



PCUH FOCUS

Newsletter of the Prairie Centre
for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage

Новини Центру Дослідження
Української Спащини

PCUH — 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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

It gives me great pleasure to bring greetings from the Dean's Office and STM to the Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage's 2018-19 newsletter. PCUH has been an integral part of STM for over twenty years now. Its commitment to the "preservation, promotion and development of the Ukrainian Canadian cultural heritage" through higher education is shared by this institution. The College is proud of its partnership with PCUH and of the work the Centre is doing, and we look forward to many more years of cooperation.

PCUH offers many activities and programs through our College, such as the Mohyla Lecture, Policy Forum Series, Eaton Internment project, and the Oral History Program. These programs connect the College not only to those students who are interested in Ukrainian culture and heritage but also to students who are generally interested in history and politics, as well as to people outside of the College and University community who care deeply about Eastern Europe in general and Ukraine in particular. In this way, PCUH provides a

vital link to the people of Saskatoon, the province, and the country.

By virtue of its fraught history in the twentieth century and also in this century so far, Ukraine occupies an important position in the fields of history, politics, democracy, colonialism, immigration, genocide, diaspora studies, etc.

PCUH's academic activities touch on all these areas of study in one way or another, making sure that the voices from both the past and the present of this tremendously vibrant nation—whose people are dispersed all across the world and especially North America—are heard, cherished, and studied. Since we ignore history at our peril, PCUH does a great service in shining light on the history and heritage of this particular part of the world, which often gets forgotten among other, more immediate, concerns of the media and academia.



Consul General of Ukraine A. Veselovsky and
STM Dean, Dr. A. Kumaran

As this academic year comes to an end, I want to express my gratitude to Prof. Bohdan Kordan for his invaluable service to PCUH for yet another year. Without his leadership and dedication, this Centre would not be what it is today. I also want to acknowledge the significant contributions that other executive members of Centre, especially Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, make. My thanks also go out to all the students and community partners who are part of this great cultural institution in our College.

Arul Kumaran
Dean, St. Thomas More College

Spring 2019

Inside this issue:

<i>A Message from the Dean</i>	1
<i>PCUH Director's Message</i>	2
<i>Community Outreach</i>	2
<i>Eaton Internment Memorial</i>	3
<i>Language Workshop</i>	3
<i>Spring Session in Ukraine</i>	3
<i>Ukrainian Studies Reception</i>	4
<i>Student Research Colloquium</i>	4
<i>USUSA Culture Workshops</i>	5
<i>PCUH Essay Prize</i>	5
<i>Postcards Campaign</i>	5
<i>Holodomor Awareness</i>	6
<i>Academic Recognition</i>	6
<i>PCUH Members' News</i>	7
<i>Donations</i>	8



Contributing Writers

Bohdan Kordan
Arul Kumaran
Natalia Khanenko-Friesen
Alan Anderson
Nadia Prokopchuk
Mykan Zlipko
Nadya Foty-Oneschuk

Text Editing
Bohdan Kordan

Layout and Design
Iryna Kozina



PCUH DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: 2018-19



Dr. Bohdan Kordan, PCUH Director

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage. Throughout the many years, the PCUH has sought to fulfill its mandate as an applied research centre. It does so, however, in a very specific way, helping the community to know itself – its culture, heritage, and past.

Over the years, the PCUH has engaged in this mission by undertaking broad based initiatives and projects. PCUH faculty, for instance, are engaged in an oral history and archives program that looks to record and preserve personal items such as letters,

memoirs, diaries and photos which pertain to the Ukrainian experience in Saskatchewan and Canada.

Further, the Centre has documented and commemorated the WWI Eaton internment camp as a heritage site, working with a number of provincial groups to create a permanent educational exhibit on site.

Under the Canada-Ukraine Relations Initiative, newspaper accounts and government policy statements have been collected as part of a research project to understand more clearly Canada's 'special relationship' with Ukraine – a matter of some importance to the community at this critical juncture in Ukraine's history.

