

HERALD  ВІСНИК

ЛЮТИЙ, 2020р. НОМЕР 313 ПІК ХХХ

FEBRUARY 2020 NO. 313 VOL. XXX Price \$2.25

# Our Last Issue!

This is the last issue of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* — the last issue, at least, for several months, and the last issue produced by this Editor-in-Chief. In the January, 2020, issue we noted, “We regret that, because of health issues, production of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* over the next few months may be somewhat irregular.” Unfortunately, the health issues (fourth stage pancreatic cancer and the required chemotherapy) have affected my productive capacity faster than anticipated.

Ideally, there would be a replacement ready to step in to continue publication. It is a critical failure of my leadership that no one has been prepared for that role. The cancer was diagnosed quite recently, and the debilitating effects have grown rather quickly — my intent to continue has proven overly optimistic.

While the print edition has come to an end, the future is in sight. Progress is well under way toward the production of a digital news medium, taking Kobzar Publishing to the next stage in the history of publishing in the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community.

I hope to be able to continue contributing to the development of the new publication. At the same time, I take comfort in the knowledge that

movement in the new direction does not depend on me. The other members of the Editorial Board, the Digital Presence Committee, and the Board of Kobzar Publishing are very capable of carrying the project forward.

At this time, I extend thanks to some of the people who have helped produce the paper over the last few years. This list is not exhaustive; it would be beyond my capability to name everyone. Please excuse my failing to name you; rest assured that your contribution is appreciated.

The proof readers who have served as volunteers over the last few years must be mentioned. Connie Prince and Bernardine Dobrowolsky, who did the job before November, 2018, stood ready to return to work when the office returned to Toronto. Sharon McCulla, who retired several years ago, returned as a volunteer when production moved to Mississauga. Zorya Murphy has been proofreading on line since the move to Mississauga in December, 2018.

Zorya and Sean Murphy were very helpful with the move from Toronto to the home office in Mississauga.

Nancy Stewart has been very helpful with financial matters, specifically bill payments.

The folks at Webnews Printing Inc. have been very

accommodating at this difficult time. A special “Thank you” to Holly Stewart for her supportive attitude.

“Thank you” to Sharon Dentry and Kathy Schubert at our administrative office in Winnipeg for their ongoing assistance.

Without our bureau chiefs, this publication would have been unable to reflect the Branches of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians to our readers and the broader public. Thank you for your indispensable efforts.

Special appreciation goes to Editorial Board members Emily Halldorson and Glenn Michalchuk, both of whom have been valuable in the month-to-month task of producing the paper and in the longer-term planning of our publishing future.

I joined the staff of Kobzar Publishing, working on the magazine *The Ukrainian Canadian*, in the summer of 1976. Others on the editorial staff were Mitch Sago, who taught me the general principles of working on that particular example of “cause journalism”, and Mary Skrypnyk, who taught me the nuts and bolts of taking a story from a page in a typewriter to a page in the publication. Ms. Skrypnyk also encouraged me to undertake the specialized skills useful for the “UC”, such as translating Ukrainian literature into English.

The fourth member of the staff was Kay Ross, the administrator.

Back in 1976, the production process was labour intensive. Typewritten copy, marked up with the required information went to linotype operators, who used hot lead to produce lines of type. Many lines of type were combined in galleys and ink was applied to produce galley proofs. The editors read the proofs and returned them to the linotype operators, who made the indicated corrections.

Proofs were made repeatedly, until the editors were satisfied that the copy was correct. It was a dirty process, with lead vapours affecting the health of linotype operators.

When the proofs were correct, excess paper was trimmed away, and wax was used to paste the proofs to page blanks according to layouts designed by the editors, with spaces left blank for photos.

The paste-ups, with pictures measured, masked, and marked up were taken to the print shop, where the publication was assembled and printed.

The first technological change was elimination of the linotype in favour of a computer dedicated to typesetting. This was cheaper, faster, cleaner, and healthier, but otherwise the same process.

The next change was to desktop publishing. The editor could now produce the page on the computer, leaving spaces for pictures. As the printouts were on ordinary white copy paper, wax was still used to paste the printouts to cardboard page blanks.

With the change to the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, several 8.5”x11” pages were pasted together to produce one tabloid-size page. Otherwise, the process was unchanged.

The great leap was the addition of a scanner and Photoshop to process pictures. It meant that the editor could assemble the total publication on a computer, using a program like PageMaker, write the publication to PDF, and submit it online to the print shop.

Kobzar Publishing is now preparing for the next technological leap, eliminating the print shop and the post office, by sending the publication directly from the editorial office to the reader’s computer. Furthermore, the publication can be updated as often as the publisher wishes to do so.

This farewell would not be complete without one more “thank you”, this one to the subscribers and other readers. Without an audience, the publishing project is pointless; with readers, it’s rewarding.

— Wilfred Szczesny

## An Agreement Among Thieves

The *New York Times* may call it a contentious plan and say that it “is heavily weighted toward Israel”, but the reality is that President Trump’s Middle East plan is a pact between thieves on how to pull a heist.

Hatched without Palestinian input and announced in a room full of Israelis and their supporters, the agreement between President Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is merely theatre of the absurd.

As was, no doubt, expected by both actors, the Arab League and representatives of the Palestinian people immediately rejected the plan which gives Israel everything it

wants and gives the Palestinians nothing but promises of future indignities.

The “NYT” recognizes that the plan would allow Israel to annex about 30% of the West Bank, including all the parts it deems important for security or part of its biblical birthright.

