

HERALD BICHIK

СІЧЕНЬ, 2019р. HOMEР 301 PIK XXVIII

JANUARY 2019 NO. 301 VOL. XXVIII Price \$2.25

Dance Seminar in Vancouver

— Photo: Liam Griffin



Following a hiatus of several years, the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians held a very successful national dance seminar in Vancouver on November 10-12. A report on the event, with photos, appears on Page 5.

Oilpatch Not Impressed

Prime Minister Trudeau says, “Here’s \$16 billion.”

The oilpatch says, “Are you deaf, man? We’re not looking for more debt; we’re looking for help moving our product.”

Specifically, Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says Ottawa’s new \$16-billion aid package for the oilpatch will help, but it won’t fix the pipeline bottleneck crippling the province. What Alberta and the oilmen want is a way to move their product to their markets.

Federal Natural Resources Minister Amarjeet Sohi announced the package in Edmonton Tuesday. The money is largely in the form of corporate loans, aimed at helping companies stay afloat, buy new equipment and diversify.

\$1 billion is to be set aside through Export Development Canada for oil and gas companies to make capital investments and purchase new tech-

nology. Another \$500 million is to be made available through the Business Development Bank of Canada over the next two years to help smaller oil and gas companies navigate the downturn. A further \$150 million is to be used for clean growth and infra-structure projects.

They may need money to stay afloat, but none of the other stuff is of any value if they can not move their product.

Notley called the announcement a start. “We’ve heard from some small producers that this will help them get access to capital in trying times and perhaps tide them over, but it is not entirely what they were looking for, too,” she said.

Tim McMillan, CEO of the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, said the industry appreciates federal recognition of the oilpatch

problems, but said it didn’t ask for money under federal government programs.

“We’re a job-creating industry and an investment attractive industry if we can get our fundamental building blocks right, and that’s what we’ll continue to push for,” said McMillan.

Mount Royal University political science professor Duane Bratt said, “There isn’t a whole lot there. These are not new programs. These are existing programs, where they just added a bit more money for companies to apply for.”

Political opponents dismissed the money as a politically motivated and ultimately ineffective gesture.

“Today’s handout is nothing more than a desperate, election-year attempt to trick western Canadians into thinking (Prime Minister Justin Trudeau) cares,” said federal **(Continued on Page 11.)**

The Next Issue

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

NOTICE

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

Effluent Winning

Since the spring they were able to hold off the survey boats scouting for a place to put a pipe to dump Northern Pulp Mill effluent, 62 million litres of it each day, into the Northumberland Strait between Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

On December 18, almost a hundred of them stood in blowing snow outside the Nova Scotia Supreme Court building in Halifax. They had come to support the fishermen against whom Northern Pulp Mill was seeking a temporary injunction, and to protest the plan to spill all that effluent.

They were the fishermen of course, as well as various environmental groups, Pictou Landing First Nation, and Pictou area residents and other supporters, including Hollywood actor Ellen Page,

the P.E.I. government, and Indigenous residents of Pictou Landing First Nation, near the plant.

The injunction was granted in December 18 by Nova Scotia Supreme Court Justice Denise Boudreau. She said they had the right to “lawful protest”, but not the legal right **(Continued on Page 11.)**

In This Issue

The Challenge in Ottawa ..	4
Changes Coming to	
Child Services	3
Commentary	4
Current Eclectic	2
Dance Seminar in	
Vancouver	5
Digging out Treason	9
Editorial	4
Europe Up in Arms	2
A Finding of Racism	3
Happy Birthday, Friends! ..	10
Harry Leslie Smith	2
Heading for Theocracy? ...	9
Hopak Ensemble Winter	
Concert	7
An Illegal Detention	4
Incident in the Kerch	
Strait	9
Join Us!	10
The Murder of Kateryna	
Handziuk	9
Open Season on Media	2
National Inquiry	
Winding Up	3
Peace Congress	
Convention	6
Seasons greetings	8,11
Steel and Aluminium	
Tariffs Must Go	2
Sustaining Fund	10
Ukrainian Miscellany	9
Who, What, When, Where	
Winnipeg Branch	
Holiday Party	7

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

**HAPPY NEW YEAR —
 3 HOVIM POKOM!**

**The National Executive Committee of the
 Association of United Ukrainian Canadians
 extends best wishes for a
 happy, healthy and peaceful 2019 to
 all members and friends of the AUUC
 and readers and supporters of
 The Ukrainian Canadian Herald!**

Harry Leslie Smith



Harry Leslie Smith was born on 25 February, 1923, in Barnsley, Yorkshire. His father was Albert Smith (1867–1943), a coal miner; his mother, Lillian Dean (1894–1978).

His eldest sister, Marion, died of tuberculosis in 1926, at age 11. There was no cure for the disease at the time; even if there had been, the family did not have enough money to see a doctor.

After his father lost his job, the family moved to Bradford, Yorkshire, and then to Halifax, West Yorkshire.

Smith joined the Royal Air Force in 1941, and spent several years in Hamburg, Germany, as part of the Allied occupation force. Whilst serving there, he met his future wife, Friede.

The couple returned to the United Kingdom after he was demobilized, and he worked at

various jobs around the Yorkshire area.

In November, 1953, the couple emigrated to Canada, living in Scarborough (now part of Toronto), and later, in Belleville, Ontario.

They had three sons.

Harry Smith made a career in the Oriental rug trade, as a buyer and salesman for Eaton's, specializing in importing new designs from the Middle East, the former Soviet bloc, and Afghanistan.

Friede died in 1999, and his middle son, Peter, died in 2009.

After their deaths, Mr. Smith consoled himself by writing.

In his retirement, Smith was a writer of memoirs and social history, dividing his time between Ontario and Yorkshire.

He wrote regularly for *The Guardian*, commenting on politics and twentieth-century history.

In November, 2013, he wrote that he would not wear the poppy on Remembrance Day in future years, because he felt the symbol was being used to promote support for present-day conflicts.

He addressed the September, 2014, Labour Party conference, speaking in support of the National Health Service (NHS). He described how common preventable diseases “snuffed out life like a warm candle flame” prior to the creation of the National Health Service.

Natalie Mehra, Executive Director of the Ontario Health Coalition remembers him as a

Current Eclectic

staunch defender of medicare in Canada, perhaps influenced by the early death of his sister, but certainly informed by the social conditions he saw around him.

The global financial crisis of 2008 inspired him to write and campaign on income inequality, public services and the diminishing prospects for young people.

In July, 2015, Harry Smith endorsed Jeremy Corbyn's campaign in the Labour Party leadership election.

In October, 2015, he appeared on the BBC Three documentary *We Want Our Country Back*, where he sharply criticised Britain First, the far-right anti-immigration political movement.

In 2016, Harry Smith endorsed Corbyn's re-election campaign at the Labour Party leadership election.

In September, 2017, he released his fifth book, *Don't Let My Past Be Your Future*, published by Little Brown. That past was one filled with politically driven austerity, private health care, and vicious populism.

Harry Smith was active in support of refugees during the European migrant crisis. In November, 2017, Harry Smith appeared on the Sky One comedy *The Russell Howard Hour*, on which he briefly recalled his trip to the Calais Jungle, and discussed his new

book and the increasing dependence on food banks in the United Kingdom.

Smith wrote: “I am one of the last few remaining voices left from a generation of men and women who built a better society for our children and grandchildren out of the horrors of the second world war, as well as the hunger of the Great Depression. Sadly, that world my generation helped build on a foundation of decency and fair play is being swept away by neoliberalism and the greed of the 1%, which has brought discord around the globe. Today, the western world stands at its most dangerous juncture since the 1930s.”

On November 20, 2018, Harry Smith was admitted to Belleville General Hospital, in critical condition after contracting pneumonia. His hospital stay prompted an international outpouring of support from well-wishers from around the world; including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Leader of the Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn. He died on the morning of November 28, 2018.

Harry Leslie Smith is survived by his son John Smith who, in a moving tribute to his father printed in the December 9 issue of the *Toronto Star*, undertakes to continue his father's work.

— **Wikipedia with other sources**

Open Season on Media

Reporters Without Borders issued a report on December 18 which cited the slayings of dozens of people working in the media worldwide in 2018, of whom Jamal Khashoggi was just the highest profile.

