraine is living through difficult times, he said, but it exists, and will continue to exist.

An invitation had been issued to Yulia Shylenko to at-



Alisa Osavelyuk and Oksana Zelinska entertained on the bandura before and after the formal program.

tend the unveiling. Unfortunately, she was unable to attend, but she did send a message which was read in English translation by Andrew Gregorovich, Vice-President of the Resident Executive Committee of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum. (The message appears on this page.)

Next, Ms. Pogoryelova introduced Oleh Lesiuk, President of the Ukrainian Association of Visual Artists of Canada.

After thanking the hosts for the invitation to appear, Mr. Lesiuk noted that this was the Day of the Artist, and extended a greeting to all attendees. (Continued on Page 7.)



Oleh Lesiuk, President of the Ukrainian Association of Visual Artists of Canada, informed his audience that the event was occurring on the Day of the Artist.



Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, Museum Director, opened the formalities with a welcome to those attending, and comments about the exhibition.



Andrew Gregorovich, Vice-President of the REC of the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum, read a message from Yulia Shylenko of the National Shevchenko Museum in Kyiv.

## Greeting from Kyiv

Dear Friends, Dear Colleagues!

In 2014, we all celebrated the 200th anniversary of Taras Shevchenko's birth. It was the first Jubilee of the poet in independent Ukraine. We were preparing for this event.

But at that time the war in Ukraine began and, unfortunately, many events planned by the State for this bicentennial could not be realized. Therefore, the project of the National Shevchenko Museum, *200 Artists on the 200th Anniversary of Taras Shevchenko* and the exhibition of original art of the Shevchenko in the art Arsenal were almost the only events to celebrate this anniversary.

I am very grateful that you found the opportunity to take a part of this collection to the Shevchenko Museum in Toronto and to prepare the exhibition *Picturesque Ukraine*. That was exactly the idea that the artists had when they worked on these art pieces — to continue the traditions of Taras Shevchenko, founded by him in the middle of the 19th century— to show the world his beautiful Ukraine.

I want to thank the administration of the Museum for the great work they did to get these works to the Museum, and you could see them. I am happy that this unique project has received such a continuation!

I wish you all success and pleasant emotions that you will get at this exhibition! I am very grateful to all those present, and to those who made it possible to implement this exhibition project!

**Yulia Shylenko, Kyiv, Ukraine**

**Welcome to the only  
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# Economic

(Continued from Page 1.)  
 been invested in renewable energy projects in Ukraine.

One fast growing segment is rooftop solar energy, with \$100 million invested in 4,660 household and factory installations.

By sector, renewable production and year-over-year growths are: solar up 87% to 1.65 billion kWh; wind up 70% to 1.55 billion kWh; small hydro up 19% to 250 million kWh; and biogas and others up 25% to 300 million kWh.

# Steve Fobister

(Continued from Page 1.)  
 inadequate. The criteria for payments are too restrictive, and the amounts paid are too low. The maximum is \$800.00 monthly. In 2016, Steve Fobister was getting \$250.00 monthly.

Steve Fobister protested outside the Ontario Legislature in 2014, seeking a care home in Grassy Narrows for those suffering from mercury poisoning.

He did not live long enough to see the facility built. Nor were any other of the recent promises by lawmakers realized in his lifetime.

However, others will benefit from his efforts. The disability board has undergone a sweeping review, and this year it was announced that the province will retroactively index the disability payments to inflation.

Among other factors, his activism influenced the *Toronto Star* and scientists to determine that fish downstream near Grassy Narrows remain the most contaminated in the province and that there is mercury-contaminated soil and river sediment at or near the site of the old mill. Subsequently, the province committed \$85 million to clean up the river.

Following Steve Fobister's death, federal Indigenous Services Minister Jane Philpott reaffirmed her government's commitment to help build the home. Money has already been provided for planning and design.

Ontario Indigenous Affairs Minister Greg Rickford said, "Steve leaves behind him a legacy of powerful advocacy and courage. He was a testament not only to his community, Treaty 3 and the Anishinabe people of northern Ontario, but he set a standard for leadership for others to follow."