“In return, the plan makes the Palestinians a conditional offer of a truncated state made up of a disarmed Gaza Strip and chunks of the West Bank linked by roads and surrounded by Israeli territory”, with no hope for an independent state.

Neither Trump nor Netanyahu care that “Most of the world considers the settlements a violation of interna-

tional law.”

And even so, they ended up at cross purposes. Netanyahu’s government made a triumphant promise to act quickly to extend Israeli sovereignty over substantial parts of the occupied West Bank.

Then Trump said. “No. Wait until after your elections.”

Talk about embarrassment. Instead of wholesale annexation, Netanyahu wonders if he can at least save some face by annexing something like one major settlement. If not, the whole exercise could turn out to be wasted effort, not helping with the election and returning attention to Netanyahu’s legal problems.

## In This Issue

AUUC Members in Anti-War Action .....	3
AUUC Welland Branch Luncheon .....	8
Canada’s Wrong Path .....	2
The Capitalism Debate .....	2
Commentary .....	2
Editorial .....	2
Edmonton Showcase .....	5
Hong Kong: for Your Reference .....	3
Join Us! .....	7
ULT Plaque Update .....	3
Winnipeg ULT Renovations .....	5
Winter Concerts by Trembita Choir .....	7
Winter <i>Zabava</i> in Calgary AUUC .....	4

PUBLICATIONS MAIL 40009476  
 POSTMASTER: IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO  
 KOBZAR PUBLISHING CO. LTD  
 595 PRITCHARD AVENUE  
 WINNIPEG MB R2W 2K4

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

**HERALD****Editor-in-Chief**  
Wilfred Szczesny**Editorial Board**  
Wilfred Szczesny  
Emily Halldorson Glenn Michalchuk**Bureaux Chiefs**Edmonton — Paul Greene  
Ottawa — Bob Seychuk  
Regina — Sasha Lapchuk  
Toronto — Bernardine Dobrowsky  
Vancouver — Dianna Kleparchuk  
Winnipeg — Emily HalldorsonPublished by Kobzar Publishing Company Ltd.  
595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2K4  
Phone: (800) 856-8242; Fax: (204) 589-3404  
E-mail: mail@auuckobzar.netUkrainian Canadian Herald editorial offices are at 658  
Constellation Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L5R 3H6  
Phone: 416-588-1639  
E-mail: kobzar1@on.aibn.comSubscription price: \$30.00 annually (including GST)  
\$40.00 Foreign subscriptions.  
Advertising rates available on request.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476

Signed articles represent the viewpoint of the author, and do  
not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.**Canada's Wrong Path**

An Editorial by Wilfred Szczesny

Parliament is back at work with a minority government. The question facing the country is: Will Canada continue on the destructive path it followed in 2019, or will it adopt more progressive policies domestically and in foreign affairs?

Domestically, the Liberal government has said all the right things, and done all the wrong ones. From relations with Indigenous People, to climate protection, to women's equality, to protection of minorities, to just about every other issue, Justin Trudeau's government has shown itself to be the captive of the corporate elites, guided by a colonial paternalism.

In foreign affairs, Canada has consistently bowed to the USA, sacrificing everything else for the sake of a trade agreement which is badly flawed from this country's perspective.

Canada has acquiesced with the USA's extraterritorial application of American law, bending to all US demands and complying with all the American sanctions which are illegal under international law. Worse, in situations like the attack on Venezuela, Canada has taken a leading position in the service of American positions.

Canadians saw the duplicity of the Liberal government in its first term, and returned it with a minority position at the last election. Parliament can force the government to act honestly in domestic affairs and independently in the international arena, or it can allow the government to divide and conquer, playing off one opposition party against another to continue along the wrong path.

Will Canada protect the land rights of Indigenous People, or will it continue to encroach on traditional lands in support of colonial economic development?

Will Canada combat Islamophobia, or will it turn a blind eye?

Will Canada support workers' rights around the globe, or act on behalf of mining interests?

Will Canada pursue an independent foreign policy, or comply with crippling US sanctions against Iran, the DPRK, Venezuela, Cuba and other countries?

These are just a few of the many questions facing Canada and Canadians in the immediate future. Parliament is in a rare position to affect the answers.

To get Canada off the wrong path, residents of Canada must let all political parties in Parliament know that we want a different political direction for our country.

**COMMENTARY****The Capitalism Debate**

There is an energetic debate under way between those who support capitalism and those who are questioning its merits. In the article "Hail sanitation, not capitalism" in the *Toronto Star* on January 16, Linda McQuaig raised some of the pertinent questions.

Recognizing that the rise of capitalism in the last five centuries has been accompanied by "significant advances in human life expectancy", she asks "Should capitalism get the credit?"

Ms. McQuaig, who specializes in puncturing the capitalist balloon, cites anthropologist Jason Hickel, who points out that the dawn of capitalism "plunged much of humanity into misery". Life expectancy in Britain fell from about 43 years in the 1500s to the low 30s in the 1700s. Life expectancy started to rise again toward the end of the 1800s, when there was a push to separate sewage from drinking water, a move which capitalists "vigorously opposed" because they did not want to pay taxes to fund it.

Citing findings of historian Simon Szreter, Ms. McQuaig writes, "This suggests that it's not capitalism but rather the forces fighting to curb capitalism's worst excesses that have improved people's lives."

On January 23, the Fraser Institute issued a news release proclaiming that the top 10% of income earners in Canada pay more than half of Canada's income taxes. An income of \$96,000 annually puts you into the top 10%. And their share has been rising.

In the article by Linda McQuaig cited above, she notes that, "One can understand why the corporate crowd resorts to threats and bogus claims. Without them, it's hard to defend today's unbridled capitalism."