Meanwhile, the future of Ukrainian language has been the subject of symposia and workshops sponsored by the PCUH; the purpose of which is to see how instruction might be enhanced, making it even more possible for the next generation of Ukrainian youth to speak the language of their ancestors.

Exhibitions, conferences, and public lectures have also been undertaken to

broaden and deepen the public's knowledge and appreciation of the Ukrainian experience. Several of these have even taken place beyond Saskatoon in an effort to expand the Centre's audience and influence. Additionally, PCUH faculty have delivered talks, speeches and written books as the foundation for further reflection and understanding of the community and its history.

Twenty years have since passed. The sum of the work accomplished is impressive. I believe this is so because the PCUH is fully engaged with the community. Reaffirmed in its mission, the Centre's relationship with the community is strengthened and will remain strong.

I am confident the PCUH will continue to do good work. How could it not be? The close bond that exists between the PCUH and the community ensures the Centre's ongoing role and relevance in the life of the community. It is a thought that gives me great comfort.

*Bohdan Kordan, Ph.D.
PCUH Director*

PCUH PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: INFORMATION SESSIONS



Following last year's information campaign, PCUH, Spring Session in Ukraine (SSU), and Ukrainian Studies Minor program, were again represented at two major Saskatoon community cultural events – Folk Fest (August 16-18, 2018) and Ukrainian Day in the Park (August 25, 2018). Both events were well attended by the local community. Iryna Kozina, PCUH Administrative Assistant, and Oksana Dubasov and Matthew Selinger, recent study abroad participants, fielded questions from interested community members who were eager to learn more about the Ukrainian Studies initiatives at St. Thomas More College. The public expressed satisfaction that so much was being done at the university.

PCUH AND EATON INTERNMENT PERMANENT EXHIBIT

The Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage has had a long history of involvement in commemorating and publicizing the experience of incarceration of enemy aliens as prisoners of war at the site of Saskatchewan's only place of WWI internment – Eaton. In 2005, the PCUH led the initiative to install an on-site memorial. Recently, a proposal to enhance the site – now home to the Saskatchewan Railway Museum – with a permanent interpretive exhibit on Canada's First National Internment Operations has coalesced with several community partners. The project's partners include the Ukrainian Canadian Congress of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Railroad Historical Association, the Saskatchewan German Council, and the PCUH.

The exhibit's content will commemorate those unjustly affected by Canada's First National Internment Operations of 1914–1920 and will serve as a knowledge gateway for the people of Saskatchewan to learn more about the enemy alien experience, and to reflect more broadly upon the importance of civil and human rights in Canada. The PCUH has contributed funds toward the development of the proposal and the creation of site plans.

DEDICATION OF EATON INTERMENT MEMORIAL

The Saskatchewan Railway Museum (SRM) is the site of WWI internment in Canada. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress in co-operation with the SRM and in partnership with the German Canadian Council and the PCUH initiated a project to create a memorial garden. The dedication of the Eaton Memorial Garden on the grounds of the SRM took place on May 25, 2018.

A place of remembrance and reflection, the garden is part of an ongoing

initiative to reclaim the historical memory of internment, a time when 8,579 ‘enemy aliens’ were arrested and interned in camps across Canada such as at Eaton. A multilingual plaque, seating area, and flowering shrubbery accompanies the monument that was originally erected on this site by PCUH in 2005.



Eaton Internment Memorial Garden & Plaque

UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

The PCUH was proud to sponsor a Ukrainian language curriculum workshop on August 23, 2018. Organized by Nadia Prokopchuk, PCUH Affiliate, the workshop was hosted by the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan. Participants were introduced to a new course program, entitled “Podorozhi.ua: Ukrainian for Beginners – A Blended Learning Model.” The program offers a new approach to language learning in the study of the Ukrainian language. It combines face-to-face lecture time in the classroom with online components, resulting in students quickly becoming conversationally competent. Dr. Alla Nedashkivska and Olena Sivachenko from the University of Alberta, authors of the program, led the workshop. The workshop follows the national online Ukrainian Education Conference, May 5, 2018 in which PCUH faculty also participated.