# Correction

Photo: Gloria Gordienko



AUUC Winnipeg Branch Executive met with Vasilina Streltsov to thank her for her time with the Festival Choir. In the photo are (left to right): Tim Gordienko, Tusia Kozub, Kim Boss, Glenn Michalchuk, Vasilina Streltsov, Jeanne Romanoski, Walter Mirosch, and Annis Kozub. We regret the omissions in this caption on Page 10 last month.

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**WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND THANK THE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. IF YOUR DONATION HAS NOT APPEARED ON THE PAGES OF THE "UCH", WATCH FOR IT IN FUTURE ISSUES.**

# Ukrainian Canadian Herald Season's Greetings

**Remember your family and friends with a message!** We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, either in the December, 2018, or 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.

**Deadlines:** November 10, 2018, for December, 2018.  
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  - Other

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

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

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**MESSAGE:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cheque enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Invoice required \_\_\_\_\_ Office receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

## Who, What, When, Where

**Vancouver** — AUUC Vancouver Branch will host the closing event of the 15th Annual Heart of The City Festival on Sunday, **November 4**, starting at **3:00 p.m.** at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre**, 805 E. Pender Street. The **Ukrainian Hall Community Concert and Dinner** features the AUUC Barvinok Choir, Vancouver Folk Ensemble and the Dovbush Dancers, and community groups The Sojourners and Solidarity Notes Labour Choir. Admission is **\$25.00** for adults, **\$15.00** for children. For tickets call **(604)254-3436**.

\* \* \*

**Vancouver** — AUUC Vancouver Branch will host a **Mini-Bazaar and Perogy Lunch** on Saturday, **November 17**, and Sunday, **November 18**, from **11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**, both days. Come and enjoy crafts, home baking and delicious Ukrainian food: borsch, holubtsi, pyrohy and kolbassa. Join us for lunch and socializing at the **Ukrainian Cultural Centre**, 805 E. Pender Street.

\* \* \*

**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 S.W. Tickets: **\$15.00** at the door. For reservations, call **Darlene at 403-271-2379**. Join us for refreshments after the concert.

\* \* \*

**Edmonton** — AUUC Edmonton Branch will start its two-day celebration of the AUUC centennial with a **banquet** at the **Ukrainian Centre**, 11018-97 Street, from **4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** on Saturday, **November 3**. The **program** includes the Trembita Choir, the Children’s Choir, Trembita Dancers, and speakers.

\* \* \*

**Edmonton** — AUUC Edmonton Branch will continue its two-day celebration of the AUUC centennial with an **event** at the **Ukrainian Centre**, 11018-97 Street, from **2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** on Sunday, **November 4**. The **program** includes the Notre Dame de Bananes Choir, historical presentations, and a discussion group.

\* \* \*

**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. **Admittance 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.

## Get Your Subscription to the Ukrainian Canadian Herald.

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## Museum

(Continued from Page 5.) ing artists. Mr. Lesiuk said that he was honoured to represent the artistic community.

Mr. Lesiuk spoke in Ukrainian of the importance that this wonderful exhibition was the result of cooperation between the museum in Ukraine and the museum in Canada. He said that each artist’s gift was magical.

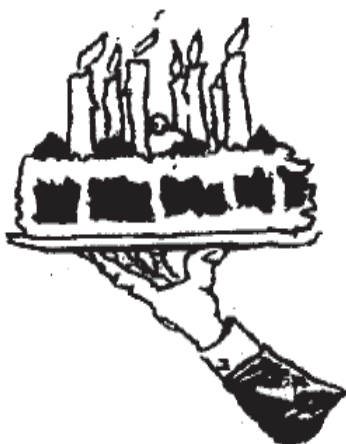
Ms. Pogoryelova closed with a “thank you” to everyone present, and particularly to the Resident Executive Committee and to the volunteers who helped with the reception. She also invited them to enjoy the refreshments being offered on the main floor.