The Fraser Institute describes itself as "an independent, non-partisan Canadian

public policy think-tank". While all of that description may be technically true, the fact is that the Fraser Institute invariably seeks, and finds, tricky ways to make the ultra-rich seem like victims of injustice.

In this case, the trick is to include the top 10%, where people make \$96,000 and more. What the Fraser Institute has done is point to the impoverishment of the middle class, whose taxes have indeed risen disproportionately. Talking about the 1%, whose effective taxes have decreased, would make the picture much different.

Or do as Ms. McQuaig does, and report that, "While most people saw little or no gain last year, the world's 500 richest people saw their wealth grow by an astonishing 25 percent, so they're richer this year by another \$1.2 trillion (an average of \$2.4 billion each)."

And their share of income taxes has not been rising.

The Fraser Institute, it turns out, is one of the "corporate crowd" making "bogus claims".

The supporters of the supposedly ideal capitalist system seem to consider the USA to be the epitome of free enterprise capitalism. They frequently point to the numbers of people trying to get into the USA as evidence of the benefits of free enterprise. The problem is that the entire scenario is false.

The reality is that American capitalism is very heavily regulated. Though enforcement may be lacking, and in spite of constant efforts (sometimes successful) to remove regulations, the USA attracts people fleeing unregulated capitalism.

People desperately move to the USA not from Western Europe, Japan, Canada, or other countries with relatively strong laws and social safety nets, but from countries where gangs run rampant and cor-

porations (foreign and domestic) ride roughshod over workers' rights and welfare.

Another argument of capitalism's supporters is that unfettered capitalism encourages innovation, thereby bringing great benefits to all humanity.

In the article cited above, Linda McQuaig questions this belief from one aspect. However, any thinking person will quickly have similar doubts.

The history of commerce is replete with tales of establishments, from multinational corporations to local convenience stores, deliberately selling tainted food and other poisons to retain earnings.

In its early stages, capitalism meant sending children into mines to dig for coal, and sending women into textile sweatshops for twelve or more hours a day. In many places these, and other, unsavoury practices continue.

As Ms. McQuaig notes, not capitalism but its opponents bring the benefits of capitalism to the people. Every regulation against which capitalists rail was enacted to counter an evil in the behaviour of entrepreneurs to whom profit (aka shareholders' value, aka the bottom line) was the highest goal.

A spectacular demonstration of the dangers of untrammelled capitalism was the economic crisis of 2008. The financiers found a way to make a fast buck, consequences be damned, leading to people losing their homes, their life saving, and their future prospects. Bailed out by public funds, the ultra-rich have done very well indeed, unlike working people, and they have been busy removing the few regulations which were imposed in an effort to stave off a repeat of the crisis.

There appears to be an increase in concern about the future of capitalism. This concern is expressed in many ways, including debates about the virtues of this economic system, articles about its negative effects, proposals for possible reforms to mitigate its greatest harms, suggestions of possible alternatives.  
**(Continued on Page 7.)**

**SEE US ON THE WEB!****AUUC (National)**  
auuc.ca**Edmonton AUUC, Trembita Ensemble**  
www.ukrainiancentre-edm.ca**Regina AUUC, Poltava Ensemble**  
http://www.poltava.ca/**Taras Shevchenko Museum:**  
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum**Vancouver AUUC**  
http://www.auucvancouver.ca/**Winnipeg AUUC**  
http://ult-wpg.ca/**ADVERTISING RATES**1 page \$600.00  
1/2 \$350.00  
**Smaller Ads:**  
\$5.00 per col./cm  
(or \$12.50 per col./inch)  
**Plus G.S.T.**

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.

## Hong Kong: For Your Reference

For the last six months, events in Hong Kong have captured the headlines. The mainstream media repeat the “pro-democracy” message of the protesters with no analysis of the situation whatsoever. In Canadian cities with large Chinese populations we have seen demonstrations both in support of and against the Hong Kong demonstrators. Canadian think tanks such as the MacDonald-Laurier Institute and right-wing newspapers such as the Toronto Sun have argued for Canada to take an active role in supporting what they describe as a “pro-democracy movement”. In a series of articles, Editorial Board member Glenn Michalchuk has been presenting an analysis of the situation in Hong Kong to bring into focus what is at play in the Hong Kong protests. This third instalment deals with the foreign influence behind the protests.

The foreign influence behind the Hong Kong protests is enormous. Part of this influence is direct and hands on, through political figures and personalities in Hong Kong, and part is through political lobbying as to the actions governments should take.

### Jimmy Lai

Jimmy Lai is his western moniker but his Chinese name is Lai Chee-Ying. Today, he is the billionaire financier of the Hong Kong protests with links to Washington, but his beginnings were much more humble.

Lai, at the age 12, fled China and the revolution in 1960 to Hong Kong. In an interview with the *Nikkei Asian Review* in March, 2016, he described it as “a dash to freedom”.

His twin sister was one of the so-called freedom swimmers who swam from China to Hong Kong. Today, she lives in Canada and is a major private developer.

Lai found work and soon rose to become a manager in a garment factory. By 1975, he was the owner of a garment factory, Comitex, which soon became an Asia-wide retailer with major customers

in the US, such as J.C. Penny.

In 1995, as the hand-over of Hong Kong from Britain to China approached, Lai founded a major anti-China newspaper, the *Apple Daily*, with \$100 million of his own money. He also produces an *Apple Daily* for Taiwan, with the same anti-China stance.

