

December 2025

NEWSLETTER



Christmas Greetings from the Board Chair

Вітаємо Вас
з Різдвом Христовим
і Новим 2026 Роком!

It is indeed a pleasure to bring Christmas greetings on behalf of the Mohyla Board of Directors to our members, alumni, supporters, friends, staff, and residents, and to all members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada.

Christ is born! Let us Glorify Him!
May there be peace on earth!

В імені Дирекції Інституту,
бажаю Всім Вам найкращі побажання з нагоди
Різдва Христового та нового року!
Христос Рождається! Славімте Його!
Нехай буде спокій на землі!

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Wine & Cheese



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Christmas Market



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Scholarship Recipients





Board Chair, Stephen Senyk

Once again, we were pleased that the 2025-26 academic program year commenced at full capacity of student residents along with a waiting list for others. Mohyla's living and learning environment is inclusive, stimulating, and accommodating; a place for social and leadership development, as well as a safe home away from home. This past November, two of our residents, who are also members of the renowned and historical Mohyla Kamenari Society, were sponsored to attend the UCC National Triennial Congress in Toronto to learn about and discuss key contemporary issues facing our community. This historical gathering of our community leaders also afforded our Mohyla Kamenari leaders the valued opportunity to meet and network with their Ukrainian peers from across Canada. (See page 22 for a detailed article about their experience.) Please take time to visit the St. Petro Mohyla Institute Facebook and Instagram pages for other updates on interesting events, programs, and services.

Mohyla's steadfast service and engagement with our Ukrainian community over the past 110 years has faced many pressing times of adversity, and demonstrated its resilience and veracity by stepping forward to new challenges and opportunities. Mohyla operates in an ever challenging and

an increasingly competitive and diverse environment, an environment that requires sound leadership and dedication on the part of the board and management to ensure its sustainability, growth, and development. The status quo is not an option. We need to focus on new ways and means to develop and ensure Mohyla's viability well into the future. There is so much more that we can and must do. Towards this end, a Conceptual Plan for the development of a new facility was drafted by the Mohyla Board and its Executive Director.

For readers who may be reading about the need for a new facility for the first time, the current and well worn facility is 60 years old. Given current standards and expectations, it is functionally dated and in need of replacement with a new facility and features designed for contemporary and foreseeable emerging needs and services. The pace of the development process was slowed by COVID and all the uncertainties and necessities that came with it. The process was bumpy and delayed. Nevertheless, the Conceptual Plan was drafted, presented and welcomed with supportive, highly encouraging reviews at the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada (USRL) Triennial Convention and the most recent Mohyla AGM.

Since then, additional consultations have taken place and will continue with stakeholders, while efforts are underway to recruit additional board members, and members to serve on a new facility advisory committee to the board. Also, work on the development of a new five year strategic plan is scheduled to commence this spring along with the transitioning of the Conceptual Plan to a fully detailed business plan for the new facility. We are off to a good start. The promise for Mohyla's future looks positive. Nonetheless, there is lots of room for you to join in and become part of the planning and development process.

We invite you to request a copy of the Conceptual Plan by email to info@mohylainstitute.ca. Peruse it and send us your considered comments. Building a

new Mohyla state-of-the-art facility depends on your input and support. Your support may be expressed and demonstrated through annual, or more frequent, donations which are tax deductible; by volunteering to serve on the board of directors; by volunteering to serve on special committees of the board; and by faithfully renewing your annual membership or by becoming a new member of Mohyla. As a member, you will have the opportunity to help shape and ensure the future of Mohyla. Encourage others to join you in becoming members of Mohyla. Together, as a proactive and dedicated membership we can achieve many things. The annual tax deductible membership fee is \$35, payable by cheque or, preferably, by e-transfer to info@mohylainstitute.ca.

In the sphere of world affairs, as of February 24, 2022, four horrific years of unconscionable war crimes will have passed since Putin's genocidal, evil empire invaded Ukraine; the largest unprovoked war on an independent European country since World War II. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the New Year, a traditional time for sharing and giving, let's reinforce our resolve to support our families and all people of our beloved homeland, Ukraine. Let us offer a special prayer and Christmas greetings of hope and peace to all in Ukraine, and to arrivals throughout Saskatchewan and elsewhere in Canada in need of our care, understanding, and support.