The group said at least 63 professional journalists were killed around the world in 2018, a 15% increase from the previous year. That number increases to 80 when it includes media workers and citizen journalists, according to the annual compilation that the Paris-based non-profit organization has put together every year since 1995.

Attacks against journalists—in the form of deaths, imprisonment or disappearances—have risen in all categories, according to the group, which is also known by its French acronym RSF. In addition to those killed, it found 348 journalists were detained by authorities and 60 others held captive by non-state groups.

Seeking to put the threat in context, the report decried the more and more vociferous, attacks on the profession by public figures, and noted the

role of social media in amplifying such incitement

“Violence against journalists~ has reached unprecedented levels this year,” according to RSF Secretary General Christophe Deloire. “The hatred of journalists that is voiced, and sometimes very openly proclaimed, by unscrupulous politicians, religious leaders and businessmen has tragic consequences on the ground, and has been reflected in this disturbing increase in violations against journalists.”

Of those journalists who died worldwide, 60% were deliberately targeted for their reporting.

This year marked a contrast to the previous three years, during which the number of journalists in all categories killed in connection with their work had declined.

In 2018, for the first time, the USA joined the group's list of the five deadliest countries for journalists. One factor may have been President Trump's habit of calling the press “enemies of the people”.

Steel and Aluminium Tariffs Must Go

Donald Trump's steel and aluminium tariffs contradict a key component of the new North American trade agreement—the pivotal section on autos—which will ultimately lead to their demise, Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland told *The Canadian Press*.

The fight to remove the tariffs imposed by US President Trump is being aided by the

broader calls from American business to have them lifted before the new continental trade pact is ratified. Their argument centres on the fact that a major section of the new agreement—known as the Canada-U.S.-Mexico Agreement, or CUSMA—focuses on raising the content requirements of North American-built cars. Ms. Freeland and Prime Minister

Justin Trudeau have assailed the so-called Section 232 tariffs as illegal and insulting, given the close military and security relationship between Canada and the USA.

Ultimately, it will be the US Department of Commerce that decides the tariff question, but Chrystia Freeland said that Ottawa's approach is “to keep banging away” at US departments.

Europe Up in Arms

In the last few week there have been very energetic demonstrations in Europe.

One location has been Hungary, where thousands of people have taken to the streets to protest what they call “slave laws”. One concern was the amount of overtime employers can demand, raised from 250 hours annually, raised to 400 hours each year. Furthermore, employers have three years to pay the overtime pay, up from one year.

The issues have proliferated over the days of protest

to include other policies of the Viktor Orban government.

In Belgium the right-wing protested for several days in opposition to an international treaty on migration. The Belgian government supported the agreement, but others, notably the USA, Israel, Australia, and several European countries were not joining.

In France, the home of the yellow vests, an estimated 125,000 people demonstrated in various cities, in protests that started in opposition to an increase of the gas tax, but has

broadened to protest against high taxes and declining living standards. Over a hundred people had been injured, and almost a thousand arrested. President Macron withdrew the fuel tax increase, but the move was considered “too little too late”.

Around Europe there were demonstrations in support of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. In Turkey, where at least 337 women died in incidents of domestic violence in 2108, police tried to ban the action, which was transformed from a march to a sit-in.

National Inquiry Winding Up

As the “UCH” goes to press, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls is concluding its evidence-gathering hearings. Final submissions from parties with standing were planned to be heard in Ottawa in the week of December 10.

Approximately 100 parties had official standing, including persons or groups who demonstrated they had a substantial and direct interest in missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, as well as others with expertise and perspectives deemed essential for the inquiry to fulfil its mandate.

On Monday, December 10, the inquiry was expecting to hear from representatives of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, Quebec Native Women, Native Women’s Association of Canada, and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada.

Later in the week, Amnesty International Canada, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action and Partners Canada Without Poverty, Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and other national and regional parties were to address the commis-

sioners.

The Commission is expected to submit its final report to the federal government by April 30.

In mid-October, the Commission was hearing final public testimonies in St John’s, Newfoundland, with four days of testimony that focused largely on sexual exploitation, human trafficking and what police services have done — but also not done — about complaints.

Among the witnesses was Winnipeg Police Chief Danny Smyth, who apologized because “Indigenous women were not treated with the respect and dignity they deserve.”

“The police in Winnipeg have not always been on the right path,” Chief Danny Smyth said during testimony in St. John’s about his staff’s efforts to stamp out sexual exploitation.

He said that over several years, the force had shifted to a “victim-centred” service, which focused on prosecuting traffickers and clients — not sex workers.

Chief Smyth said that Winnipeg has the highest per capita Indigenous population in a major Canadian city, and Indigenous people have re-

ceived poor treatment over the years.

Also speaking in St. John’s was Mary Fearon, the director of the Blue Door Program in St. John’s, which helps sex workers leave the trade.

“There were a lot of vulnerable youth in the community who were being exploited,” she said. Although it only started accepting clients about a year ago, the program now has 21 people enrolled, with another 10 on a waiting list. Ms. Fearon said a third of them are Indigenous. Almost all are female.

“We saw the need and we recognized that there needed to be a service to support people who were engaging in the sex trade,” said Ms. Fearon, adding that the Blue Door already needs more resources.

Ms. Fearon said that, when someone enrolls, case workers help to come up with an exit strategy — but change doesn’t happen overnight.

“People are doing the best they can with where they are in that very moment,” she said. “It takes a lot of courage to come through a door and say, ‘I need help.’”

Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Chief Joe Boland told the inquiry how his force works with the Blue Door program to connect with sex workers.

The inquiry also heard from Lanna Moon Perrin, an Anishinaabe woman from

Sudbury, Ontario, who describes herself as an activist and a sex worker.

Ms. Perrin described leaving home as a teenager and living on her own.

She said that sex work allowed her to provide for herself and her two children. She said she felt empowered by that. Ms. Perrin advocates for the decriminalization of sex work. She believes laws against it endanger people who work in the trade.

“We have to hide from police, we have to go to places that are even more isolated,”

she said. “We get victimized when we get pushed into the darkness.”

Robyn Bourgeois, a professor at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ont., testified about the different ways academics and advocates approach the sex trade. Some want to see it decriminalized, while others want to see it abolished — but she said there is one common goal.

“No matter what, we all want the same thing,” she said. “We want an end to this violence and we want our girls and our women to be safe.”

Changes Coming to Child Services

Going back, there were the residential schools, which separated the children from their families. Then there was the ’60s scoop which took the children from their families. Now there are the children’s aid societies which take the children from their families. What they all had in common was a belief that children were better off away from their families, families which lived in difficult circumstances created by the settlers’ governments.

Rather than bringing to the reserves the health, education, housing, plumbing, and the other services most Canadian residents take for granted, the authorities chose to take the children to the cities, where the services were.

The current government of Canada seems to recognize that separating the children from their families creates problems in the long run, including the resentment it creates. Therefore, it is planning to transfer authority over child and family services to First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. The plan is to present a bill early in 2019 to effect the change.

In a *Toronto Star* article by Alex Ballingall on December 1, Indigenous Services Minister Jane Philpott presented some statistics. More than 52% of children in private foster care are Indigenous, but the 2016 census shows that only 7.7% of children under 14 are of Indigenous heritage.

In Manitoba, more than 10,000 of the 11,000 kids in foster care are Indigenous.

Ms. Philpott called the situation “our modern day variation on the legacy of residential schools”.

“For a century now, based on discriminatory policies of government, we have been taking children away from their families,” she said. “This legislation marks a turning point to say ‘no more.’ No more scooping children, no more ripping apart families, no more lost children who don’t

know their language, their culture, their lineage.”

Ms. Philpott said the coming legislation is intended to reform federally delivered services so that children aren’t taken from Indigenous families into private foster care solely on the basis of economic poverty or health issues that go untreated. It will also ensure that Indigenous groups have the right to determine their own laws, policies and practices for child and family services.”

Perry Bellegarde, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, said the legislation will mark a “new chapter” where Indigenous groups can work toward a new system that respects First Nations’ languages and cultures.

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami President Natan Obed said announcing the legislation was “an immensely proud moment” as apolitical leader, and that Canada’s Indigenous child welfare system “is a measuring stick on how Canada is as a nation within the world.”