PEACE STUDIES LECTURE AT STM

On October 4, 2018, a special lecture was presented by Dr. Maureen Flaherty, a faculty member of the Mauro Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at University of Manitoba. Titled “Determination, Devotion, Diplomacy: Women Building Peace in Ukraine.” The subject of the talk was Dr. Flaherty’s applied re-

search on the effects of the war in the Donbas and the efforts among Ukrainian women to personally create modes of understanding as an initial step toward resolving the conflict. The Peace Studies Initiative at STM organized the event, which was sponsored by the PCUH.

SPRING SESSION IN UKRAINE 2018

The 2018 Spring Session in Ukraine (SSU) was held May 6-June 7. This full-immersion program enables students earn up to nine UofS credit units in a five-week period by taking language and anthropology courses. Students stay with the host families, which accelerates their learning of Ukrainian language and culture.

Prof. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen traveled with students to Ukraine to deliver the course ANTH 233 “Anthropological Perspectives on Contemporary Ukraine”, which broadly considers society and culture in contemporary Ukraine. Dr. Olena Huzar, on-site SSU Director, coordinated the program in Ternopil. The course curriculum included fieldtrips to Lviv, the cultural capital of Western Ukraine, as well as Kamianets-Podilskyi fortress, which was a vital defensive bulwark in western Ukraine for centuries. Students spent the last weekend of program in the picturesque Carpathian Mountains.

Five students participated in the program – Oksana Dubasov, Matthew Selinger, Jamie LaFleur, Kaitlyn Bletsky, and Tiana Kirstein.



SSU 2018 participants with Dr. Khanenko-Friesen – Ternopil



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL UKRAINIAN STUDIES RECEPTION



The PCUH was proud to co-host with the STM Dean's Office the annual reception for Ukrainian Studies on October 9. Current students enrolled in the program and others were in attendance this year along with STM faculty.

Dr. Nadya Foty-Oneschuk, PCUH liaison with the University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association, welcomed the students to STM and invited them to learn more about Ukrainian programming on campus.

Prof. Kordan, PCUH Director, spoke about the role of the PCUH, highlighting the centre's financial support for course instruction and student activities. He encouraged the students to avail themselves off all that the college offers and to make friendships with those who have an interest in all things Ukrainian.

Mr. Mykola Dolgy of the Ukrainian Students' Association invited to join the student group. The largest of its kind in Canada, he attributed it to the level of student commitment and strong institutional support.

The STM Dean, Dr. Arul Kumaran, spoke of the college as the natural home of Ukrainian Studies on the UofS campus, underscoring how the program has provided students with a unique opportunity to explore their Ukrainian heritage. He encouraged them to enrol in the courses and to consider the Spring Session in Ukraine (SSU) as a way to round out their undergraduate experience.

Dr. Foty-Oneschuk followed with a brief synopsis of the Ukrainian Studies Minor on campus and encouraged students to consider the Minor program as a course of study.

The students and faculty were finally able to mingle and share information over refreshments. It was a fitting end to an informal meet-and-greet session, which the students unanimously agreed found to be informative and useful.



UKRAINIAN STUDIES ANNUAL STUDENT RESEARCH SHOWCASE



Tiana Kirstein

For students enrolled in undergraduate Ukrainian Studies courses or undertaking graduate study, the annual Ukrainian Studies Research Showcase is a unique academic opportunity to share with their peers and the community at large their research work. Organized by the University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association (USUSA) in association with the PCUH, this year's showcase was held February 5, 2019.

