

PCUH FOCUS

Newsletter of the Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage

Новини Центру Дослідження Української Спадщини

SUPPORTING UKRAINIAN CULTURE AND HERITAGE THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

Created in 1998, the Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH) is an academic unit of St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan. As an anchor for Ukrainian Studies at the University of Saskatchewan, the mission of the PCUH is to support undergraduate teaching, graduate supervision and student activities while engaging in research programs and projects that help promote a wider understanding and appreciation of the Ukrainian experience in Canada and abroad. Conceived as a community-university partnership and supported by operational funds as well as internal and external grants, the Centre is seen as an important link between the University of Saskatchewan as a major public post-secondary institution in the country and the Ukrainian-Canadian community.

UKRAINIAN STUDIES: A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Just as Ukrainians formed communities throughout the country, so too has the PCUH successfully established a cohesive academic community for those pursuing Ukrainian Studies at USask. Established in 1998, the PCUH remains indelible to this field of study. As a student, my interactions with the centre were frequent, which allowed me to explore my heritage and further develop academic competencies. Other students will notice this when they too encounter the PCUH and its activities.

The Ukrainian Studies Minor engages students in the areas of culture, linguistics, society, and politics. Professors teach numerous courses, notably in anthropology, language, and political science. In this way, students of Ukrainian Studies are presented with an interdisciplinary perspective, providing students with greater flexibility when choosing classes and producing research from whichever angle they choose.



Mr. Matthew Selinger

Lending to its name, the PCUH creates an environment where students, be they Ukrainian or not, explore Ukraine's heritage. In the process, they contribute to Canada's diversity by developing a deep appreciation for Ukrainian culture, language, and history. Moreover, they grasp the significance behind Canada's support for Ukraine's sovereignty and pursuit of democratic reforms. The PCUH assists in these various endeavours by providing research grants, managing the Spring Session in Ukraine program, hosting the annual Mohyla Lecture and other academic

talks, as well as partnering with the Ukrainian Students' Association in promoting student-led Ukrainian events and initiatives on campus.

More immediately, however, Ukrainian faculty members take a deep personal interest in their students' success, making Ukrainian Studies a worthwhile and meaningful endeavour. Professors never hesitate to push their students higher, encouraging them to discover new, practical skills, such as acquiring Ukrainian as a second language, or undertaking scholarly activities and research especially as these pertain to contemporary Ukraine. Personally, a Ukrainian Studies Minor has proven to be stimulating and rewarding. I highly recommend the program to all of my peers and encourage them to enrol in the program or take a course or two. It is well worth

Matthew Selinger

Ukrainian Studies Graduate

Spring 2021

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Dr. Bohdan Kordan

The year 2020 will stand out as a time of tremendous grief and deep anxiety. The pandemic has taken an enormous toll. We are reminded of the fragility of life and the uncertainty of the future. Yet throughout, there were examples of love, compassion, strength, and determination. We should take comfort in this. It demonstrates the sinews that bind us all and reinforces our sense of community. It also allows me to understand more fully and completely what is at the heart of a community and how it flourishes.

I am part of the Ukrainian-Canadian community. I take pride in this. I am also a member of other communities. For example, I am part of a scholarly community and, as a professor, part of a learning and teaching community. These have

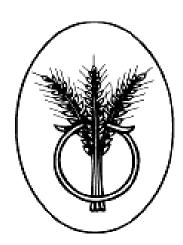
been created through commitment. Sharing in this, I along with others build a community together.

But no matter the community, it is commitment that counts. With respect to the communities that I am engaged with, commitment can be found in the work of instructors teaching about Ukraine, in the array of Ukrainian language courses being delivered to students, and the willingness to organize and offer a study-abroad program in Ukraine. It is to be found in the effort to ensure that the professional needs of Canadian teachers of Ukrainian are being supported by making available Ukrainian language assessment resources through the PCUH.

Commitment takes other forms as well. It includes the willingness of young scholars to come to Saskatoon to teach within the Ukrainian Studies program and academics who have seized the opportunity to pursue their research within the context of the Centre's mission and mandate, producing invaluable scholarship.

Then there are the students. They enrol in Ukrainian courses to fur-

ther their education. Some have even completed a Minor degree to gain a greater appreciation of the culture, politics, and history of Ukraine. Their interest and commitment do not stop there. As a student group on campus, the University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association (USUSA) works to create networks and relationships. They also seek to give back to the community by exploring how they might volunteer and what they might do as young people to strengthen it.