Métis Nation President Clement Chartier added that he, too, welcomed the promised legislation for recognizing the Métis nation, which he said has been ignored in the past and excluded from sweeping lawsuits and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s inquiry into the legacy of the residential school system.

In an interview with the “Star”, Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Carolyn Bennett said that the new child welfare bill is another part of the effort to scrap the 19th-century Indian Act and reconstitute the federal government’s relationship with First Nations, Inuit and Métis to recognize the Indigenous right to self-determination.

That’s the good sounding plan. Everyone has to be vigilant that the government provides enough resources to ensure that the child and family services on reserves, or wherever else they are located, will be comparable with those available off-reserve.

A Finding of Racism

For year, Indigenous people in Thunder Bay have complained that the police in Thunder Bay displayed racism in policing. Reports that persons were missing were dismissed with racist assumptions about the person’s behaviour; deaths were declared accidental or suicidal without proper investigation.

The legitimacy of such complaints has been confirmed by the release of a report on a two-year investigation which, in more than 200 pages reveals that “systemic racism exists within the Thunder Bay Police Service ‘at an institutional level’.”

The report, *Broken Trust*, debunks the ritualized plea of “a few bad apples”. Independent Police Review Director, Gerry McNeilly, points out that racist attitudes and stereotypes were so ingrained in the Thunder Bay service that police failed to properly investigate deaths when the deceased was Indigenous.

An example is the case of a woman found lying on her back, with cigarette burns on both hands, and pants pulled down below her buttocks. An autopsy later found head injuries, and a broken sternum, as well as alcohol intoxication

and hypothermia. Police ruled out foul play, and ignored two witnesses.

Director McNeilly’s squad studied more than three dozen files involving deaths of Indigenous men and women, dating back to 2009. It recommended that at least nine investigations be reopened and others be examined to decide whether they should be reopened.

Racist policing is not unique to Thunder Bay. Another study, released about a week earlier, found that Black people were facing racist policing (though they did not call it that) in Toronto. Other studies have found similar problems in other cities.

Director McNeilly’s report has recommendations on how to eradicate racism and bias.

This includes psychologically testing to eliminate applicants who express racist views and attitudes.

Both the report on Toronto and the report on Thunder Bay show that racism affects how individuals are treated by officers as well as how crimes are investigated.

In the aftermath of the report, several officers, including the chief, were fired. A new police chief, Sylvie

Hauth, was appointed in November, and early in December Celina Reitberger was named the first Indigenous Chair of the city’s Police Services Board.

The death of Stacy DeBungee, who was found in a river, shows how the Thunder Bay force investigated the deaths of Indigenous people.

Investigators guessed that Mr. DeBungee had fallen down drunk and rolled into the river. They closed the case.

This happened while an inquest was under way into the deaths of seven Indigenous students, five of whom had been found in waterways around the city.

Police were issuing press releases about their deaths even before autopsies were completed. Officers were failing to connect autopsy reports to their own investigations — or even to find out the results. The McNeilly report makes recommendations on how officers can conduct more effective investigations. However, those recommendations can not deal with racism-based indifference.

Among the harmful effects of such policing are the harm done to the community, the loss of trust and cooperation between the community and the police, and the continuing danger posed by a murderer at large.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

HERALD**Editor-in-Chief**
Wilfred Szczesny**Editorial Board**
Wilfred Szczesny
Emily Halldorson Glenn Michalchuk**Bureaux Chiefs**Edmonton — Eugene Plawiuk
Ottawa — Bob Seychuk
Regina — Sasha Lapchuk
Toronto — Bernardine Dobrowolsky
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 located
at 658 Constellation Drive, Toronto, 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.**An Illegal Detention**

AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY

The Government of Canada illegally detained Meng Wanzhou, and lied to us about it. Furthermore, it continues the illegal detention and the lies, while violating Ms. Meng's human rights.

To begin with, the request that Ms. Meng be extradited to the USA is tied to an illegal American action: US sanctions against Iran. These sanctions, like all American sanctions around the world, are illegal because they violate the Charter of the United Nations Organization, which allows only the UNO to impose sanctions against countries.

They are also illegal, because international law does not allow countries to impose their own laws on other countries. When Pierre Trudeau was Prime Minister he rejected extraterritoriality in the application of US sanction against Cuba. Many Canadian companies folded under pressure from the USA, but others legally continued trade with Cuba — with governmental approval. (Too bad Pierre's son Trudeau is happy to be America's lap dog.)

The detention by Canada is also illegal because the extradition treaty between Canada and the USA requires that the crime on which the request is based be a crime in both countries. In Canada, it is not illegal to trade with Iran, except in nuclear materials.

The detention by Canada is also illegal because the extradition treaty between Canada and the USA disallows politically motivated requests. The American request is based on at least two political motives: the USA attacks against Iran, and the USA trade war with China. President Trump made that clear when he said that he would drop the extradition request if it would help in his trade war with China (not his words).

The Canadian government lies to us when it claims to have had no part in the arrest, that it was just following the law. In fact, the extradition treaty requires that an extradition request be made to the Government of Canada, which then decides what steps to take. In fact, it was reported in the *Toronto Star* on December 7 that Prime Minister Trudeau had admitted that he had "a few days' notice that this was in the works". There is no law or other requirement that an extradition request be accepted. The government's decision was based far more on Canada-USA relations (particularly trade and USMCA) than on any legal foundation.

(Continued on Page 10.)

The Challenge in Oshawa**COMMENTARY**

On November 26, in a move that surprised everyone, General Motors announced it would be closing its Oshawa plant and four facilities in the USA at the end of 2019. GM described the decision as part of a global reorganization that will see the company shift to electric and autonomous vehicle production.

The closures are anticipated to save the company US \$6 billion by 2020 through the cost reductions achieved.

The GM announcement came not long after Canada, the USA, and Mexico reached a new trade agreement to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement, an agreement that, according to Chrystia Freeland, Canada's chief negotiator, was good for Canada.

Effects of the closure

The markets responded with enthusiasm to the announcement, as GM's shares on the New York Stock Exchange jumped 7.8%. While this will enrich pension funds and other big investors, in terms of the real economy and people's lives the consequences are disastrous. The closure of the Oshawa plant will mean the loss of 3,000 highly paid industrial jobs. It is estimated the spin off will affect another 15,000 jobs in industries that supply the plant.

The closure of the Oshawa plant means GM's manufacturing commitment to Canada is in question. GM operations will be confined to CAMI in Ingersoll and the engine and transmission plant in St. Catharines. Unifor, the union representing the GM workers, has said that the closure in Oshawa means GM could well decide to pull out of Canada entirely.

The CAMI plant produces only one product — the Chevrolet Equinox, which is also produced in Mexico and the US.

Another indication GM could move out of Canada is

the seeming incongruity of closing a plant that is fully capable of adapting to any product GM would produce as part of its new vision for electric and autonomous vehicles.

Oshawa also is home to an engineering and development facility that closes when the assembly line ceases production in 2019.

Reactions to the closure

Canadian officials were decidedly meek and accepting of the GM announcement. Justin Trudeau tweeted:

"GM workers have been part of the heart and soul of Oshawa for generations — and we'll do everything we can to help the families affected by this news get back on their feet. Yesterday, I spoke with @GM's Mary Barra to express my deep disappointment in the closure."

Doug Ford, the Premier of Ontario, was quick to quash any thought of his government stepping in to save the jobs in Oshawa, saying that GM was "a ship that has left the dock". His promise was to help the workers in Oshawa find other jobs.

And so it continued during the day of November 26. Officials could offer nothing but promises to support the workers with enhanced unemployment benefits and job retraining. On the television news shows experts were trotted out to explain that this is the reality as Canada becomes "de-industrialized" in the transition to an economy based on technology and services.

The head of GM, Mary Barra, echoed this view stating that as vehicles become more "software-oriented" the "right skill set" was GM's focus. In response to the turmoil inflicted on the Oshawa workers she, in her own "let them eat cake moment", said:

"You will see us have new employees joining the com-

pany as others leave the company."

What Ms. Barra omitted is that GM sees the world as its oyster in terms of where the new GM will grow, for example, China, which has the inside track on GM producing electrical vehicles there.