Lai supported and actively engaged in the Occupy Central and Umbrella movements and their challenge to China’s authority over Hong Kong. He is also a major funder of the Hong Kong Democracy Party.

In the current protests, Lai has expanded his role as an interlocutor with foreign governments. In July, 2019, he travelled to Washington to meet with US Vice-President Mike Pence, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and National Security Adviser John Bolton. Lai pointed out to them how fundamental Hong Kong’s freedom is to the US in its escalating cold war with China. Lai was quoted as saying: “We in Hong Kong are fighting for the shared values of the US against China. We are fighting their war in the adversary’s camp.”

The visit by Lai brought a strong rebuke from the Hong Kong administration: “The US side clearly knows who Jimmy Lai is, what his stance is, and what his role is in Hong Kong society. US government top officials have ulterior motives and sent a seriously wrong signal when they queued up to meet such a person at this sensitive time of Hong Kong – we express our strong discontent and opposition.”

It is quite unusual for a state to be so tolerant and allow such meetings, given the anti-China nature of the protests and their potentially subversive character. It would be akin to First Nations leaders asking for support from the Chinese and Russian governments.

Lai is but one of many leading personalities in the Hong Kong protest movement who have met with senior US officials. In March, former Hong Kong Chief Secretary Anson Chan met Pence in Washington, DC, to raise concerns over the city’s issues, including the extradition bill. In May, a delegation led by Democratic Party (Hong Kong) former lawmaker Martin Lee



Jimmy Lai, aka Lai Chee-Ying, the billionaire financier of the Hong Kong protests, met with US Vice-President Mike Pence at the White House on July 8, 2019.

also met with Pompeo in Washington, DC, over the extradition bill.

On September 6, 2019 – before the violence that is now typical of Hong Kong protests and just one month after his White House meeting with Pence – Lai spoke with Bloomberg TV’s Stephen Engle.

Lai told Engle that, if the escalating protests turned violent, China would have no choice but to send People’s Armed Police into Hong Kong to put down unrest. Lai told Bloomberg that such a move would trigger an international response that could bring down the Chinese government: “That will be a repeat of the Tiananmen Square massacre and that will bring in the whole world against China, Hong Kong will be done, and I think China will be done, too.”

In August, 2019, a major diplomatic incident occurred in Hong Kong when Julie Eadeh,

a US consular official, was photographed meeting Anson Chan and Martin Lee (close allies of Jimmy Lai) and protest leaders Joshua Wong and Nathan Law in the lobby of the Marriott hotel.

In a protest to the US government, China alleged the meeting was another example of US involvement in the protests.

Chinese state media pointed to her career – stationed in war zones such as Beirut during the 2006 war and in Baghdad and Mosul – as suggesting she may be more than a mere “consular officer”, using diplomatic cover for covert operations.

In her autobiography which she wrote for Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service, Eadeh acknowledged her postings to global “hot spots” from Baghdad to Beirut to Jerusalem to Taipei and Shanghai during her lengthy career with the US State Department.

## AUUC Members in Anti-War Action

— Photo: Glen Michalchuk



AUUC Winnipeg Branch member Emily Halldorson was among those demonstrating for peace.

On January 11, an anti-war action was held in Winnipeg in response to the dangerous international situation created by the US assassination of Iranian general Qasem Soleimani on January 3 as he travelled from the Baghdad airport.

Winnipeg AUUC members Emily Halldorson and Glenn Michalchuk were among the 125 people who braved frigid temperatures to express their opposition to the US actions and Canada’s role in propping up an unpopular Iraqi government.

The escalating tensions which followed the assassination brought the world close to a major conflict between the USA and Iran. How far that conflict may have spread to include other countries in the region or allies of the USA and Iran was a preoccupation of world leaders in the period that followed.

The tensions between the USA and Iran in the days after the assassination were certainly a factor in the Iranian military downing of Ukraine

International Airlines Flight 752 and the loss of all on board.

Writing in *Now Magazine*, Canadian Scott Taylor, a former member of the Canadian military and publisher of *Esprit de Corps*, warned of the danger that Canada would be drawn into the conflict through its participation in Operation Impact and the 850 troops it has stationed in the Middle East as part of this NATO led mission to counter Iranian influence.

He wrote: “The Iraqi protesters are demanding an end to the corrupt regime in Baghdad...our Canadian soldiers are training Iraqi soldiers to prop up that same cabal. It sounds like Afghanistan all over again...Trump’s illegal assassination of Soleimani is all the excuse we need to pull out of yet another unwinnable, senseless war.”

What may happen next remains a concern of people everywhere. US peace groups have called for January 25 to be a Global Day of Protest against the danger of the US pushing its allies into a war with Iran.

— Glenn Michalchuk

## ULT Plaque Update

The plaque designating the Winnipeg Ukrainian Labour Temple a national historical site was stolen years ago. On January 31, AUUC Winnipeg Branch President Glenn Michalchuk contacted Parks Canada. They advised him that the information they have is that no replacement is scheduled for 2020 or 2021.

According to Parks Canada there is a backlog. They are helpful, understand we want to see it replaced soon, and will write to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board, which controls this. They said it is fairly straightforward, as it is a new plaque. Apparently, with plaques of some age they go through a process to verify information.

Informed that MP Kevin Lamoureux offered to help on this, the Parks Canada person said that would be very helpful.

Mr. Lamoureux will write either to the Minister or the Board asking to speed up the

(Continued on Page 6.)

## Winter Zabava in Calgary AUUC

In 2019, AUUC Calgary Branch decided to do something different for the first concert of the year. Instead of holding a traditional Sunday afternoon concert, Calgary Hopak Ensemble went with a Winter Zabava.