During this very special season, we also appeal to you for your valued support of Mohyla. No donation amount is too small. Your financial help is needed. Please also note that estate and memorial donations in blessed memory of deceased family members, alumni, and friends are always welcomed and will certainly be put to good use.

On behalf of the board, management, and staff, I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to our individual and organizational donors for the financial and moral support received during the past year.

In particular, and with great gratitude we wish to acknowledge and say farewell to Nadia Maruschak-Clay who shared her considerable expertise and faithfully served as the treasurer of the Mohyla Board for more than two decades. Nadia, we wish you good health and happiness and best wishes in your continuing career as the Executive Director of Corporate Accounting & Financial Reporting with the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

In conclusion, I wish to thank fellow board colleagues and our chaplain Father Taras Makowsky for volunteering their valued time, skills, and talents to serve Mohyla during the past year, and to thank our Executive Director, Sara Detenshen for her excellent leadership and management of Mohyla operations as well as her staff for their dedicated and valued services.

Let's be thankful for our many blessings. May the Christ child bless each of you with good health, love, happiness, prosperity and peace throughout the New Year.

Нехай народження малого Ісуса та початок Нового Року принесуть Вам радість нового життя та ентузіазм свіжих почувань та успіхів у всіх Ваших особистих та спільних справах! Христос Ражадайється! Славімте Його!

With good cheer, warm wishes and best regards - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Stephen Senyk
Board Chair

СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ! ГЕРОЯМ СЛАВА!

GLORY TO UKRAINE!
GLORY TO HER HEROES!





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Thank you!!!



We want to thank Nadia Maruschak-Clay for her dedication to St. Petro Mohyla Institute over the years. Her presence on the Board of the Directors and financial acumen will be missed!

The book launch of 'Tales from University' by Irene Pylypec



Mohyla Institute was delighted to host Irene Pylypec for a reading from her latest book 'Tales from University', the first book in her Leaving Home series. We held the event in our study room on the evening of October 1, 2025. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet the author and learn more about her work. Thank you to our alumni who came out to support her!



Adult Ukrainian Language Classes

January 26
to
April 30

Classes will be held
online via zoom



Join us for our next slate of Ukrainian Language Classes! There will be 12 classes total.

Classes will begin the week of January 26, 2026 and end the week of April 30, 2026. There will be two weeks without classes. A break for reading week / Family Day, from February 16 - 20. There will also be a break for Easter, from April 3 - 12.

Required competencies:

- Beginner I: none
- Beginner II: basic vocabulary; basic knowledge of the Ukrainian alphabet
- Intermediate: some reading and writing skills; create sentences and conversations

A course textbook is recommended; the textbooks are Mohyla property and are loaned out for each class. There is a deposit required of \$85 for the textbook loan, fully refundable upon return.

For those participating from out of city, electronic materials will be provided.

We are accepting registrations from anywhere in Canada. Register for your class today!

Cost: \$150/person or free for Mohyla residents.

Thank you to the SUS Foundation of Canada for their grant which helps us run these language classes every year!

To register or for more information please contact us:

Email: info@mohylainstitute.ca

Phone: 306.653.1944

Class Schedule

Beginner I

Monday, 6:30 - 8:30pm CST

Beginner II

Tuesday, 6:30 - 8:30pm CST

Intermediate

Thursday, 6:30 - 8:30pm CST

Різдвяний Привіт Отця Настоятеля Дорогі возлюблені у Христі браття і сестри Христос Народився! Славіте Його!



**Rt. Rev Mitred Archbishop
Taras Makowsky
& Dobr. Joanne Makowsky**

“Небо і земля нині торжествують. Ангели й люди весело празнують” співаємо в коляді на Свято Різдва Христового і знову радіємо радістю Різдвяних свят. В цей радісний і світлий різдвяний час вітаю всіх Вас зі святами і бажаю Вам і родинам Вашим веселих свят Різдва Христового і щасливого Нового Року. Щоб ці святочні дні дали Вам натхнення і наснаги далі молитись для свого спасіння, наснаги працювати на українській ниві і щоб милосердний Господь обдаровував Вас Своім милосердям. Нехай Дитячко, яке народилося у Вєфлеємі більше як дві тисячі років тому, надалі благословляє всіх нас.

Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!



“God is with us, understand, O nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us.”