Those enamoured of the freedom of the markets and movement of capital chided the workers to "suck it up". One commentator wrote:

"It won't be easy for Oshawa's laid-off workers, although half of them are eligible for early retirement. But with Oshawa's unemployment below six per cent, the laid-off workers won't have trouble finding jobs, though perhaps not at the GM hourly rate."

Unifor, on the other hand, struck a defiant note. Jerry Dias tweeted:

"#Unifor does not accept the @GMcanada announcement that no product has been allotted to #Oshawa past December 2019. We will fight for @UniforLocal222 members to keep these good paying jobs at the Oshawa Assembly Plant."

Unifor then called the workers out of the plant, shutting down production for the day. In subsequent days, Unifor stepped up the call for a fightback strategy, holding talks with the United Auto Workers, its American counterpart, about joint actions, and calling for the imposition of tariffs on GM vehicles produced in Mexico.

The closing of Oshawa will be a big blow to the economy, but this has happened before. In 2005, GM eliminated 3,900 jobs in St. Catharines and Oshawa. In 2002 it closed the Sainte-Thérèse plant, with the loss of 1,500 jobs.

Besides the decades long collapse of the auto industry there is a "rust belt" in southern Ontario communities,

(Continued on Page 10.)

SEE US ON THE WEB!AUUC (National)
auuc.caEdmonton AUUC, Trembita Ensemble
www.ukrainiancentre-edm.caRegina AUUC, Poltava Ensemble
http://www.poltava.ca/Taras Shevchenko Museum:
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseumVancouver 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.

Dance Seminar in Vancouver

For any performer, the time spent on stage is a fleeting moment of genuine fulfilment: fulfilment of a goal, and fulfilment of the vision, creation and execution of a concept. It is a physical culmination of the work and dedication of the artist. It exists only in the moment, and can be difficult to convey to individuals outside of the performing arts – a moment coloured by apprehension and nerves but also filled with power, connection, confidence and passion.

We all understand, even in-

directly, the time, planning and physical effort that goes into a performance. But how many of us reflect on the effort that goes into rehearsing for that performance, and taking a step back even further, the planning and production of rehearsals and performing arts seminars?

On November 10-12, AUUC Vancouver Branch hosted participants from across the country at a dance seminar that welcomed two instructors, 55 dancers from five cities, four cultural direc-

tors, and at least 20 volunteers and guests. Most dancers arrived on November 9, and were accommodated at the Accent Inns in Burnaby.

The seminar ran for a total of 40.5 hours of instruction, at two separate locations in Vancouver (the Ukrainian Cultural Centre and the Pacific Dance Arts), with participants shuttling 17 kilometres daily across town in host vehicles and taxicabs.

This summary of facts and figures does not begin to evoke the true measure of the

impact of the seminar. Working toward common goals of learning new choreography, technique enhancement, and overall skill development, the dancers explored their personal limits, both physical and mental. Through these challenges, the dancers grew to trust one another, to converse easily, to share experiences, and move toward true collaboration.

Dancers ranged in age from 13 to 44. Some had never

been out of their home province, and many had never travelled without a parent.

The supervision and care that the organizers took to ensure that the dancers felt valued and respected were evident, with home-cooked daily meals, friendly volunteer drivers — even a spontaneous city tour for one group.

Diverse age groups had the opportunity to talk together and learn from one another. **(Continued on Page 12.)**

— Photo: Liam Griffin



Serguei Makarov provided instruction in the classical barre to the dancers.

— Photo: Liam Griffin



Serguei Makarov also provided exercises in classical centre work.

— Photo: Dan Fung



A well-executed bow is the impressive closing flourish to a dance. To end a classical class, Serguei Makarov led the group through an appropriate farewell.



Several times during the seminar, Zhenia Bahri held chat sessions with the dancers.

— Photo: Liam Griffin



Each day of the dance seminar, including the last one, began with a set of warm-up exercises for the health and safety of the dance participants.

Peace Congress Convention

The Canadian Peace Congress held its 2018 Convention at the Steelworkers Hall in Toronto on November 24 and 25. The first day, attended by over 50 people, including convention delegates from across Canada, was primarily devoted to a series of speakers; the second, to the organizational business of the CPC.

The convention was opened by Kiran Fatima, chair for the morning, who introduced Joan Phillip.

Joan Phillip, standing in for her husband, Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, started with a welcome and a land recognition statement, and continued with some autobiography and some history. Her uplifting remarks ended with the observation, repeated through the day, that without justice there can be no peace.

Next to speak was Canadian Peace Congress Acting-President Miguel Figueroa,



Joan Phillip expressed the land recognition and bade the participants welcome.



Bahman Azad spoke on behalf of the US Peace Council and the World Peace Council.



Independent journalist Eva Bartlett addressed several examples of the commercial media's blatantly biased reporting on Syria.

whose wide-ranging comments reflected a knowledge both broad and deep of international and domestic politics.

In extending a welcome to delegates, he noted that four new peace councils had been formed since the last convention.

Mr. Figueroa stressed that the main issue facing the CPC was how to strengthen the peace movement to narrow the gap between powerful anti-peace forces and the movement's ability to respond. The challenges facing Canada's peace movement include: opposing the arms deal with Saudi Arabia; opposing NATO, to dissolve it, including sending people to Washington for the demonstrations on April 4, 2019; and to put peace on the agenda during the run-up to the federal elections on October 21, 2019.

Bahman Azad, Organizational Secretary of the US Peace Council and a member of the Secretariat of the World Peace Council, presented greetings from both organizations. He spoke of the split in the world peace movement, based on the concept of imperialism. In contrast, opposition to military bases is a unifying theme. A just-concluded conference in Dublin, with both streams participating, set opposition to bases as the core of united action. This includes a global effort during the NATO summit on April 4, 2019, and action on bases in Okinawa and Guantanamo in May. (The base in Okinawa is the largest in the world; February 23 is the anniversary of the base in Guantanamo.)

More information is available at nousnatobases.org.

Following the presentation by Mr. Azad, Dave Gehl of the Regina Peace Council read the "Unity Appeal", which was discussed by the delegates the next day.

Miguel Figueroa made the inaugural presentation of the John Hanly Morgan Award. He spoke of the peace activist, the late Rev. John Morgan, after whom it was named.

The award was accepted by Jeanette Morgan, on be-

half of her husband. Ms. Morgan spoke of their life in the peace movement, citing some of the main struggles and the tactics that were used.

International criminal lawyer, writer, and blogger Christopher Black accused the USA and NATO countries of war crimes in a series of attacks which violated the Charter of the United Nations and international law, in the first instance by waging wars without the sanction of the United Nations.

Mr. Black spoke particularly strongly against the so-called "responsibility to protect" which, he said, has no standing in international law, but is merely a doctrine conjured up by the imperialist powers to justify their violations of international law. This doctrine, which is applied by NATO, but not to NATO, he



Kiran Fatima chaired the first day of the Convention, and was co-presenter of the "International Report".



International criminal lawyer, writer, and blogger Christopher Black accused the USA and NATO countries of war crimes.

said, returns us to the law of the jungle, where the powerful do as they wish, and the victims suffer what they must.

Unable to impose their will through the United Nations, the imperialist powers have turned to NATO as their instrument for world domination. Through a series of actions, including the militarization of outer space, the USA and NATO are preparing for nuclear war, a war that they expect to win.

Only the Security Council, said Mr. Black, can legally impose sanctions; all others are illegal.

Chairing the afternoon session was Regina delegate Ed Lehman. The session began with presentation of greetings from Mayor Brian Taylor of Grand Forks, British Columbia, by Laura Savinkoff, convenor of the BC Southern Interior Peace Coalition

The first featured guest speaker of the afternoon was independent Canadian journalist Eva Bartlett. She spoke mainly about the situation in Syria, and the misrepresentations of that situation by the commercial media, which mostly repeat the propaganda handouts of the imperialist powers. Ms. Bartlett cited many instances in which testimony she gathered from people on the spot contradicted the official positions reflected in commercial media.

Eva Bartlett was followed by Tamara Lorincz, a member of the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace and of the Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power. A doctoral student on environmental issues, Ms. Lorincz spoke on the environmental impact of the military.

Adrien Welsh, General-Secretary of the Young Communist League and an activist in the *Mouvement Québécois pour la Paix*, was the last of the featured guest speakers. He spoke of the actions of young people in support of struggles around the world, with the main concentration and energy devoted to actions at home. He provided examples of such struggles

Mr. Welsh also addressed the activity of the *Mouvement Québécois pour la Paix*,

— Story Photos: Wilfred Szczesny

with examples of its successes.