Finally, there is the community which has rallied around the PCUH and its role at the university, supporting the Centre financially. The generous donations by such individual benefactors and organizations as the late Victor Buyniak, Stephen and Micheline Worobetz, Michael Krochak, and the Shevchenko Foundation are expressions of that commitment which has helped sustain the PCUH over the years.

The PCUH has been in existence since 1998. Twenty-three years have elapsed. Through it all, the PCUH, I believe, has lived up to its mission. I shall be retiring shortly. I am convinced, however, that the PCUH will continue to faithfully serve the purpose for which it was originally intended – to support Ukrainian heritage and culture through higher learning - to help build a community through commitment.

Bohdan Kordan PCUH Director

Changes to the Centre

PROF. KHANENKO-FRIESEN ASSUMES NEW ROLE AS CIUS DIRECTOR

A long-time pillar of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Saskatchewan, Prof. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen has been appointed Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Huculak Chair of Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography at the University of Alberta. She contributed to the PCUH in untold ways and the development of Ukrainian Studies on the University of Saskatchewan campus, including spearheading STM's Spring Session in Ukraine program. PCUH bids a fond farewell to Prof. Khanenko-Friesen but looks forward to working with her in her new role as CIUS director.

PCUH ANNOUNCES NEW RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, DR. MONICA HWANG



Prof. Monica Hwang Prof. Monica Hwang has been appointed PCUH Associate. The appointment is for the period January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024. Dr. Hwang is an Associate Professor of Sociology at St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan. Her research bridges the fields of inequality, politics, and migration, focusing on ethnoracial differences in social and political trust and French-English differences in civic engagement. She is currently working on "Social Inequality in Canada: Dimensions of Disadvantage," 7th ed. (Oxford University Press), contributing chapters on the ex-

tent of foreign corporate concentration in Canada and on the temporary foreign workers program in Canada.

Dr. Hwang is currently involved in a longterm project on Ukrainian migration with Dr. Natalia Khanenko Friesen (University of Alberta) and Dr. Victor Satzewich (McMaster University). As an Associate member of the PCUH, she will conduct research on the fourth wave of Ukrainian immigration into Canada, which occurred after Ukraine gained independence in 1991. The fourth wave of Ukrainian migrants arrived under very different circumstances, enjoying significant economic and educational advantages over the previous three waves of Ukrainian immigrants. Along with her co-investigators, Prof. Hwang will explore the economic and sociopolitical integration of this group.

FELLOW IN UKRAINIAN STUDIES APPOINTED

A nation-wide search was conducted by the PCUH to

fill the position of the Petro Jacyk Fellowship in Ukrainian Studies. The candidate chosen, Oksana Dudko, will begin her appointment August 1. The position will be held in STM's History Department. She will also be appointed a PCUH research associate. A historian of twentieth century



Petro Jacyk Fellow: Oksana Dudko

Europe with a particular focus on violence, gender, and the cultural history of Ukraine, she will teach courses on Eastern Europe in the coming 2021-22 academic year. The last time a course on Ukrainian history taught at the University of Saskatchewan was the mid-1980s.

PCUH ADVISORY BOARD CREATED

The PCUH has had a special relationship with the Ukrainian-Canadian community. The PCUH's mission, for example, is to engage the community and draw it closer to the work of the Centre. With this in mind and at the direction of STM administration, a new community-based advisory board has been struck to counsel the director on planning and other matters integral to the functioning of the PCUH. An announcement regarding the members of this board will be made shortly.

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Ukrainian Studies News

PETRO JACYK FELLOWSHIP IN UKRAINIAN STUDIES

The PCUH successfully applied to the Petro Jacyk Education Foundation (Toronto) with a proposal to host a fellowship at St. Thomas More College. Funding was granted from the foundation for the position on the basis of the college's commitment to Ukrainian Studies and the PCUH's long record of activity and achievements. The fellowship is for a one-year appointment. The fellow will participate in the Ukrainian Studies program at the college and PCUH.