Once again, we gather to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Son of God. We are reminded of the teachings of St. Gregory the Theologian ...“this is what we are celebrating today: the coming of God to man, that we might go forth, or rather that we may go back to God, that putting off the old man we might put on the new, and that we have died in Adam, so we might live in Christ...”

This is a great gift that the Heavenly Father has given us on Christmas, the Nativity of our Savior. As practicing Christians it is important to respect and honour this Holy Day. As parents teach our children that this Holy day is more than a statutory holiday.

Luke 2:11-14 ...“For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord...Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill towards men”... Jesus Christ is one with God, His only begotten Son. In the Creed we

pray..." and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, True God of True God. Begotten not made. Of one essence with the Father through whom all things were made"... The Gospel of John 1:1, which is read on the Nativity Feast..."In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"... The Divine Son of God was born in the human flesh for the salvation of the world..."for us men and our salvation"... (the Creed).

During this Holy season let us reflect on how glorious God is! Yes we face tremendous challenges today, right now. But we have our Church, our family, our physical and mental health, and most importantly- love of God. Our Cathedral, our home Church, our personal family prayer will keep us strong. Let us stand firm in our faith, in the Holy Trinity, there is no obstacle that we can not overcome. We pray that any misunderstandings in our Church community be reconciled in peace and love. We pray that we do not repeat our mistakes, respect everyone's

feelings, needs and concerns. With love and joy embrace in our hearts the true meaning of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Look to the Star of Bethlehem, and like the Wise Men, guide us to Glorify Him.

St. John of Kronstadt (sermon on Nativity of our Lord)..."and the Word became flesh, in order to make us earthly beings into heavenly ones, in order to make sinners into saints; in order to raise us up from corruption, from earth to heaven; from enslavement to sin from the devil- into glorious freedom of children of God; from death- into immortality, in order to make us sons of God and to seat us together with Him upon the throne as His royal children, O boundless compassion of God! O inexpressible wisdom of God! O great wonder, astounding not only the human mind, but the angelic as well!"...

Rt. Reverend Mitred Archpriest Taras Makowsky



In Memorium

Вічна їм пам'ять!

Mohyla Institute notes with sadness the passing of the following people. We acknowledge that we may have missed an important name on this list and we apologize for anyone we have neglected to acknowledge in this newsletter.

2025

Marie Kishchuk
Natalie Senyk

2024

Dr. Edward Klopoushak
Victor Klymyshyn
Terrence Ludyk
Justine Fedan Schmitt Wenger

Greetings from the Kamenari at Mohyla!

In 2025, the feeling of community at Mohyla Institute was stronger than ever. The Kamenari group at Mohyla has been busy planning activities and events for the residents, with the main goal of including everyone. From girls and guys supper nights, study nights, and late-night gatherings we have created a close-knit group of friends.



This year we introduced a Jeopardy-style game night which became a popular favourite. Alongside new activities, we continue to cherish our annual traditions such as casino night, Halloween costume contest, and Secret Santa. These activities help give the residents the feeling of home away from home.

This year, a goal of Mohyla's is to bring residents closer and more in tune with Ukrainian heritage and culture. To support this we partnered with the University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students Association (USUSA), of which many Mohyla residents are members of. To commemorate Holodomor, Mohyla and the USUSA came together to create workshops, and displays. A wheat sheaf workshop where many members and residents created sheafs to be placed around Saskatoon such as on campus, around bus stops, dance studios, churches, and many other popular

places around the city. The sheafs had a description below them that explained Holodomor and advertised a Vigil that USUSA held in the chapel at St Thomas More College.



Mohyla displayed informational posters that presented the history of Holodomor to spread awareness to students, residents, and the community. USUSA also organized a screening of the film Mr. Jones in the Mohyla theatre room, which drew residents and community members to learn more about the historical suffering endured by Ukrainians during this period. To further embrace Ukrainian culture, some residents are even taking bandura lessons and Ukrainian language classes.





As the president of Kamenari, I hope to make this year truly unforgettable. I believe we have the closest group of residents yet and everyone is excited for events happening around the dorm. The Kamenari group has lots of interest this year as there are seven other residents who have joined to help me create and plan events. Currently we are planning Malanka, one of the most beloved celebrations and events that occurs at the dorm.