Unfortunately, the ensuing question-and-answer period was almost inaudible, so the audience began to disperse.

(Continued on Page 8.)



Canadian Peace Congress Acting President Miguel Figueroa, later elected President, addressed several themes.



Adrien Welsh, General-Secretary of the Young Communist League and an activist in the *Mouvement Québécois pour la Paix*, spoke of the actions of young people.



Jeanette Morgan, received the inaugural John Hanly Morgan Award on behalf of her late husband, in whose honour the award was named.



David Lehr of Regina presented the "Unity Appeal", which was discussed by delegates on November 25.



Over 50 people attended the first day of the Canadian Peace Congress Convention, held in Toronto on November 24 and 25.

Hopak Ensemble Winter Concert

There was a full house on hand for Calgary Hopak Ensemble's Winter Concert, held at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre on December 9, 2018.

With the audience settling in the upper hall, and the performers unsetting in the lower hall, the afternoon program opened with the rousing "My z Ukrainy" (We Are from Ukraine). In costumes representing the different regions of Ukraine, the Hopak Dancers, under the direction of Trevor Shular, as well as members of the Dance School, under the leadership of Trista Bailey, twirled, stomped, leapt and circled in the traditional dance of wel-

come.

Accompanied by the Hopak orchestra, under the direction of Violetta Dimitrova, this was a fabulous way to start Sunday's program.

The concert continued with the wee ones, our Cherevichky group. Oh my, those shining eyes, the huge smiles, the swishing skirts... who would know this group was from 4 to 6 years old! Their confidence on stage was amazing. "Thank you" to their instructors, Natashia Jeanson and Isabelle Barrett, for bringing these wee ones so far.

The Hopak Choir was next on the program, with two lovely Ukrainian folk songs,

— Story Photos: Trista Bailey



The Hopak Dancers, choreographed by Trevor Shula, opened the Winter Concert with the welcoming dance "My z Ukrainy" (We Are from Ukraine).

"Cherez Rench'koo, Cherez Boloto" and "Oy Sad Vinohrad". Although the choir may be small in number, Choir Director Violetta Dimitrova is able to evoke a lovely, full sound.

Instructors Liza Makarova and Nykol Kroeker should be so proud of their group Chervony Venochek. The girls completed the "Bukovinian Dance" with grace and precision.

The Hopak Orchestra, who work so hard to accompany all the dance groups and the choir, also work on songs for enjoyment! "Waltz-Scherzo" by Dmitri Shostakovich, "Korobeynicki" arranged by B. Nuttall, and "Bili Kashtany" were three that were presented during the concert. What a repertoire of music these master musicians must have!

The Hopak Dancers returned with a fast-paced, joyful, "Volynska Polka". How do those boys get such elevation in their jumps... and the girls... you worry they will spin right off the stage!

Our next performers were the dance group Tynok. Instructed by Jenna Dunbar, these three beautiful young ladies presented "Polisyanchka". What a lovely, gentle dance to showcase the talents of this delicate trio.

Well can you say Harniy Sharavary? This all-boys group, choreographed by Dianne Gereluk and David Klassen, are always a favourite. They did not disappoint. Can you just picture their rendition of "Veseliy muzyky? We're talking dancing with tamborines, violins and flutes!

The Hopak Choir then presented two more songs, "Oy Vishenky-Chereshenky", a Ukrainian folk song, and the "Carol of the Bells". Although the music was composed by Ukrainian composer, M. Leontovich, the choir sang the words written in English by Peter Wilhousky. Still a lovely, but difficult song to sing, even in English!

To close the afternoon program, the Hopak Dancers presented the high speed, high kicking, high leaping, "Simka

Hopak". What an awesome dance! "Thank you," Trevor.

"Thank you", also, to Katya Gereluk, who did a fabulous job as our Mistress of Ceremonies.

"Thank you" to Wardrobe Mistress Kay Skrabek and her steadfast assistant Mal Smandych for their care and effort in providing, repairing, and ironing, all the costumes used during Sunday's concert.

"Thank you" to Deb Skrabek for decorating the hall, and organizing the refreshments following the performance.

"Thank you" to Katya and Fiona Bailey for being our ticket sellers extraordinaire.

"Thank you" to our parents, who continue to support the preservation of our Ukrainian culture!

— Darlene Hrynchyshyn



The concert finale featured the Dance School, the Hopak Choir, and the Hopak Dancers.

Winnipeg Branch Holiday Party

— Story Photos: Gloria Gordienko



The AUUC Winnipeg Branch Holiday Party included a potluck dinner.

On Sunday, December 2, AUUC Winnipeg Branch gathered for our annual Holiday Party. Unlike most of our events, where so many of us are selling tickets at the door, manning a bar, or performing, this event is low-key, and everyone in attendance gets a chance to relax!

Each year, the potluck dinner shows off the diverse tastes of attendees, as dishes range from samosas and couscous salad to holubsti and kielbasa.

After the dinner (and dessert of course!), most guests stick around, enjoying conversations and perhaps playing a board game.

This year, the Yunist School of Dance, which has four new members, performed two dances. It was the first time the new members had performed on-stage, and it gave them an opportunity to practice before upcoming public performance dates. Winston Wuttunee and Tusia Kozub also provided some impromptu

entertainment.

True to form, the Holiday Party ended with an exchanging of leftovers, and a scramble to find appropriate containers to facilitate this. It was a fun and relaxing event.

To all our members and friends who attended the party, to those who did not, and to all AUUC members and friends across the country: Enjoy your holiday get-togethers! Relax, be merry, and have fun!

— Emily Halldorson



The Yunist School of Dance performed two dances.



Tusia Kozub and Winston Wuttunee provided impromptu entertainment.

Peace Congress Convention

(Continued from Page 6.)

The following day, November 25, was devoted to business, including the election of an Executive Committee, and consideration of a number of documents.

The morning session, chaired by Laura Savinkoff, began with a Credentials Committee report, presented by Miguel Figueroa, Acting President of the Canadian Peace Congress. The report recommended that the Executive consist of a President and 10 Members, that the Executive be geographically balanced, that Executive Members be part of a local Peace Council, and that the President be elected first.

In the discussion, it was clarified that delegates of Associate Organizations could also stand for election to the Executive. Alternates to the Executive would not be elected at the Convention.

The report was accepted. Miguel Figueroa also presented the "Organization Report of the Outgoing Executive". The report reviewed the Canadian and international activity of the Peace Congress since the previous Convention, in 2016. It also reviewed the internal organizational developments.

Among the positive achievements was the establishment of new Peace Councils in Kingston, Kitchener, Nanaimo, and New Brunswick.

The report elicited much discussion, and was received.

Miguel Figueroa also presented the "Report on Finances", which was accepted.

The Convention considered the "Draft Constitution". The discussion referred at least one item to the Executive, and several other changes, apparently, were proposed. It is not clear from the written record

quite what was decided about the draft (though it may have been clear at the session), but it does appear to be a work in progress.

The Convention considered a special resolution concerning military bases, and another on diversion of military spending.

Kiran Fatima and Miguel Figueroa presented an "International Report". Ms. Fatima spoke about her trip to China, while Mr. Figueroa addressed additional points, including an indication that the Canadian Peace Congress was going to focus on opposition to the arms trade, arms production and militarization of Canada; opposition to racism, intolerance and fascism; and imperialist interventionism and regime change.

The report was received.

Miguel Figueroa presented the "Draft Peace Program". He said that "we must call for

a massive cut in the arms budget, an end to ballistic missile defence, the Saudi arms deals, and strive to stop nuclear proliferation. Moreover, it must be a goal of the CPC to leave NATO and NORAD. The CPC must advocate for the ending of collusion and regime change tactics in Latin America and around the world." Two additional proposals were to "address environmental concerns" and "demand that the Truth and Reconciliation program is included".

Much of the ensuing discussion urged that the activity be more focused; the need for outreach was also stressed.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously accepted, that "we defer these issues to the incoming executive".

Next, Miguel Figueroa moved to the "Plan of Action".