Three undergraduate students delivered presentations: Tiana Kirstein, Matthew Selinger and Adrian Aquino. Ms. Kirstein, whose interest is in early modern European history, presented her findings on Cossack imagery during the Euromaidan and its importance for propagating the idea of national resistance.

Matthew Selinger delivered remarks on the historical tension that exists around the issue of Ukrainian nationalism and anti-semitism, which is being exploited by Russia in its conflict with Ukraine. He argued that by addressing the record of Ukraine's anti-semitic past, Ukrainian democracy (and its modern nationalist ethic) would be strengthened in the country's conflict with Russia.

Finally, Mr. Aquino examined the factors that have led to the recent Ukraine crisis, arguing Russia's distorted perception of its national identity (linked as it is to an imperial past) and Vladimir Putin's desire to restore Russia as a global power have placed it on a collision course with both Ukraine

and the West. He further explored the issue of international sanctions and how Russian aggression will fail in an increasingly globalized political environment.

The evening ended with a reception organized by the USUSA, allowing the conversation to continue in an informal setting.



UKRAINIAN CULTURE ON CAMPUS



Vinok Workshop - March 19, 2019

As part of the University of Saskatchewan's Culture Week, the USUSA participated, March 14, 2019 in the university's Global Village bazar by setting up a display and providing Ukrainian culinary fare.

It then hosted Pysanka (Easter egg) and Vinok (flower crown) workshops on March 21 and March 19 respectively. Held in the student lounge of St. Thomas More College, the goal was to share the art and craft of pysanka- and vinok-making.

The student-led Pysanka workshop – attended by thirty students, staff and community members – is an annual event organized by the USUSA. The Vinok workshop was the second such undertaking at the college. Sixteen participants learned about the meaning of the vinok and the symbolism of the flowers incorporated in the making of a head wreath.

Proceeds from workshop ticket sales were directed to the non-profit 'Stream of Hopes' (Потічок Надії) – an organization that looks to assist needy and disabled children in Ukraine.



Pysanka Workshop - March 21, 2019



PCUH ESSAY PRIZE AWARDED



Adrian Aquino was presented with this year's PCUH Essay Prize in Ukrainian Studies. The prize was awarded for his essay titled *"Taming the Bear: Assessing the Geopolitics of the Russian Intervention in Ukraine"* submitted for the course POLS 373 Understanding the Conflict in Ukraine. Adrian's paper analyzes the origins of present-day Russian aggression in Ukraine, taking note of the Soviet legacy on contemporary Russian foreign policy. It also examines the strategic merits and costs associated with Russia's opposition to international norms. The prize is presented annually to a student who demonstrates a deep understanding of the subject matter and has presented the material effectively and clearly.

USUSA PARTICIPATES IN 'POSTCARDS FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS'



In 2014 Russia invaded Ukraine. Since then Russian authorities have illegally imprisoned at least 70 Ukrainians. Russia has ignored the demands of various governments and human rights organizations to release these prisoners.

Accordingly, the national Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) initiated a "Postcards for Political Prisoners" campaign, where postcards are sent to Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia as an act of solidarity.

The USUSA led this initiative on the University of Saskatchewan campus, visiting classrooms and spreading awareness of these and other human rights violations at various student and PCUH events. The campaign was conducted during the months of February, March, and early April.





PROMOTING HOLODOMOR AWARENESS ON CAMPUS



USUSA members in the Arts Tunnel – “Holodomor-in-a-Box” interactive learning experience – November 22, 2018

Students of the University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students Association (USUSA) marked Holodomor Awareness Week with several activities on campus. On November 18, 2018 the students organized a Wheat Sheaf making and distributing event in

the STM Student Lounge to honour the memory of those who perished. An information table was also set up November 21 in the main Arts Tunnel, and a vigil commemorating Holodomor victims was held November 22 at the STM Chapel.