CHANGES TO THE UKRAINIAN STUDIES MINOR

Within a year, Ukrainian Studies will change from a Minor to Certificate program. In an anticipation of that move, steps are being taken to streamline requirements and design new course offerings, notably in Ukrainian culture and history. Spearheaded by Prof. Nadya Foty-Oneschuk as Chair of



Prof. Nadya Foty-Oneschuk

the Ukrainian Studies Minor, these changes are intended to update, fortify and innovate the Ukrainian Studies program, providing students not only with a specialization in this area of study, but also opening up this program to a wider pool of students.

A new addition to the Certificate is language education, which is intended to appeal to future and current teachers in the Ukrainian bilingual program (K-12). This addition will allow the Certificate in Ukrainian Studies to apply to an AQ (Additional Qualification) Certificate for Language Teachers through the College of Education. This was made possible through the invaluable cooperation and assistance of Nadia Prokopchuk in the Department of Curriculum Studies at the College of Education and who is a PCUH Affiliate.

Following all approvals, the Certificate will be offered in the 2022-23 academic year. We are

excited to continue offering unique,

quality programming to our students, providing them with a solid general background in Ukrainian Studies through required courses, while allowing them the opportunity to personalize their program by delving deeper in a particular area of interest through electives.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The following 2020 scholarships were awarded to students for academic excellence in Ukrainian Studies at the University of Saskatchewan.

Rose Semko Hrynchuk Scholarship Marta Krueger

Ukrainian Self Reliance Association – Steppe Branch Ukrainian Language Awards:

200-level Ukrainian Language Award

Elliot Dillabough Natalya Shevchuk

100-level Ukrainian Language Award

Hayley Abrey Madison Halewich Rebecca Spilchak



PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE EDUCATORS

Over a span of three years, dedicated work on the Ukrainian Language Assessment Project has resulted in the publication of four documents which support the professional learning needs of Canadian teachers of Ukrainian. The documents are a testament to the various levels of language ability—ranging from beginners to native speakers - within today's Ukrainian language programs. The PCUH assessment project was grounded

the assessment documents, given the validity of the CEFR scale, user-friendly design, and ability to support language instruction across subject areas taught in Ukrainian. Two workshops for bilingual educators were given in Edmonton and Vegreville in January 2019. A workshop for Winnipeg bilingual teachers at RF Morrison Elementary School was organized online in June 2020. Nadia Prokopchuk, academic affiliate

RF Morrison Elementary School Workshop Participants

in the research of the Language Policy Division of the Council of Europe and its development of the international language scale known as the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for languages.

The CEFR-based Ukrainian language assessment documents produced for this PCUH project are appropriate for use in school settings, after-school programs, and post-secondary institutions. Bilingual program teachers in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba have shown interest in

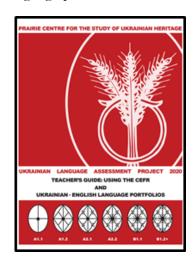
at the Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH) delivered these professional workshops.

The professional learning workshops introduced the process of *initial assessment*. This is an important first step for further program planning, classroom language instruction, and resource selection. A block of time was devoted to establishing a clear understanding of the CEFR scale, language levels, user-friendly descriptors, and skill development in listening, speaking, reading, and

writing. Samples of reading resources and writing tasks at various CEFR levels were also made available.

In addition to the CEFR charts produced in Ukrainian and English, an English language implementation guide titled *Teacher's Guide: Using the CEFR and Ukrainian-English Language Portfolios* was completed in 2020. This was followed by a Ukrainian translation of the guide in January of 2021. All Ukrainian language assessment documents are available on the PCUH website and may be downloaded at no cost.

The next stage of the Ukrainian language assessment project will focus on ways to include parents and students in the reporting process through the use of language portfolios



Teacher's Guide

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Campus and Community Life

UCC STUDENT INTERN SELECTED FROM SASKATCHEWAN

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) announced that following an extensive national search process Matthew Selinger has been selected as one of two new UCC parliamentary interns for 2020-2021.

Matthew Selinger is a recent graduate of the University of Saskatchewan with a B.A. in Modern Languages, as well as a B.A. in Political Studies and Ukrainian Studies. In addition to his academic work in Canada and Ukraine, Matthew has been involved with the Ukrainian Students' Association and Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH) at St. Thomas More College, USask Model United Nations, and municipal and provincial campaigns in Saskatchewan.