Held on Saturday, December 7, at 4:00 p.m., the celebration included a concert, a traditional Ukrainian supper and a dance, complete with live music. A huge “Thank you!” to Natashia Jeanson, Trevor Shular, Jenna Jurca, and Trisha Bodnarchuk — and their fabulous crew — for providing us with something new and exciting.

The Ukrainian Cultural Centre was beautifully decorated in colours of blue, white, and silver. Large snowflakes and poinsettia plants were strategically placed around the hall, adding to this winter fantasy land. Imagine how excited the children were, knowing they could stay up late and dance the night away with their parents close by! This was truly a delightful way to start the holiday season.

The concert began with the Senior Hopak Dance group, choreographed by Trevor Shular, performing “Volynska Polka”. This lively dance number, accompanied by the Hopak Orchestra conducted by Violetta Dimitrova, set the tone for the rest of the afternoon.

The first group of Dance School performers was the group Chervony Venochek, choreographed by Natashia Jeanson. These six young ladies presented their dance to the music “Vasilevsky Quadrille”. Some of these youngsters have been together for a few years now, and it is amazing to see the growth in their poise and ability.

The all-boys group, Harniy Sharavary, who were choreographed by Alex Tarasenko, next presented “Hopak”. How those red and blue *sharavary* billowed and swayed with the boys leaping, spinning and stomping their enthusiasm on stage. Well done boys!

The Hopak Choir, directed by Violetta Dimitrova, presented three songs that after-

noon: “Oy te nochenka”, a Ukrainian folk song; “Waltz kokhannia”, lyrics by A Pashka and music by V. Shapovienka; and “Barvinok Shchastya”, another Ukrainian folk song.

It was lovely to hear the choir perform those traditional folk songs which brought back memories for so many audience members.

The Senior Hopak Dancers were back to perform next, with “Bukovyna”. This Bukovinian Dance, choreographed by Trevor Shular and accompanied by the Hopak Orchestra, begins slowly and gently, and ends in a swirling of skirts and clicking of fast paced heels. Everyone needed a breather after that number!

And so, on came our youngest dance group, Chervichky. Choreographed by Jenna Dunbar, these girls performed the “Kozachok”. These tiny first-time dancers performed with such enthusiasm and confidence, they brought many oohs and aahs from the appreciative audience.

We were very excited to add a singing quartet to this year’s concert. All four singers are also dancers with the Hopak Dance School. Who knew they could sing as well?

The first song they sang, in Ukrainian was “*Khodet harbuz po horody*”. This folk song tells about the adventures of a watermelon in the garden, as it meets with fellow vegetables. Judging from the smiles of the audience, this story was well understood.

Their second song, “In the Garden Flowers are Growing”, was a lovely playful song between the boys and girls. Thank you, Nora, Claire, Joshua and Ava, for delighting us with your wonderful voices.

Our next dance group, Tynok, was actually a dance duet. Choreographed by Alex Tarasenko, Roman and Claire beautifully danced “*Bukovynska zabava*”. We wondered if we would see that kind of exciting dancing later on, at our own *Zabava*!

The Calgary Hopak Orchestra presented three musical pieces that afternoon. The first was “The Harmonist Plays”, arranged by Myron Shatulsky; the second was “Nocturne”, composed by A. Lavrov and featuring soloist Liz Schier; the third was “Spanish Dance” from the ballet *Raymonda* by I. Glazunov. One can’t help but wonder at the talent within this orchestra. They play for all the dance groups and the choir, and still find time to learn additional pieces to play just for the love of playing together. This never fails to astound me.

The concert ended with Senior Hopak dancers performing “Spring Kozachok”,



Claire and Roman of the Tynok dance group, shown with instructor Alex Tarasenko, performed “*Bukovynska zabava*”.



The Harniy Sharavary dance group, choreographed by Alex Tarasenko, presented “Hopak”.



The Chervichky group, choreographer Jenna Dunbar, danced a “Kozachok”.

— Story photos: Trista Bailey



Chervony Venochek, choreographed by Natashia Jeanson, presented their dance to the music “Vasilevsky Quadrille”.

choreographed by Trevor Shular, with music arranged by Lindsay Stetner. What a resounding way to end the concert!

While our guests enjoyed the open bar, the performers changed out of costumes into their party finery. Awaiting them was a catered meal, complete with holubtsi, pyrogies, salads, roast beef, potatoes and huge pieces of cake for dessert. Yum!

Even before the last bit of coffee and dessert was consumed, the band, the Brabec Brothers, could be heard warming up. It didn’t take long before everyone was on the dance floor doing what we

all love to do — dance. It really was a wonderful night.

“Thank you” to all our parents, who continue to support our cultural activities.

“Thank you” to Trista Bailey for keeping our Calgary Hopak Ukrainian Dance School operating so smoothly.

“Thank you” to our Senior Hopak Dancers who took the lead in organizing this Winter Zabava.

“Thank you” to Marv who graciously stepped in to be stage manager.

“Thank you” to all who continue to support the activities of the AUUC through the Calgary Hopak Ensemble.

— Darlene Hrynchshyn



### IVAN FRANKO MUSEUM

200 McGregor Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 5L6  
(204) 589-4397

Free Admission by appointment only

# Winnipeg ULT Renovation

As layers are removed, it becomes clear that the Winnipeg Ukrainian Labour Temple has had a history of change to accommodate the changing needs of the organization that was housed within its walls. In viewing work under way to prepare for the new construc-

tion that is to come, parts of the building not seen since its earliest years are being revealed.