Each event was designed to bring awareness to the Holodomor (“Death by hunger”) – the genocide of the Ukrainian people, which occurred between 1932-1933. Millions died of starvation in the Ukrainian countryside as an instrument of official terror and repression. The policy aimed at destroying the peasantry as the foundation of the Ukrainian nation; hence, its genocidal nature. For generations to follow, Soviet authorities imposed a blanket of secrecy on the event, keeping it hidden while disseminating disinformation about the cause and extent of the Holodomor.

USUSA executive member Sam Campling wrote a press article, describing the event and its historical significance. The article was posted on the St. Thomas More College website as part of the campaign to promote awareness of this chapter in Ukraine’s tragic past and world history.



RECOGNIZING UNDERGRADUATE EXCELLENCE IN UKRAINIAN STUDIES

Undergraduate students at the University of Saskatchewan are recognized for excellence in Ukrainian Studies through a variety of scholarships awarded on the basis of merit.

The PCUH congratulates the following students for their commitment and dedication to Ukrainian Studies.

Rose Semko Hrynychuk Scholarship

Jacob Yuriy

Steven and Katherine Kirstiuk Bursary

Matthew Selinger

Annie Palynchuk Scholarship

Katie Bletsky

Stephen J. Porayko Scholarship

Matthew Selinger

Professor and Mrs. J. Rudewsky Scholarship

Matthew Selinger

Michael Sytnick Scholarship

Matthew Selinger

Ukrainian Self Reliance Association/

TYC – Steppe Branch Ukrainian Language Awards:

Erin Durie: UKR 114

Marina Sorokotiaguine: UKR 114

Nicholas Winarsky: UKR 117

Nykola Dovggy: UKR 117

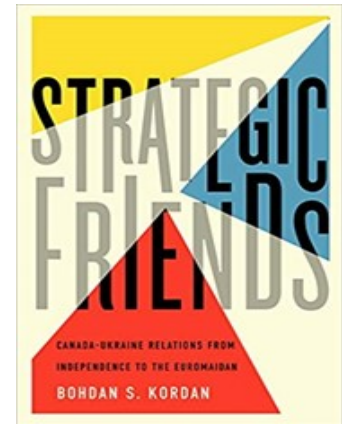
Tiana Kirstein: UKR 214

Alexander Clark: UKR 217



NEW BOOK ON CANADA-UKRAINE RELATIONS

McGill-Queen's University Press recently released a new book by Prof. Bohdan Kordan, Director of the PCUH. The book titled *Strategic Friends: Canada-Ukraine Relations from Independence to the Euromaidan* examines the continuity and change in Canada's foreign policy toward Ukraine from the late Soviet period to the Revolution of Dignity. A comparative-historical study that draws on government documents, newspaper accounts and archival sources, the work details and analyzes the Canada-Ukraine relationship across the Mulroney, Chretien, Martin and Harper governments. Of particular interest is the Ukrainian-Canadian community's role in strengthening the relationship. The book is part of the PCUH's Canada-Ukraine Relations Initiative, an ongoing project that looks to document the evolving nature of the relationship. *Strategic Friends* can be purchased online or ordered through your local bookstore.



MEMBERS' NEWS

ALAN ANDERSON

PCUH Affiliate Alan Anderson was guest editor of a special issue of the *Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe* 17, 3 (2018). In this issue he authored "Overview: The Diversity and Complexity of Separatist Movements in Europe" and "Commentary:

Ethnic Nationalism Reconsidered." In addition he contributed a book review of A. Matveeva *Through Times of Trouble: Conflict in South-eastern Ukraine Viewed from Within* (Lexington Books, 2018). Prof. Anderson was also a co-chair and panellist at a Canadian International

Council conference on "Concerns and Challenges in Immigration and Refugee Policy," Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan, March 8-9, 2018.