UCC Vice President Olesia Luciw-Andryjowycz stated, "The UCC Parliamentary Internship program provides an opportunity to learn about Canada's parliamentary processes firsthand. Our in-

terns gain experience and knowledge about civic engagement and public policy which allows them to pursue careers in public service." The UCC Parliamentary Internship Program is made possible through the generosity of individual and organizational donors and supported through the UCC Charitable and Educational Trust.



PROF. KORDAN HONOURED FOR COMMUNITY WORK

STM's Professional and Community Service Committee ating the Mohyla Lecture Series, Policy Forum Series, announced that this year's recipient of the Margaret Dutli Professional and Community Service Award is Dr. Bohdan Kordan, professor in the Political Studies department and acting director of the PCUH. The announcement in part describes Professor Kordan's contributions as follows:

"One of Dr. Kordan's most longstanding projects has been the Prairie Centre for Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH). He was its founding director in 1998 and has served as director multiple times in the years following. His work with PCUH has included a partnership with the Hnatyshyn Canadian Studies Centre in Ukraine, cre-

Heritage Press, as well as organizing countless lectures and conferences. For his contributions, Dr. Kordan has received the Shevchenko Medal from the UCC, the Nation Builders' Award from the UCC-Saskatchewan Provincial Council, and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal.

His work has left an indelible mark on STM, the Ukrainian community in Saskatchewan and Canada, as well as beyond and it is for that reason the Professional and Community Service Committee is pleased to be able to honour Dr. Kordan with the Margaret Dutli Professional and Community Service Award."

USUSA INVOLVED IN NATIONAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

The USUSA contributed to a Canada-wide, student-organized 'Kolyada' or caroling campaign over the holiday season. The online event attracted donations from across the country. These were divided among the participating Ukrainian student organizations to assist in their programming needs.



USUSA's youtube video for caroling campaign

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USUSA ORGANIZES ONLINE CONFERENCE

The University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Student's Association (USUSA) hosted an online conference on May 8, 2021 sponsored by PCUH. The conference entitled"Ukrainian Student Leadership" explored the intersection between student life and volunteering within the community. Student leaders and community figures involved in the Ukrainian-Canadian community shared their experiences and discussed strategies on how best to mobilize students and student groups around issues critical to community development. The conference consisted of five sessions varying in topics from arts and the Ukrainian community with Serhij Koroliuk and Ryan Boyko to a round table discussion on volunteerism and work life balance lead by three presidents of university Ukrainian associations. Other panelists included Danylo Puderak, David Lalach, Adrian Boyko, Ihor Michalchyshyn, Paul Migus, Connor Moen and Lee Raeny. Students and community members from all over the province attended this online conference making it a very successful event.



USUSA conference session—Cementing Institutions into Student Life

NEW BOOK ON CANADA-UKRAINE RELATIONS

In November 2020, McGill-Queen's University Press released a new book by Prof. Bohdan Kordan and former University of Saskatchewan graduate, Mitchell Dowie. Canada and the Ukraine Crisis examines Canada's foreign policy under the Harper government toward Ukraine during the Euromaidan and ensuing conflict with Russia. Part of the PCUH's Canada-Ukraine Relations Initiative, Canada and the Ukraine Crisis was recognized during the STM's Faculty Book Launch series, April 1, 2021.

SHAW CABLE SPOTLIGHTS WWI INTERNMENT IN SASKATCHEWAN

Working with the PCUH, Shaw Cable has produced a documentary vignette on the WWI Eaton Internment Camp. The short film created by Simon Hiatt is part of migrants of 'enemy' birth designated as civilian prison-Shaw Cable's "Spotlight Series," which showcases events, people and places with a view to increasing local awareness as a way for "communities to stay connected." The Eaton internment campsite is located seven kilometres west of Saskatoon at the site of today's Saskatchewan Railway Museum.



Commemoration plaque in Eaton, SK.

The WWI internment facility was created at the Eaton railway siding in February 1919 to accommodate imers of war. Under military guard, the prisoners were forced to work on the railway repairing track. Difficulties with securing the camp in the open range would lead to its closure March 1919.

Of the twenty-four WWI internment camps created across Canada, the Eaton camp was the only one of its kind in Saskatchewan, marking it as an important provincial historic site. In 2005, the PCUH in partnership with the Ukrainian-Canadian community organized and erected a commemorative monument to honour the memory of those interned at this site.