The priorities presented in the "Plan of Action" included seven points:

- Targeted campaign against the Saudi Arms Deal/Yemen — including a mass leaflet, and online and door-to-door petitioning, letters to MPs, and continued picketing actions;

- Mobilization for April 4 anti-NATO actions — including sending a contingent to the Washington DC protest of the NATO Summit, and organizing parallel protests in a number of Canadian centres; preparation of mass leaflet and other materials demanding Canada's withdrawal, and for the dissolution of NATO itself;

- Promotion of our 'Peace Alternative for Canada' — including public events and touring, mass production of our 'Alternative', along with supporting and background materials, posters, buttons, etc. This campaign would be the primary public campaign of CPCon for 2019, launching in April, and carrying through the summer and early fall months, leading up to the October 21 Federal Election;

- Solidarity Activity — building on our efforts to promote solidarity with the Palestinian people, with Syria, Venezuela, Cuba and all other peoples facing imperialist in-

terference and aggression, and in defence of their sovereignty.

- Strengthening our commitment & involvement in the WPC — playing a more active role in helping to build the World Peace Council and in supporting their initiatives, together with our sister organizations in this hemisphere, and the Trilateral process (with the US Peace Council and Mompade – Mexico);

- Outreach and Unity-building work in the broad peace movement — following up with our Unity Appeal, and promoting better and more frequent dialogue and cooperation with other genuine and progressive forces."

Many ideas were put forward in the discussion. In accord with the proposal of the outgoing Executive, the Convention adopted the "Plan of Action" in principle, with the incoming Executive directed to "adjust and fine tune" the "Plan" as circumstances require.

The Convention also considered "An Urgent Appeal for Unity against the Growing Danger of War". The Convention accepted the document, and sent it to the Executive for editing.

The discussion followed the acceptance, with a tension developing between the view of the document as a statement of the position of the Canadian Peace Congress and the view of the "Appeal" as an effort to build the peace movement. At this writing, the Executive was working hard to incorporate many of the ideas which emerged, and reconcile the dichotomy.

The final act of the Convention was to choose an Executive. Elected were President Miguel Figueroa and Members Kiran Fatima, Ed Lehman, Oscar Campbell, Doug Yearwood, Laura Savinkoff, Larry Wasslen, Chris Black, Malena Alvarado, Nyusha Samiei, and Joan Robert.

President Figueroa closed the Convention with a reiteration of the need for the Canadian Peace Congress to be strengthened, and for the CPC to "draw more forces into the peace struggle".

(With files from Miguel Figueroa.)

Happy New Year!

To the members of the AUUC, and their cultural forces, supporters, and friends across Canada, United States and Ukraine.

We wish all good fortune, health and happiness in the New Year!

AUUC Regina Branch
Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance

To all friends and supporters of the AUUC —

May 2019

bring you good health, happiness, and prosperity!

AUUC Toronto Branch

IVAN FRANKO MANOR

200 McGregor Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Extends Best Wishes
To All Its Tenants
and
AUUC Members for a



HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR

Ukrainian Miscellany

Incident in the Kerch Strait

Early thoughts were that President Poroshenko of Ukraine, in more than a little danger of losing the coming election, had arranged the November 25 incident in the area of the Kerch Strait for the purpose of declaring martial law throughout the country. That would allow him to suppress the competition, control what political actions his opponents would be allowed, and even postpone the elections, if he though necessary, for as long as he considered it necessary.

The incident passed but the suspicions did not, and it was reported that the courts had ordered restrictions on the imposition of martial law. Among the questions being raised was how martial law would prevent a Russian invasion, if one was being planned.

Al Jazeera had an interesting Op-Ed on December 5 By Leonid Ragozin which had this description of events.

“The discourse on the Kerch Strait incident seemed fairly straightforward until the evening of that day when Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko summoned his defence council for what felt like a pre-rehearsed session

aired live on TV. The martial law he invoked at that meeting would have given him the right to ban political parties and rallies, detain people without a warrant, seize property and close media outlets. It also explicitly ban(ned) any kind of elections during the state of emergency.

“The Kerch incident did not appear to warrant such a drastic measure, especially since nothing like that was introduced at the height of the war in 2014 and 2015, when Ukrainians soldiers were dying by the hundreds, if not thousands, in the battles for Ilovaisk, Debaltseve and Donetsk airport.

“Liberal Ukrainian commentators read this announcement as an attempt to tamper with the upcoming presidential elections. With the official start of the campaign just a month away, polls are showing that Poroshenko is set to lose to the firebrand former prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

“Investigative journalist and MP Serhiy Leshchenko, who has come to represent the spirit of the Maidan Revolution, wrote a scathing op-ed, comparing Poroshenko’s mar-

tial law with the dictatorial legislation his predecessor, Viktor Yanukovich, proposed in the heady days of the Maidan revolution to suppress the protests. In the first lines of his piece, he also mentioned *Wag the Dog*, a Hollywood film about a US president staging an imaginary war to save himself from electoral defeat.

“As he spoke in the Ukrainian parliament, the Rada, on November 26, Poroshenko was clutching a stack of papers which he claimed contained intelligence data about an imminent large-scale Russian invasion.

* * *

“Ukrainian MPs didn’t quite buy this fear mongering. After a heated debate, a compromise was reached, which Leshechenko later described as “face-saving”. State of emergency under martial law was introduced to only 10 of Ukraine’s 27 regions for 30 days instead of 60, as suggested initially.

“This means that it will end before the official start of the presidential campaign at the end of December. Thus Poroshenko will lose the chance to postpone the election and to shorten his rivals’ campaign by a month while enjoying exclusive daily access to TV as a leader saving the country from aggression.”

Whether it was the courts,

obvious opposition in parliament or concern about a public relations disaster, President Proshenko cut back the martial law. He shortened it from two months to one, imposed it only on ten cities, and claimed that it was only needed to permit the movement of troops into vulnerable locations.

Though he had only limited success from the incident as concerns martial law, President Poroshenko has taken full advantage of the opportunity for drumming up more international support. The usual chorus chimed in: Britain, the USA, the European Union and, of course, Canada (and a few others) issued statements supporting Ukraine, and calling on Russia to restore Ukraine’s territorial integrity.

The American House of representatives passed a resolution in which, among other assertions is the statement “(1) finds that Nord Stream II is a drastic step backward for European energy security and United States interests;”.

In the American mind, European energy security and United States interests coincide because the USA has a keen interest in selling coal and liquified natural gas to Europe, without competition from cheaper Russian LNG. Some Europeans see it differently.

In Canada, the House of Commons Defence committee called for more of the same: more sanctions, more UNIFIER, more NATO in the Black Sea, and support of getting Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia into NATO.

Digging out Treason

UNIAN reports that Ukraine is undertaking to “vet” SBU officers with Russian ties, to root out traitors. An early target is First Deputy of the SBU Chief Serhiy Semochko, who is suspected of high treason. Semochko’s cohabiting partner and her daughter have Russian citizenship.

President Petro Poroshenko says that a decision on possible dismissals of officers of the SBU Security Service and other law enforcement agencies over their own or their relatives’ ties with Russia will be taken after vetting.

President Poroshenko said, “We have many public servants, including law enforcement officers, who have relatives in Crimea. I’ve turned to Chief of the Security Service of Ukraine Vasyl Hrytsak for the Ukrainian counterintelligence agency to vet those civil servants, giving priority to law enforcers and investigators.”

Based on a story by a journalist, Serhiy Semochko was suspected of selling information to Russia. Following an investigation, he and his relatives have been charged with treason.

**Drive carefully
on the icy
winter streets.**

The Murder of Kateryna Handziuk

When it was reported in August, 2018, that Kateryna Handziuk had been the victim of an acid attack, and later that she had died of her injuries, we wondered why the Ukrainian government, which is usually fast off the mark, had not accused Russia of the murder. Our curiosity was heightened by the information that Ms. Handziuk was described as a civic activist and an advisor to the Mayor of Kherson.

Soon after the attack on July 31, 2018, several voices in Ukraine tried to pin the attack on Russia. *Euromaidan Press*, for example, carried a report, within a few days, in which it tried to implicate “local pro-Russian separatists”. The article said that Ms. Handziuk was “known for her active pro-Ukrainian stance and policy of intolerance to local pro-Russian separatists, representatives of corruption clans and officials who she suspected in illegal gains.” (sic)

The publication cited Ms. Handziuk’s conflict with Kherson police official Artem Antoshchuk, whom she had accused of a form of corruption.