NADYA FOTY-ONESCHUK

Dr. Foty-Oneschuk was invited to participate in the Building Bridges series, offered by the University of Saskatchewan Aboriginal Students' Centre and the International Student and Study Abroad

Centre. Meant to foster international and Indigenous relations and cultural understanding, Dr. Foty-Oneschuk was a speaker for the Sharing Circle entitled "Preservation and Revitalization of Languages," speaking from

the perspective of Ukrainian language in historical and contemporary contexts at the University of Saskatchewan.

NATALIA KHANENKO-FRIESEN

On sabbatical this year, Natalia Khanenko-Friesen was a research fellow at Harvard University's Ukrainian Research Institute (Fall 2018) where she conducted a seminar on the Oral History of Decollectivization in Ukraine project. She also presented at the

Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York on the topic of Diaspora-Homeland Letter Writing and co-organized as well as chaired a session on the Holodomor at the Oral History Association annual meeting in Montreal (October 2018). In addition, at the annual

meeting of the Association for Slavic, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies in Boston (December 2018), Prof. Khanenko-Friesen delivered a paper on memory and rural agency during the period of decollectivization in Ukraine.

BOHDAN KORDAN

An essay by Bohdan Kordan entitled "Internment in Canada during the Great War: Rights, Responsibilities and Diplomacy" appears in S. Manz, P. Panayi, and M. Stibbe,

eds. *Internment during the First World War: A Mass Global Phenomenon* (Routledge, 2019). His review of M. Murphy's *Colonial Captivity During the First World War: Internment and the Fall of the*

German Empire, 1914-1919 (Cambridge University Press, 2018) was also published in the *Journal of Global History* 14, 1 (March 2019): 152-54.

NADIA PROKOPCHUK

In January 2019, at the invitation of the Ukrainian Language Education Centre (ULEC), University of Alberta, PCUH Affiliate Nadia Prokopchuk led two half-day work-

shops for language professionals on the topic of "Local Students and Fluent Newcomers: How Can Ukrainian Bilingual Educators Assess Students Equitably?" In April 2019, Nadia was also cho-

sen as an official elections monitor, joining the CANADEM Election Observer team for the second round of Presidential elections in Ukraine.

SUPPORT PCUH

The fundraising campaign “Sharing the Legacy” has been launched to help develop and sustain various PCUH programs and projects and to underwrite a number of scholarships. The intent is to attract donors interested in endowing these undertakings. Donations will be matched 2:1 by the PCUH to a maximum of \$50,000. *Endowed programs, projects, and awards will be named in honour of the donors.* Funds designated for these opportunities named after the donor will be set up as an endowment. Only interest from the endowment will be used annually in support of the program, project, activities, or award. For further information on the “Sharing the Legacy Campaign” or programs, projects and scholarships, please contact the PCUH Director, Dr. Bohdan Kordan, or the STM External Relations Development Office @ (306) 966-8900.

***PCUH would like to extend sincere, warm thanks to the
 following individuals and organizations for their generous donations
 over the past year:***

Eugene & Veronica Pryma
 Ostap & Olga Piasta
 Judge Gerald & Jeralyn Seniuk
 Joan Cosar
 John W. Didula

Rev. Methodius Kushko, CSSR
 Paul Kyba
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard P Fontanie
 Ernest E. Uhryn
 Dr. Michael & Mrs. Marie Krochak

Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association of Canada -- Steppe Branch
 Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatchewan Provincial Council

We thank you for your support!

PLEASE DONATE

I wish to support the activities of the PCUH at

St. Thomas More College

Here is my contribution of :

☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other _____

☐ Cheque payable to the Prairie Centre for Ukrainian Heritage

☐ Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Cardholder's name: _____

Signature: _____

Check this box if you do not wish to have your name publicized: ☐]

Your donation is tax deductible and you will receive an official receipt.

Please return to: Prairie Centre for Ukrainian Heritage

1437 College Drive, St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 0W6, CANADA

Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage

St. Thomas More College, 1437 College Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 0W6, CANADA

Phone: 306.966.8900

<http://pcuh.stmcollege.ca>