



**STM**  
ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

# PCUH FOCUS

Newsletter of the Prairie Centre  
for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage

Новини Центру Дослідження  
Української Спащини

## THE PRAIRIE CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF UKRAINIAN HERITAGE SUPPORTING UKRAINIAN HERITAGE THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

The Prairie Centre for the Study of Ukrainian Heritage (PCUH) is an academic unit of St Thomas More College, a liberal arts college federated with the University of Saskatchewan. Created in 1998, its mission is to promote the advanced study of various aspects of Ukrainian heritage, culture and life; to produce and encourage the preservation of primary source materials relevant to such study; and to disseminate results conducted under its auspices.

The PCUH continues the long and pioneering tradition of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Saskatchewan, supporting both the development of inter-disciplinary course offerings leading to a Ukrainian Studies degree and programs and projects that promote a wider understanding and appreciation of the Ukrainian experience in Canada and abroad.

Conceived as a community-university partnership and supported by endowed funds, the Centre is seen as an important link between the University of Saskatchewan and the Ukrainian-Canadian community.

### PCUH DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The end of the academic year 2008-09 marks ten years of the PCUH at St Thomas More College and the University of Saskatchewan. It is an auspicious occasion. When the PCUH was originally conceived, it was not clear what the result would be. What was clear, however, was the need for some sort of body that would advocate internally for Ukrainian Studies at the university in light of predicted changes and challenges. Ten years on, the wisdom of that original decision to create the PCUH has been vindicated.

The PCUH plays an important role at the university, helping to shape and rework Ukrainian Studies as a viable program of study. It has

helped re-dedicate scholarships for deserving students studying in the area. It supports the advanced research of faculty and graduate students alike. And it continues to organize programs and projects that have a credible impact within the university, local community and beyond. Indeed, a certain amount of satisfaction derives from comments made by observers and admirers from afar who uniformly praise the outstanding work of the Centre.

All of this would not have been possible without the extraordinary talents, the dedicated effort and unwavering commitment and support of the many individuals and benefactors over the years; passionate individuals

eager to share in the promise that is the PCUH. The great success story that is the PCUH has been the people working hard to achieve both the probable and the possible. I take great comfort in that thought because I believe there is no shortage of such people. To them, kudos! Job well done.



*Dr Bohdan Kordan, PCUH Director  
unpacking traveling exhibit for display*

### Spring 2009

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## PCUH IN 2008/09

### 2009 MOHYLA LECTURE

Prof. JOHN-PAUL HIMKA of the Department of History and Classics, University of Alberta, delivered this year's Mohyla Lecture at St. Thomas More College, February 27. A specialist in nineteenth and twentieth century Ukraine, his presentation was entitled "Divergent Memories: Ukrainians, Jews, and the Holocaust."

Dr. Himka spoke to a capacity crowd about the difficulties he encountered as a researcher and historian to both understand and evaluate discrepancies in Ukrainian and Jewish accounts regarding Ukrainian participation in the Holocaust. The conversation continued informally at the reception hosted by the PCUH.



*Dr. John-Paul Himka delivers the 2009 Mohyla Lecture*

### UKRAINIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

The welfare of students are at the core of the university's mission. It is also at the core of the mission of the PCUH. The importance of fostering and nurturing an appreciation of Ukrainian heritage can be done by supporting the activities organized by students themselves. To this end, the PCUH in 2008-09 committed to financially support various events organized by the Association of Ukrainian Students at the University of Saskatchewan. Support for the Association will continue in 2009-10.

Among the sponsored events, the Student's Association, headed by the efforts of MATVIY PASLAWSKI and YAKYM ONESCHUK, organized a Ukrainian film night on October 29, screening the 1962 Hollywood film classic "Taras Bulba". This was followed on February 28 with the successful concert "Ukrainian Music, Art and Soul" featuring noted musicologist ADAM CHERWICK from Edmonton playing on a variety of traditional folk instruments including the kobza, lira, starovitska bandura, trembita and duda.

### UKRAINIAN ARTIST INVITATIONAL

On March 27, the PCUH presented the film "A Kingdom Reborn: Treasures from Ukrainian Galicia" produced and directed by Toronto-based documentary filmmaker Dani Stodilka. The English language film showcased Western Ukraine as a constantly shifting arena where diverse and complex identities evolved. Highlighting the stunning visual legacy that is Ukrainian, the film also paid homage to the Armenian, Jewish, Austrian and Polish contributions to the artistic and architectural heritage of the region. As part of the Ukrainian Artists Invitational Program, the producer/director DANI STODILKA attended the screening of the film, answering questions from the audience.