The article named over a

dozen anti-corruption fighters who had been attacked, and suggested that local corrupt officials from the days of deposed President Yanukovich were responsible.

Euromaidan Press reported that, “As of now, it’s not clear who is behind the attack on Handziuk and others.” Then it added, “At a press conference on 2 August, Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko said that the string of attacks could be a Russian plan to destabilize the country.”

Hromadske reported in early August that, after about a week of protests against police inactivity, a Kherson resident with a criminal record was sentenced to two months in a pre-trial detention centre while the investigation continued.

In November, *Time* reported that police had detained five suspects, but had not identified a “ringleader”.

Our answer may have been provided in a December 17 article in *UNIAN*, reporting that Amnesty International had, on that day, issued a report in which it stated that over 50 attacks on activists and human rights defenders were registered in Ukraine in 2018,

that there was no effective investigation in most cases, and that the perpetrators were not prosecuted.

The *UNIAN* report said that, “Amnesty International Ukraine has said there was no effective investigation in most cases of attacks on activists in Ukraine, while representatives of the authorities publicly made promises to find the perpetrators, but ‘forgot’ about them after the cases had disappeared off the radar screen.”

UNIAN wrote, further, that, “The organization also noted they were concerned by the statement made by Ukrainian Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko in the case of the murder of Kherson activist Kateryna Handziuk, namely that the activists are partially responsible for attacks on them since they criticize the authorities.”

So, as is the case with violent attacks against Roma in Ukraine, police failure to solve cases like that of Kateryna Handziuk’s murder may be the result of police collaboration with the country’s ultra-right militias and/or criminal gangs, with the approval and permission of the central government itself.

Heading for Theocracy?

Whatever assurances he may have uttered are drowned out by President Petro Poroshenko’s nationalist drum beating for the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

Speaking following the establishment of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Ukraine on December 15, Ukraine’s President Petro Poroshenko said, among other utterances, “This day will enter or has already entered the history of Ukraine as a sacred day, the day of the creation of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Ukraine. The day of the final gaining of Ukrainian independence from Russia.”

He also said, “We are now creating an independent Ukraine. And this event is as important as the referendum on our independence adopted more than 27 years ago.”

He added, “No patriot doubts the importance of having an independent Orthodox church in an independent

Ukrainian state. Such a church is a spiritual guarantor of our sovereignty. In December 1991, at the referendum, we approved the Declaration of Independence. In December 2018, an independent Orthodox Ukrainian Church was founded....”

Finally, “Over this year, we have become even more convinced that the Autocephalous Church is the key to independence. The state language is the key to unity. A strong army is the key to peace.”

The President puts the establishment of the church at the same level of importance as the declaration of independence.

Patriotism is equated with support for the autocephalous church, which easily transforms it into a state church, to go with the state language.

It will probably be not too long in the future, that religious discrimination becomes a feature of Ukrainian “patriotism”.

Thank You!

Thank you, Bernardine Dobrowolsky and Connie Prince, for the years of proofreading assistance you gave to the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*. Your monthly presence will be missed as the paper is produced in its temporary Mississauga location.

Thank you, Sharon McCulla, for returning to your former post as proofreader for the "UCH" while we are temporarily located in the new office which is so much more accessible. I look forward to working with you once again.

Thank you, too, Zorya Szczesny, for your continuing proofreading assistance, provided by the modern magic of emails. Your help is truly valued.

Wilfred Szczesny Editor-in-Chief

Who, What, When, Where

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

* * *

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

* * *

Regina — The **Association of United Ukrainian Canadians** will sponsor the Ukrainian New Year's Celebration "Malanka" at the **Regina Performing Arts Council (RPAC)**, 1077 Angus at 4th Avenue, on **Saturday, January 19**. **Cocktail Hour, Banquet, Cultural Program** by the AUUC Poltava Ensemble and Dance. Admission: **\$60.00**. Reserve and purchase tickets only by calling the RPAC Box Office at **306-779-2277**.

* * *

Regina — The **Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance** will stage the **Annual Concert** featuring 125 performers from the **AUUC Poltava School of Ukrainian Performing Arts** and the **Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and Dance** on February 9, at the **Regina Performing Arts Centre (RPAC)** 1077 Angus St. at 4th Avenue, Regina, SK. For **Tickets: Adults \$20.00, Child \$10.00**. For reservations, call the **RPAC Box Office at 306-779-2277**,

* * *

Readers of the Ukrainian Canadian Herald are invited to submit items of interest to the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community for free listing in this column. The deadline for material is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Sustaining Fund Donations

Bill Bilecki and Joan Kowalewich, Burnaby BC	\$100.00
G. Gilavish, Regina SK	100.00
Lucy Nykolyshyn, Winnipeg MB	100.00
Olga and Myron Shatulsky, Winnipeg MB	100.00
Elsie Williston, Winnipeg MB	100.00
Lawrence Kleparchuk, Vancouver BC	70.00
Victor Krenz, Winnipeg BC	50.00
Jeff and Kelly Bizovie, Burnaby BC	20.00
Laura Hawkins, Markham ON	20.00
Bronty Yaroff, Oshawa ON	20.00
Alexander Boykowich, Edmonton AB	10.00

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

Two elderly ladies met at a drug store after not seeing one another for some time.

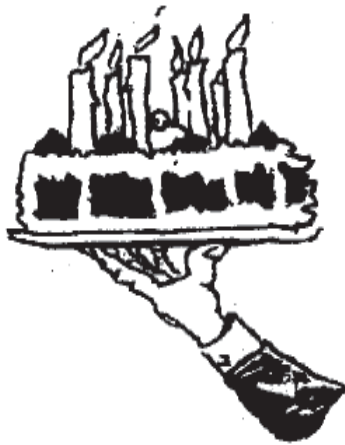
After inquiring about each other's health one asked how the other's husband was doing.

"Oh! Harold died last week. He went out to the garden to dig up a potato for dinner, had a heart attack and dropped down dead right there in the middle of the vegetable patch!"

"Oh dear! I'm very sorry." replied her friend "What did you do?"

"Opened a can of baked beans instead."

Happy Birthday, Friends!



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

- Eva Doskoch
- Victor Horon
- Rose Kereliuk
- William Maxim
- Bill Uhryn

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

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

- Lorna Clark
- Rose Nedbailik

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

The **Vancouver Seniors Club** wishes the best of health and happiness in the coming year to January celebrant:

- Larry Kleparchuk

Enjoy your day with family and friends!

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

- Joe Panetta
- John Sitak
- Sandra Sitak
- Mary Wasylenky

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:

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

AUUC Cultural Centre
1604 Bloor Street West
Toronto ON M6P 1A7
Phone: 416-588-1639
E-mail: auuctorontobranch@gmail.com

WELLAND BRANCH

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

Oilpatch Not Impressed

(Continued from Page 4) Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer.

Alberta United Conservative Leader Jason Kenney agreed. "This announcement is too little, too late for those families suffering as the result of the Trudeau government's anti-oil-and-gas agenda," he said.

Randy Ollenberger, a financial analyst who covers major oil and gas firms for BMO Capita Markets, said the programs will likely be used only by very small companies and are unlikely to have a meaningful effect on job creation.

"If you can't physically export (oil or gas), what difference does it make?" asked Ollenberger. "This is a globally traded product and we just have to be able to move it to that market."

Alberta has been roiling of late as the double whammy of pipeline bottlenecks and low prices threaten to further eviscerate its fountainhead industry, which has already endured a prolonged slump.

In recent days, there have been demonstrations and protests around the province, demanding Canada step up to help Alberta's oil industry, given its broader beneficial impact on the national economy.

Demonstrators have also slammed Trudeau's government for failing to take meaningful action on pipelines, although Ottawa recently purchased the \$4.5 billion Trans Mountain pipeline expansion — which would triple its capacity to the BC coast — to ensure that it gets built.

Those demonstrations have included so-called yellow vest protesters.

Some of those demonstrators came to Sohi's news conference, standing at the back, videotaping the speech, and muttering their displeasure.

Jerret Wiens, who said he has worked in the pipeline industry for 34 years, called the federal assistance a joke.