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=NbaggN2vOts&feature=voutu.be&fbclid=IwAR15 txdcyaEwqwblOsurGGuQTHlS1INeIkFzCpNIyIrQC SB0-ro zQiKqZc

Faculty Profiles

Bohdan Kordan

On Faculty

PCUH Faculty members coordinate and manage PCUH's programs and projects.

Tenured and non-tenured faculty at St. Thomas More College and the University of Saskatchewan participate in the work of the Centre on the basis of research interests and proposals that fall within the mandate of the PCUH.

Two new articles on WWI internment were published by Prof. Bohdan Kordan: "First World War Internment: Enemy Aliens and the Blurring of the Military /Civilian Distinction," *Canadian Military History*, 20, 2 (2020): 1-28 (https://scholars.wlu.ca/cmh/vol29/iss2/1/); and "Enemy Alien Internment in Ontario's Northland," *Ontario History*, 113, 1 (Spring 2021): 54-79. Dr. Kordan was also invited to contribute to the Cicero Foundation's *Great Debate Series*, "No Better Friend': Assessing the 'Special' Nature of the Canada-Ukraine Relationship," Paper No. 20/04 (November 2020). https://www.cicerofoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/Bohdan_S_Kordan_No_Better_Friend-1.pdf

NADYA FOTY-ONESCHUK



Dr, Foty-Oneschuk

Dr. Foty-Oneschuk will be co-editing and contributing to a special issue of the international journal *Genealogy* with Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, entitled "Articulating Continuity, Documenting Change: Life-Storytelling in Oral History and Folklore." In addition to developing a new Ukrainian culture course, Nadya has focused on promoting Ukrainian Studies courses in new ways through remote delivery. Her teaching was profiled in the University of Saskatchewan *Arts and Science Magazine*: "Usask professors prepare for innovative, engaging online classes in Term 2." https://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/5791/
USask professors prepare for innovative engaging online clas

ALAN ANDERSON



Dr Alan Anderson presenting on his research topics

Prof. Anderson's review of A. Matveeva's *Through Times of Trouble: Conflict in Eastern Ukraine Explained from Within* was published in the *Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe*, vol. 17, no. 3: 112-117. To commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Ukrainian Canadian Congress - SPC, Prof. Anderson is preparing a book based on his historical and demographic research of Ukrainian settlements in Saskatchewan covered in two PCUH presentations: "Where have all the people gone? The depopulation of Ukrainian communities and settlements in Saskatchewan" (November 19, 2019) and "Generations: How Ukrainian-Canadian identity and culture are changing through five generations" (March 10, 2020).

SUPPORT PCUH

The Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage relies on the financial support of our committed friends. Over the years, countless individuals and organizations have contributed financially to the mission and success of the PCUH, and through the generosity of donors like you, their vision and legacy will live on.

You can make a difference in the life of a student like Matthew Selinger and you can help ensure that PCUH continues to offer creative programs and activities through higher learning.

By choosing to donate now, you are supporting the PCUH mission, and you are helping build a strong, sustainable community that celebrates Ukrainian heritage.

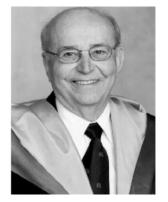
Annual Donations

PCUH extends sincere, warm thanks to the following individuals for their generous donations over the past year

> Dr. Michael & Mrs. Marie Krochak Donna R. Korchinski Mr. Paul Kyba Mr. Ernest E. Uhryn

REMEMBERING DR. MICHAEL KROCHAK

It is with profound sadness that we acknowledge the passing on March 11, 2021 of a kind soul and committed leader, the much-loved and respected Dr. Michael Krochak. Closely following the work of the PCUH over the years, and as an advocate for Ukrainian Studies at the University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Krochak took pride in the Centre's activity and scholarship. The



Dr. Michael Krochak

PCUH is honoured to have received the support of this community stalwart – a dear friend and a faithful community servant.

Vichnaya pamiat

PLEASE DONATE

Please give generously to the PCUH. Your donation is tax deductible. You will receive an official receipt.

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S7N 0W6

For electronic donations visit our secure site (click the button below and choose Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage from the drop-down menu under "Designation")

Online donation page

For further information on how you might support the PCUH or any of its programs and initiatives, please feel free to contact us by telephone at (306) 966 -8918 (Kari Sinkewicz, Manager of Development and Alumni Relations, St. Thomas More College) or email ksinkewicz@stmcollege.ca.

We thank you for your support!

Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage

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