The ceremonies on the second floor ended with a performance of *“Osinnye zoloto”* (Autumn Gold) by Alisa Savelyuk and Oksana Zelinska, who sang and played the Bandura, and *“Bile anhel’stvo”* (for which they were joined by flautist Anna Kubovych).

Having been informed of the beautifully printed catalogue of the exhibition, the participants moved to the main floor for refreshments, more music, conversation and more study of the newly received works of art.

The exhibition has been widely advertised, so the museum is anticipating hosting many visitors before the art comes down in December.

## Happy Birthday, Friends!



The **Toronto AUUC Senior Citizens Club** extends best birthday wishes to November celebrant:

Anne Magus

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

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

Alex Babiy  
Mike Kereluk  
Katie Mackenzie

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

## Why not renew your subscription now?

## 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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E-mail: auucvancouver@telus.net  
Website: www.auucvancouver.ca

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3316-28 Avenue SW  
Calgary AB T3E 0R8  
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E-mail: Calgaryhopak@shaw.ca

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E-mail: auuctorontobranch@gmail.com

### WELLAND BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple  
342 Ontario Road  
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Phone: (905) 732-5656

## Centennial Celebration in Welland

In October, 2017, AUUC Welland Branch marked the centennial of the Welland Ukrainian Labour Temple, generally recognized as the first Ukrainian Labour Temple. On October 21, this year, at the Welland ULT, the Branch marked the centennial of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, universally recognized as having its roots in the 1918 decision to build a Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg.

Shortly after 2:00 p.m., the celebration was opened by Welland AUUC Branch President Wanda Lukan, who bade the audience welcome and introduced the guest artists — the Beryozka Choir of the Federation of Russian Canadians (Ontario). As is their custom, the choir filed in from the far end of the auditorium, to the music of their accompanist Vasile (Vasha) Julea on the accordion.

Once the Beryozka Choir was in place on the stage, MC Tim Mitchell took over. From his first *schtick*, asking the audience which of two hats he should wear, Mr. Mitchell entertained the audience with humour, especially commentary on the program items. So involved was the MC with his humour, playing off the straight notes he had been given, that he occasionally failed to name the piece and/or the soloists. The listeners did not seem to mind.

The choir performed two sets, the first of them composed of Russian songs.

The first number was “*Po Donu gulyayet*” (She walks along the Don), which was followed by “*Uralskaya Ryabinushka*” (duet by Teresa Zarczynska and Trista Mueller, with the choir) and “*Na Gore Kolkhoz*”. The common theme through these three numbers is the search for a mate.

The fourth song, “*Akh Sudba Moya Sudba*” continues the theme, with unrequited love. The duet in this number is by Vicky Vuksinic and Rosemary Pollock.

The next number still involved relationships, but from a different perspective. A Cossack returns from a war in bad shape (“Today we’d call it PTSD”, said the MC), and leaves his former sweetheart, who loves him still.

The next number in this set was the ever-popular “*Katyusha*”. Composed in the 1930s, this song became popular during WWII, and continues to be sung in a wide range of styles.

Song seven, “*Ne Khody Ty Za Mno*” returns to the basic theme, as a young woman reconciles with her straying sweetheart. The solo was by Vicky Vuksinic.

In the final number in this set, “*U Nashey Katee*”, Katya’s philandering husband



In addition to providing accompaniment, Vasile Julea performed a solo “*Csardas*” on his accordion.



Beryozka Choir conductor Sviatlana Litvinava sang the Byelorussian song “*Chakochka*” and a Russian “*Quadrille*”.



makes her the butt of derisive gossip.

To give the choir time to prepare for the next set, a series of solo numbers was introduced, beginning with a performance of a “*Csardas*” by Vasile Julea on the accordion. His rendition was very well received.

Mr. Julea was followed by Beryozka Choir conductor Sviatlana Litvinava, who sang the Byelorussian song “*Chakochka*” a cappella, followed by a Russian “*Quadrille*” with



Teresa Zarczynska sang the Ukrainian song “*Ridna maty moya*” (My Mother) to her own accompaniment.