The objective of the program is to help promote a wider appreciation of the Ukrainian arts scene while raising scholarship funds at these events. Funds raised at this event were directed to STM's Study Abroad in Ukraine Program—Spring Session in Ukraine.



*Film Director Dani Stodilka at STM*

### POLICY FORUM SERIES

On November 29, the Rev. Dr. BORIS GUDZIAK, Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine delivered a talk at STM as part of the PCUH Policy Forum Series entitled "On the Status of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Contemporary Ukraine." Father Gudziak, a leading public intellectual in Ukraine, is Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, STM's sister institution in Ukraine.



*Adam Cherenick on stage at St Thomas More College*

## FAR, FAR AWAY: POSTCARDS FROM PRE-REVOLUTIONARY UKRAINE

At the invitation of number galleries and museums, the highly successful exhibit *Far, Far Away: Postcards from Pre-Revolutionary Ukraine* (originally organized by the PCUH as part of the 2007 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences), would travel to a variety of venues across Canada in 2008-09. The tour included Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto, Saskatoon (return engagement) and Yorkton, where the exhibit was met with much enthusiasm. Professor BOHDAN KORDAN, curator of the exhibit, addressed the audience at each of the exhibit openings. The special catalogue produced by the Heritage Press for the exhibit has been sold out.

## PCUH GIVES SUPPORT TO ADVANCED LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

The 2008-09 academic year marked the return of instruction in Advanced Ukrainian - UKR14.3 and UKR317.3 - on the University of Saskatchewan campus. These advanced course offerings were made possible through the funding support of the PCUH on the basis of a three year agreement with STM.

The addition of Advanced Ukrainian to the range of Ukrainian language courses now being offered means that a student may achieve official Recognition in Ukrainian Language with the completion of 18cu in the language. Ukrainian language courses are delivered through STM's Department of Languages and Linguistics by Professors G. ZEREBECKY and OLENA KOVPAK.



*Guests taking a closer look at the display, Opening reception of the travelling exhibit "Far, Far Away", KUMF Gallery, Toronto*

The new Advanced Ukrainian courses reflect STM's strong and continuing interest in Ukrainian Studies and complements various Ukrainian Studies courses already offered by STM Faculty in Political Studies, Anthropology, and Religious Studies.

## RECEPTION RECOGNIZING STUDENT EXCELLENCE

On April 29, the PCUH hosted a reception in STM's Chelsea Lounge for students registered in all levels of Ukrainian language instruction, including those students participating in the 2009 STM Study Abroad Program — Spring Session in Ukraine. The reception is a means to recognize in an informal way student participation in the program of study while honoring those who have excelled academically in Ukrainian language by granting Ukrainian Studies scholarships at this time.

## UKRAINIAN STUDIES SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED THROUGH STM

Ukrainian scholarships will now be offered through STM, which is currently responsible for Ukrainian language instruction on the University of Saskatchewan campus. The scholarships, infrequently awarded in the past, will now be administered by the STM Awards and Scholarship Committee. The intention is to award the scholarships on a regular basis. Many of the awards are for academic achievement in Ukrainian language at the undergraduate level. Two awards, including the PCUH Graduate Thesis Scholarship, are aimed at supporting graduate work on Ukrainian topics. STM will continue to solicit support from the community, especially for Ukrainian Studies bursaries supporting students in need as well as scholarships for students registered in STM's Spring Session in Ukraine program.

## HERITAGE PRESS NEWS

The Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies (CFUS), a national non-profit organization committed to supporting Ukrainian Studies at the university level, provided financial support to the Library Book Distribution Project organized and led by the PCUH. The Foundation provided funds to facilitate the distribution of the remaining inventory of books produced by the Heritage Press—the publishing arm of the PCUH—to university libraries across North America. Through this partnership both the PCUH and CFUS were able to make permanently available, to students and scholars alike, publications in the field of Ukrainian Studies.