As the past required changes, so too does the present day, in order to make the Ukrainian Labour Temple an accessible space. It reflects

on the AUUC.

Not too long ago, the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians had a choice — to wind up and become an historical artifact, maybe preserved in some book or some university lecture, or to play a role going forward. The

AUUC chose the latter, and when the funds became available took the plunge on two major projects: the building of a “new” Shevchenko Museum on the footprint of the Toronto AUUC Cultural Centre and to undertake making the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Winnipeg an accessible space so that it could meet both AUUC needs and those

of the broader progressive community.

The work is still in the demolition phase, but once it enters the construction phase it should proceed quickly. The current time line calls for the Hall to be completed by end of March, but April is more likely.

On the next page are some **(Continued on Page 6.)**

# Edmonton Showcase

On December 21, 2019, the Trembita dance and choir school held its first performance of the season at the Ukrainian Centre in Edmonton.

This year’s performance had a uniqueness to it: instead of a regular concert-style performance, the instructors developed a program showing the exercises needed to pre-

pare for dancing, while the Choir Conductor showed exercises necessary for choral work.

The program was coordinated by Tamara Krausher. Instructors were Maria Vorotilenko, Angela Saxby, and Jordan Onyshchuk; Choir Conductor was Marina Lavrinenko. Pianist was Svitlana Romanova. Winston

Gereluk acted as MC.

The Tiny Tots appeared first, and were led through some preparatory exercises by Maria and Angela, followed the presentation of minor Ukrainian dance steps with all sorts of configurations.

The Zaychyky performed next. This group had been introduced to barre exercises, led by Maria and Angela. They were then led through basic Ukrainian dancing steps, with many circles, pirouettes and jumping steps.

The children’s choir was led by Marina Lavrinenko through

some physical exercises and then some singing warm-up exercises.

They sang two songs in Ukrainian: “*Ukrayinske slovo*” (Ukrainian Word), and “*Prohulye z tatom*” (Dancing with father). They also sang two numbers in English: “Jolly Old St. Nickolas” and “Jingle Bell Rock”, accompanied on piano by Svitlana Romanova.

The Junior Boy’s Dance Group performed next, led by Angela Saxby through barre exercises and various dance steps.

Led by Maria Vorotilenko, the Kalyna Dance Group per-

formed their various barre exercises, followed by various dancing configurations with many different jumping steps.

The Lileya Dance group were led through a multitude of barre exercises, warming up the muscles for dancing. Maria led them through more difficult movements and steps.

This was a fabulous methodology performance portraying how the children are taught dancing and choral work.

The performance was enjoyed by all, as was the small luncheon which followed.

— **Paul Greene**

Story photos: Lesley Bibkevich



Groups showed various dance steps, from the most basic to a variety of leaps.



Before singing two songs in Ukrainian and two in English, the children’s choir, conducted by Marina Lavrinenko and accompanied on piano by Svitlana Romanova, went through some physical exercises and some singing warmup exercises.



Santa Claus is indispensable at any December event involving children.



Several dance groups demonstrated barre exercises. Among them was the Lileya dance group which went through a multitude of barre exercises, warming up the muscles for dancing.

# Winnipeg ULT Renovation

— Story Photos: Glenn Michalchuk

(Continued from Page 5.) photos of the work in progress.

**Foyer wall detail.** The photo shows one of the foyer walls, now stripped of its previous covering. The painted decorative detail is from one of the earlier periods in the history of the Hall.

**Basement new wash-room area.** The photo shows the old washrooms now gutted. This will be rebuilt as the new men's and women's accessible washrooms.

**Basement new entrance area.** This will be the area which contains the ramp into the basement. The wall in the background will eventually be opened up for the accessibility lift.

**Foyer.** Looking from the Pritchard entrance. The accessibility accommodation is transforming the foyer. This is necessitated by the placement of the lift and accessible washroom. The new foyer will be visible through a glazed wall as one enters the Pritchard and McGregor entrance. The old door openings to the main hall will be replaced with glazed sidelights flanking new glazed doors in the centre.

**Location of lift.** The short flight of stairs at the Pritchard and McGregor entrance foyer will be the location of the accessibility lift. It will operate down to the basement level and up approximately three feet to exit at the level of the main hall.

**View of the foyer looking towards lift.** This view of the foyer looks towards the location of the accessibility lift and the new stair entrance to the foyer. The opening on the right side of the wall was the location of the old phone booth. It will be glazed to create an open welcoming view for those using the accessibility entrance.

**Section of basement floor.** This is at the back of the basement hall. Two washrooms that were taken out of service many years ago will be replaced with two new washrooms, one accessible washroom and a modern janitor's room equipped with sink. The floor has been broken up to allow for access to a broken plumbing pipe.

— Glenn Michalchuk

## ULT Plaque

(Continued from Page 3.) replacement. He will keep us posted.

Mr. Lamoureux is a big supporter of the ULT, and wants to have his perogy fund raiser there next year once our work is complete. He says that he prefers the space to churches because of its importance to the north end.



Foyer wall detail.



Location of lift.