Kostya Parusis sang, with accompaniment by Vasile Julea.

— Story photos: Wilfred Szczesny



MC Tim Mitchell kept the audience entertained with his commentary on the program items.



Rosemary Pollock (left) and Vicky Vuksinic performed several solos and duets with the choir.

Mr. Julea’s accordion accompaniment.

Lorna Clarke and Wilfred Szczesny sang a trio of songs, accompanied by Vasile Julea.

In the first, “*Za nashow stodolow*” (From Our Barn) a young woman rejects her mother’s choice of husband. In addition to insisting on her own choice, she specifies the dowry which will keep her from becoming a beggar.

In the second, “*Oy mi mylii varenechkib khoche*” (My Darling Wants Perogies), a wife runs out of excuses and agrees to cook some varenyky, leading to domestic bliss.

In the final song, “*Ksenya i pidpenky*” (Ksenya and Mushrooms), a man visits Ksenya for a meal of mushrooms and stays to eat forever for, without Ksenya and those mushrooms, the world is no longer sweet.

Though somewhat under-rehearsed, the performance found favour with the audience.

Teresa Zarczynska accompanied herself on a guitar in performing a rendition of the Ukrainian song “*Ridna maty moya*” (My Mother), a song in which the singer remembers his/her mother’s loving care, symbolized by an embroidered towel. This classic is one of those songs which every vocalist performs.

Kostya Perusis followed with a song sung to Vasile Julea’s accompaniment.

By the time that Vicky Vuksinic and Rosemary Pollock had completed their two duets — “*Zelene zhyto zelene*” (The Rye is Green), and “*Oy Tsvetyot Kalyna*” (the Guelder Rose is Blooming) — the Beryozka Choir was ready to return. They were held up, however, pending the completion of a ceremony.

The Branch had decided to make a couple of presentations, which started as Wilfred Szczesny read a tribute to Rudy Wasylenky, in recognition of Rudy’s 20 odd years of work with the Welland AUUC orchestra and the Branch.

Then, Clara Babiy made a presentation to Mr. Szczesny in appreciation of his participation, which started when Stella Billings began her work as conductor of the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra of the AUUC.

Ms. Babiy also paid tribute to the late Nick Petrachenko, whose contribution to the formation of the orchestra was invaluable.

The second set by the Beryozka Choir of the FRC(O) consisted of Ukrainian songs, beginning with “*Yikhaly kozachenky*” (The Cossacks Came Riding). In this story, the efforts of the Cossacks to win a young beauty are thwarted, and they leave disappointed.

The next song, “*Oy u vyshnevomu sadu*” (In the Cherry Grove), a young woman laments the loss of her sweetheart.

The third number was the Ukrainian drinking song “*Oy khto pye*” (Who Drinks), which advises filling the empty glass as a source of happiness.

The set continued with “*V sadu hulyala*” (I Walked in the Garden).

In the second song about passing Cossacks, “*Yikhaly Kozaky*” (The Cossacks Were Riding), they have more success in turning the young woman’s head, to her misfortune.

The set ended with the widely known “*Rozpryahayty khloptsi koni*” (Unharness the Horses, Lads), in one of the lively versions.

With that, following final words of thanks from Branch President Wanda Lukan, the Beryozka Choir filed off the stage the the music of Vasile Julea.

The end of the concert signalled the beginning of the banquet. As is Welland AUUC Branch tradition, the catered dinner was served buffet style, with pans of chicken, roast beef, varenyky, cabbage rolls, mashed potatoes, salads and cooked vegetables, and gravy, with various pickles, etc., dished out to the hungry diners, augmented by the wine on the tables.

In compliance with a decision of the National Executive Committee. AUUC National Vice-President Wilfred Szczesny spoke to the centennial of the AUUC. His brief remarks spoke of the history of the AUUC, the coming 300th issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, and the National Convention of the AUUC, scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend in 2019.

— Participant



The audience obviously enjoyed what was happening on stage.