## HOLODOMOR PRESENTATION

PCUH Benefactor and Professor Emeritus VICTOR BUYNIAK delivered a lecture at Mohyla Institute to students and the general public on the Holodomor. It marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Prof. Buyniak's first presentation to the Ukrainian Students Association when he delivered a paper on Ukrainian language.

In his speech to students from Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto and Saskatoon, Prof. Buyniak described his personal experience and the historical experience of those who were part of the Holodomor. The talk was accompanied by a visual display.



*PCUH Benefactor Prof. Buyniak Speaks to Audience on the 1933 "Famine-Terror" or Holodomor in Ukraine*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SPRING SESSION IN UKRAINE 2009

St Thomas More College in co-operation with PCUH has relaunched the highly successful Study Abroad in Ukraine program after a hiatus of two years. The program will take place during the Spring Session 2009 on the campus of Ternopil National Pedagogical University in Western Ukraine.

Created originally in 2001-02, the Study Abroad program is a consortium venture involving St. Thomas More College, the University of Saskatchewan and Ternopil National Pedagogical University. Renamed the *Spring Session in Ukraine* (SSU) and modified to focus strictly on language instruction, courses will be offered at all levels of instruction - Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced - and can be either taken for university credit or audited.

### ORAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM, KHARKIV, UKRAINE

The PCUH in co-operation with the Kowalsky Eastern Ukrainian Institute (Kharkiv National University) and the Ukrainian Oral History Association will organize an international symposium "In Search of Voice: Oral History as Theory, Method and Source" to be held in Kharkiv, Ukraine, 11-12 December 2009. The goal of the proposed symposium, organized by Dr. N. KHANENKO-FRIESEN, is to concentrate on the post-interview phase of oral historical research and the interpretations of gathered material. Topics include the processes of interview archiving, strategic approaches towards interview analysis, and ways of representing various 'voices' in the interview and its narrative.

The Spring Session in Ukraine is conceived as an intensive language program. The courses offered are University of Saskatchewan credit courses taught by instructors accredited at the University of Saskatchewan.

The 2009 Spring Language Immersion Program will run in two consecutive sessions for a duration of 6 weeks, May 10 to June 20. During this time, students may earn up to 6 university credits. Individual language tutoring is also provided and constitutes part of the course requirement. Accommodations will be organized with host families, an initiative designed to immerse the student in the daily life of a Ukrainian family while helping to facilitate language acquisition.

### UKRAINIAN STUDIES MINOR

Plans are underway to re-introduce a Ukrainian Minor at the University of Saskatchewan. St. Thomas More College, with the support of the PCUH, will propose an undergraduate minor degree in Ukrainian Studies. At its core, the program will consist of Ukrainian language at all levels of instruction and an additional mix of interdisciplinary courses that are Ukraine-focused or which have significant Ukrainian content. The re-introduction of a Ukrainian Minor builds on a strong tradition at the university. The first Ukrainian language course in North America was taught in 1944 at the University of Saskatchewan.

An additional aspect of the Study program is the cultural component. A number of day long excursions will be organized on weekends, allowing students to visit historic cultural and religious sites.

The program, facilitated by the PCUH, is coordinated by Ms ROBERTA PANCHUK, PCUH Administrative Assistant, and is supported by a grant from the UCC-SPC.



*"The best undergraduate experience ever. In my view, one of the most important programs on the University of Saskatchewan campus—Rex Wilgren, SSU 2004"*

### NEW EXHIBIT PLANNED

Following on the heels of successful exhibit "Far, Far Away", the PCUH will mount a new travelling exhibition dealing with Ukrainian paper currency from the revolutionary period, 1917-1920. The exhibit titled "Money and Power: The Paper Currency of Ukraine, 1917-20" will focus on state notes produced by various governments of Ukraine during the revolutionary period as well as scarce local issues. The exhibit will be ready in late 2010 and travel to various venues across the country. The display continues the PCUH tradition of mounting exhibitions that promote Ukraine's cultural and historical past.

### 2010 MOHYLA LECTURE

The 2010 Mohyla Lecture is scheduled to take place Friday, February 26, 2010 at St. Thomas More College. This year's speaker will be Prof. DAVID MARPLES of the Department of History and Classics, University of Alberta. Professor Marples will present the lecture "Why the Holodomor Occurred?"

The Holodomor or "Famine-Terror" of 1933 claimed the lives of some 7 million individuals in Ukraine under Soviet rule.