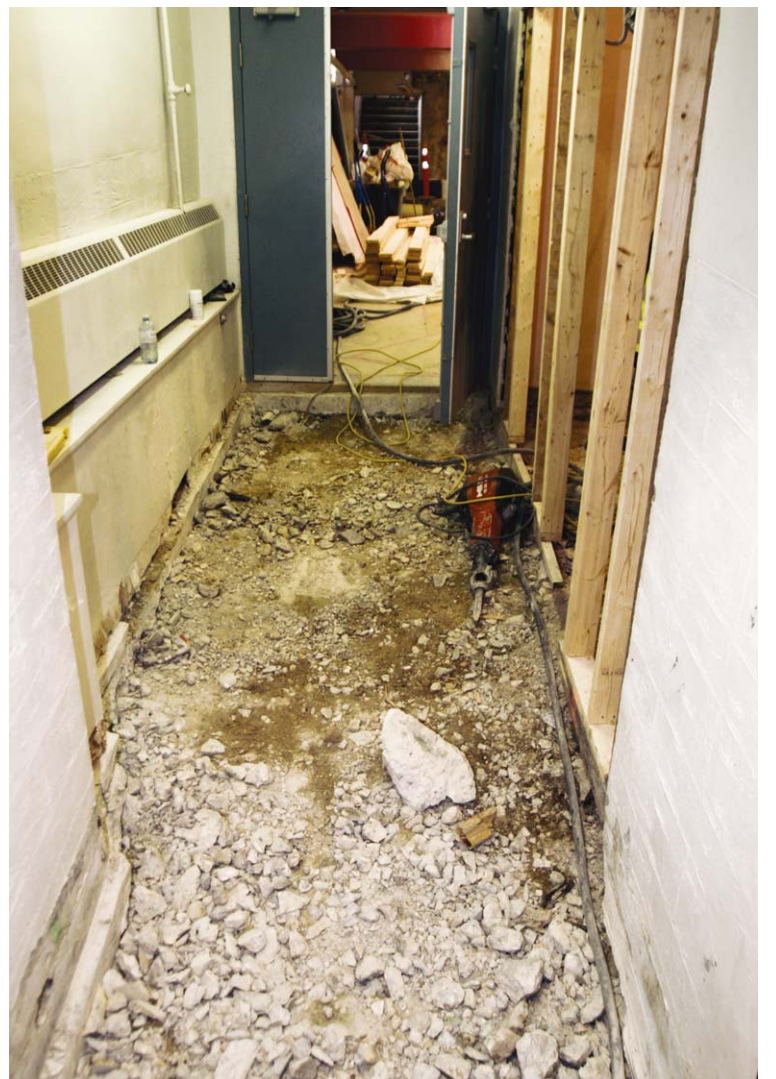
Basement new washroom area.



View of the foyer looking towards lift.



Basement new entrance area.



Section of the basement floor.



Foyer

## Winter Concerts by Trembita Choir



The Trembita Choir, conducted by Olesya Nazarenko, performed a concert at a Christmas Supper at St. Andrews Senior's Hall on December 11. They presented the same program at the Byzantine Festival on January 11.

— Story photos: Sam Muratovich



Svitlana Romanova provided piano accompaniment.

On December 11, 2019, the Trembita Choir of the AUUC Edmonton Branch, conducted by Olesya Nazarenko and accompanied on the piano by Svitlana Romanova, performed a concert at a Christmas Supper at St. Andrews Senior's Hall. Master of Ceremonies was Winston Gereluk.

A month later, on January 11, the choir repeated the program at the Byzantine Festival, a community celebration held every year. Once again the choir was invited to participate in this event in the small community cultural pavilion.

The choir opened with the Ukrainian song of greeting "*Laskavo prosymo*" (We sincerely invite you).

The second number was "*Oy pid vishneyu*" (Under the cherry tree), from the Ukrainian operetta, *Natalka Poltavka*.

The next song was "*Dona Nobis Pacem*" (Give us peace) a plea for peace sung in Latin. Vocal soloist was

(Continued on Page 8.)

## The Capitalism Debate

(Continued from Page 2.) tives.

There are many reasons for the concern, depending on the circumstances of the person doing the worrying. Perhaps the unifying concept among those who continue to adhere to capitalism as the ideal system is fear that the accelerating polarization between the extremely wealthy and the rest of humanity is inherently unstable.

The instability could lead to various consequences. The French Revolution and the Great October Socialist Revolution are among the nightmares disturbing the sleep of some commentators. The Great Depression of the 1930s and two world wars are possibilities keeping others awake at night.

Less dramatic, but equally concerning to some, are the fears that the success of the ultra-rich (and therefore ultra-powerful) in reserving assets and values to themselves while impoverishing the rest of humankind have an incredible economic cost. This includes both the cost of jails, hospitals, and other institutions dealing with the effects of poverty, as well as the cost of diminished markets when impoverished populations are unable to buy the products which are increasingly produced by machines.

Because of these fears, some of the very rich, whose tax rates are lower than those faced by their employees, are saying that they would be willing to pay higher rates of income tax or pay some other

form of tax. However, the overwhelming majority still hide their money in tax havens, and fight any move to compel more equitable tax regimens.

Similarly, there is increasing talk about guaranteed annual income or other income support plans. Again, the ultra-rich, in their majority, oppose any such proposal if they have to help pay for it. Some things have not changed in over 100 years.

There does seem to be at least one change: the increased eagerness of governments, in various ways, to guarantee the profits of the largest corporations, including lower tax rates, bailouts, subsidies, public-private partnerships, privatizations, and many other means.

— Wilfred Szczesny

Kobzar Publishing will contact subscribers about the unused portion of their subscription.

## JOIN US!

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

### AUUC NATIONAL OFFICE

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

### VANCOUVER BRANCH

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

### CALGARY BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre  
3316-28 Avenue SW  
Calgary AB 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  
1809 Toronto Street  
Regina SK S4P 1M7  
Phone: (306) 522-1188 Web site: www.poltava.ca

### WINNIPEG BRANCH

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

### OTTAWA BRANCH

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

### TORONTO BRANCH

2238 Dundas Street West  
P.O. Box 59044  
Phone: 416-763-1599  
E-mail: jbe.dobro@sympatico.ca

### WELLAND BRANCH

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

## Winter Concerts by Trembita Choir

(Continued from Page 7.)