"Build the frickin' pipeline," he told media following the conference. Never mind throwing up \$16 billion. Get the pipeline in the round."

Mr. Sohi said that the government understands the public frustration, but "these investments that we are making today will ensure that businesses continue to thrive. The lack of ability to build pipelines in Canada is something we're trying to fix."

In recent weeks, Notley has ordered Alberta oil companies to cut production to prop up prices, and has called for Trudeau to help the province buy more rail cars to get oil to market in the short term.

The federal package does not include money for that, and Ollenberger wondered why.

"They would have been better off to say, 'We've got a billion and a half dollars, and we're going to put it to railcars.'" he said.

Effluent Winning

(Continued from Page 1.) to block the survey vessels from doing their work.

Paper Excellence Canada, Northern Pulp's parent company, was satisfied with the ruling.

The fishermen and their supporters were left wondering whether they could be the next Grassy Narrows, whether they would be able to find some other source of income, whether, at some point, the mill would close and the province would be stuck with the clean-up bill.

An Illegal Detention

(Continued from Page 4.)

The government also lies to us when it claims that Meng Wanzhou's human rights are not being violated. On the basis of an illegal arrest founded on illegal American charges, this Chinese citizen is being deprived of her right to freedom of movement, of her privacy, and of her right to pursue her career and her private life. She is living in shackles (her ankle bracelet) in a prison (the home to which she is restricted), and required to pay for her own jailers, in a situation that could last for years. An open court hardly makes up for illegally being treated

like a criminal.

It is no accident that the United States chose Canada to make its extradition request, with a Chinese entrepreneur as the victim. Many other countries than China deal with Iran, many other countries including Ukraine, deal with China.

However, no other country is so closely tied to the USA in every way, and no other country of importance to the USA would be so cooperative with American domineering.

In these circumstances, Canada's whining about China's retaliation is shameful and embarrassing.

The Challenge in Oshawa

(Continued from Page 4.) much like that of the northern US as industries have closed up or moved elsewhere.

What Can Be Done?

The reality of the situation is that the Oshawa workers and their community face enormous odds in forcing GM to keep the plant open. The Federal and Provincial governments will not take on GM: to do so would run against the grain of the neo-liberal policies they pursue. Unifor, for all its threats to prevent GM from leaving, has moved to lobbying for some kind of government intervention to keep the plant open. It may yet win some reprieve, but at best it will be temporary.

The reality is that workers,

and the communities in which they live, are faced with economic uncertainty. The days of stable employment, good wages, benefits and pension plans are fast becoming an anachronism, replaced with restructuring, downsizing and concessions.

On the day GM made its announcement, Maple Leaf Foods announced it was closing its plants in St. Marys and Brampton, putting 700 workers on the street.

The economy is not in the hands of Canadians or the governments they elect. In the era of neo-liberalism, it is corporations which exert the power to make decisions affecting economic development.

Only in times of profound upheaval, such as war or economic crisis, do they allow the state to become active in their

affairs. Thus, in 2008, the Canadian and US governments provided huge loans to prop up GM and Chrysler as they were on the brink of failure due to the banking crisis.

If the present system is not working for people, then it is time for the discussion to begin as to what will work, what changes are needed in the economy, and how to bring about those changes politically. Otherwise history will repeat itself.

The greatest challenge facing workers is that at present there is no organized movement strong enough to bring about the required change. If Unifor, the workers, and the people of Oshawa, do this, they may well begin a movement for change that is long overdue, but urgently required.

— Glen Michalchuk

*Welcome to the only
Taras Shevchenko Museum in the Americas!*

*Запрошуємо до Єдиного на Американському
Континенті Музею Тараса Шевченка!*

Open Monday-Wednesday, Friday:
10:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
Thursday: noon — 7:00 p.m.
Weekends and Holidays by Appointment
Free Admission — Donation Appreciated



*Завітайте до нас за адресою:
Taras Shevchenko Museum
1614 Bloor Street West • Toronto,
ON M6P 1A7 • Phone: 416-534-8662
Або відвідайте нашу веб-сторінку на
www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum*

**PEACE AND HAPPINESS
IN 2019!**

Mary
**Eugene & Sharon
Kathy & Wilf & Family
Susan and John
Michele & Kelly & Family
Semanowich Family**

*Canadian Society
for
Ukrainian Labour
Research*

A HAPPY 2019 TO ALL



**IVAN FRANKO
MUSEUM**

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

Free Admission by appointment only

Get Your Subscription to the Ukrainian Canadian Herald.

Complete the form below to enjoy eleven issues of this information-filled newspaper. Mail your request and payment to: Kobzar Publishing Company, 595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg MB, R2W 2K4. Please do not send cash in the mail.

Yes! I like what I have just read, and I want the next eleven issues of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*. I have enclosed a cheque or money order for \$30.00 (\$40.00 outside Canada), payable to Kobzar Publishing Company.

Pease send my paper to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____:

Dance Seminar in Vancouver

(Continued from Page 5.)

More experienced dancers in the sessions were helpful and encouraging to younger or less-skilled participants. The instructors provided thoughtful critique and pushed the dancers to embrace regional dance styles that were sometimes less familiar.

The two highly qualified instructors were Serguei Makarov and Zhenia Bahri, both professional dancers from Ukraine who have resided and taught extensively in Canada for decades. The variations in styles (Mr. Makarov having danced primarily with Virsky, Ukraine's national dance company, and Mr. Bahri

having danced extensively with the Bukovyna State Ensemble of Song and Dance) made for lively and rigorous training, as groups spent part of their time with one instructor, and the following day, the other.

Mr. Makarov staged a lovely and challenging women's dance, which brought out graceful and balletic elements while showcasing the power and precision of the female dancers.

Mr. Bahri staged a couple's dance set around the theme of Ivan Kupalo festivities; the bold yet playful choreography requiring lifts, and an openness to exploring the significance

of the ancient rituals portrayed in the dance.

The fulfilment the AUUC dancers experienced in their roles as students, teachers, ambassadors, and members of a group that is large and extends across Canada, is not fleeting, but will remain with them as they continue to develop and grow. Just as importantly, the connections that were created during the semi-

nar will outlast the choreography, the fatigue, and the aching muscles that made up the dancers' day-to-day experience during that long weekend. Now, we can only work to ensure that these opportunities for advancement and artistic development will continue, and the Ukrainian-Canadian dance community becomes more and more robust, diverse, and relevant.

AUUC Vancouver Branch thanks the countless local AUUC members and dance

families who volunteered their time to make the seminar very special, and from across Canada, the Cultural Directors, the AUUC Branch executives and the National Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, and the dancers themselves, who showed their enthusiasm for Ukrainian dance and helped make the national dance seminar a success.

— **Laurel Parasiuk Lawry**

— Photo: Dan Fung



Serguei Makarov staged a lovely women's dance, graceful and balletic, while displaying the power and precision of the dancers.

— Photo: Liam Griffin



Serguei Makarov often illustrated a step or a stance.



Zhenia Bahri's couple's dance featured bold yet playful choreography.

— Photo: Dan Fung



What's a special occasion without cake? The last supper of the seminar served at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre featured food for the soul as well as the stomach.

Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical examination.

A few days later the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later the doctor spoke to Morris and

said, "You're really doing great, aren't you?"

Morris replied, "I'm just doing what you told me to do, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'"

The doctor said, "I didn't say that. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur. Be careful.'"



Zhenia Bahri staged a couple's dance set around the theme of Ivan Kupalo, requiring an openness to exploring the significance of the ancient rituals portrayed in the dance.

— Photo: Liam Griffin



Debbie Karras, Cultural Director of AUUC Vancouver Branch and Artistic Director of the Dovbush Dancers, ended the seminar with "wrap up informal chat with everyone — instructors, dancers and guests". She began by thanking the instructors and mentioning how fortunate the group was to have worked with them. Their different teaching styles made for a well rounded seminar — not to mention the two wonderful new pieces of choreography.

Ms. Karras commended the dancers on their work, and told them how wonderful it was to see them all work together, helping each other, building new friendships and strengthening old ones. She urged them to continue to dance, and not to settle, but to ask for more, to want to do more, and to continue to stay in touch with each other.

Ms. Karras thanked the AUUC nationally for supporting this seminar — which was done on a number of occasions during the evening dinners at the hall when everyone gathered.