Olesya Nazarenko.

The choir then sang a humorous song, "Varenychky" (perogies).

Paul Greene performed as soloist in "Dyvlyusya na nebo" (I gaze at the heavens).

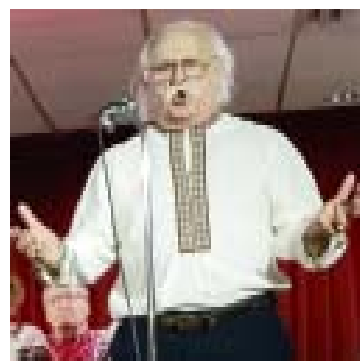
The choir performed the famous song, "This Land Is My Land" in both English and Ukrainian, with soloists Ed Bilyk, in Ukrainian, and Winston Gereluk, in English, while the choir sang the chorus in both languages.

Heather Eskow and Sam Muratovich sang a duet: "Angels We Have Heard on High".

Winston Gereluk performed Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah", accompanied by the pi-



Soloists Winston Gereluk (left), in English, and Ed Bilyk, in Ukrainian, with the choir, sang a bilingual version of "This Land Is My Land".



Soloist Paul Greene performed his rendition of "Dyvlyusya na nebo".



Alex Boykowich and the choir sang "Boh predvichnay", one of the most famous of Ukrainian Christmas carols.

ano and choir.

The quartet of Olesya Nazarenko, Iryna, Corinne Benson, and Sam Muratovich joined voices to sing "Silent Night" in English, Ukrainian and Serbian, accompanied by Svitlana Romanova on the piano and Heather Eskow on the flute.

The choir sang "Nova radeest nastalas" (New happiness has begun), a Ukrainian Christmas carol.

They followed with another Ukrainian carol, "Dyvnaya novyna" (Wonderful news).

The choir then sang one of the most famous of Ukrainian carols, "Boh predvichnay" (The Eternal God), with vocal soloist Alex Boykowich.

The choir added two Ukrainian new year songs: "Staray rik mynaye" (The old year is passing), and "Znovym vam lyudy rokom" (Happy New Year, People).

They finished the Concert with "Bud'ty zdorov" (Be Healthy).

Also on the program was the love song "Nich yaka misyachna" (How Bright the Moon or Moonlit Night), with soloist Orest Hrechukh

— Paul Greene



Olesya Nazarenko performed "Dona Nobis Pacem" in Latin.



Orest Hrechukh performed "Nich yaka misyachna".



The vocal quartet of Sam Muratovich, Iryna, Corinne Benson, and Olesya Nazarenko, accompanied by Svitlana Romanova on the piano and Heather Eskow on the flute, sang "Silent Night" in Ukrainian, Serbian, and English to the delight of the audience.

## AUUC Welland Branch Luncheon

On January 8, the Welland Branch of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians hosted a luncheon for its members at the Mandarin Restaurant in Niagara Falls. In addition to Branch members and a spouse, the event was attended by invited guest Wilfred Szczesny.

While enjoying the Chinese buffet, participants were treated to remarks by Clara Babi, who paid tribute to four

AUUC members.

Speaking of Lida Braun, Clara mentioned her participation in the 2nd mandolin section of the orchestra and her role as social convenor for the Branch and the Shevchenko Seniors. Most impressive, however, was Lida's record of missing only one shift in twenty years of making and selling perogies every second week.

Rudy Wasylenky joined the

— Story photos: Wanda Lukan



Attending the luncheon (left to right) were: Lida Braun, Clara Babi, Joan Sittak, George Sitak, Rudy Wasylenky, Wilfred Szczesny, Christine Whatmough, Leonard Whatmough, Bill Lukan, Wanda Lukan, and Joy Edwards.

Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra while Stella Billings was conductor, and took over that position when Stella died in 1998. He continued until retiring in early 2018. In addition to broadening the orchestra's repertoire with new numbers which he orchestrated, Clara said, Rudy also sang, adding variety to concerts. Very significantly, Rudy was able to involve vocalists John Bokla and Margaret Card in the ensemble, greatly enhancing the group's performances.

In her youth, Clara reminded her audience, Joy Edwards was one of the top accordion players in Canada. The Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra of the AUUC was fortunate indeed that Joy joined the group. Her talent was featured in many of the musical orchestrations by Rudy Wasylenky. In addition to participating in the orchestra, Joy has been the AUUC Welland Branch Recording Secretary for many years.

Stella Billings became conductor of the Welland Ukrain-

ian Mandolin Orchestra in the early 1990s, soon after the split in the orchestra. Because Stella needed company for the ride from Toronto to Welland and the orchestra needed a mandocello player, Wilfred travelled with Stella and joined the orchestra. After Stella died, Wilfred travelled by public transit to Burlington, where he was picked up by Rudy Wasylenky for the trip to Welland.

For almost 30 years, Wilfred

played in the orchestra, sang as a soloist and in duets with Rudy Wasylenky, Margaret Card, John Bokla, and others, and acted as concert MC. Clara also mentioned that Wilfred occasionally helped her with speech writing.

After Clara completed her presentation, some others around the table, including the honorees and Welland Branch President Wanda Lukan, made brief comments.



Honoured by AUUC Welland Branch at a luncheon on January 8 were (left to right): Rudy Wasylenky, Wilfred Szczesny, Joy Edwards, and Lida Braun.