Along with the excitement towards planned activities for the residents, the atmosphere has been warm, welcoming, and lively. The pianos, card games, ping pong table and pool table have seen more action than ever before. As we continue creating events and promoting a positive environment, the Kamenari group remains committed to supporting residents and building community spirit.

From the residents of Mohyla and the Kamenari group we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Cheers to 2025 and all the memories and friendships we made along the way.

Ashlyn Gnyp

Kamenari President 2025-2026



Bandura Classes



Throughout this year, bandura classes have been regularly held in our residence, organized by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Saskatoon Branch. We are truly happy that Mohyla is a place where Ukrainian musical traditions are preserved and passed on to the next generation.

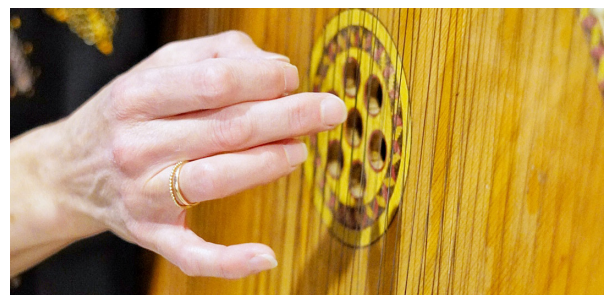


The classes are taught by Oksana Dobushynska, a talented musician and the director of the Chervona Kalyna Ensemble in Saskatoon. The ensemble is well known within the Ukrainian community and is frequently featured at various cultural and community events.



We are grateful to partner with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatoon Branch, the instructor, and the students for their valuable contribution to preserving Ukrainian identity. We hope that in the coming year, the sound of the bandura will continue to fill our residence.

We are especially pleased to share that three of our students expressed interest in learning to play the bandura this year. Their enthusiasm and dedication are a wonderful example of how Ukrainian culture continues to live and thrive at Mohyla Institute.



Wine & Cheese

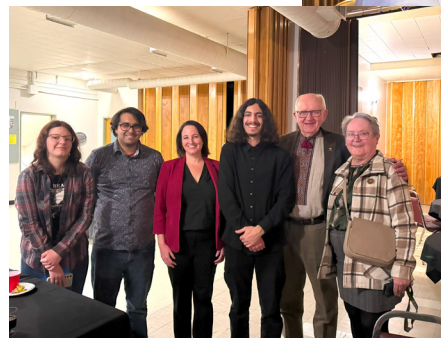
Alumni & Kamenari Event



Mohyla Institute was gifted a painting made by artist Julian Krajkiwsky depicting Ivan Franko's poem "Kamenari". To honour this donation, Mohyla held an Alumni & Kamenari Wine & Cheese on February 7, 2025.

We had a wonderful turn out from both our current and past residents, especially considering the weather that day(!) and a great evening was had by all.

We plan to hold another Alumni & Kamenari event this coming year, please stay tuned for details!



Thank You!

To those who give so generously throughout the year, thank you for thinking of Mohyla Institute.

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations who donated to St. Petro Mohyla Institute from December 24, 2024 - December 23, 2025.

Personal Donations

\$10,000

Alice Maxymyshyn - White Rock, BC

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Stephen & Sandra Senyk - Regina, SK

In memory of Terry Ludyk

In memory of Dr. Edward Klopoushak

In memory of Natalie Senyk

\$500 - \$2,499

Rebecca Day - Minneota, MN

In Memory of Justine Fedan Schmitt Wenger

Don & Joan Popowich - Cochrane, AB

Doug Senyk - Oakville, ON

In memory of Natalie Senyk

\$250 - \$499

Anonymous

Joseph Borsa - Winnipeg, MB

In memory of Julian and Annie Borsa

Cecilia Kachkowski - Saskatoon, SK

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Norwood & Lois Kavanagh - Saskatoon, SK

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Taras & Dorothy Korol - Canora, SK

In memory of Ed Klopoushak

Ken & Gail Krawetz - Invermay, SK

Nancy Lillenberg- Saint Louis, MO, USA

In Memory of Justine Fedan Schmitt Wenger

Gerald & Cathy Luciuk - Regina, SK

Tom & Nadine Potts - Saskatoon, SK

< \$250

Larry Balion - Saskatoon, SK

Robert Boyko - Sherwood Park, AB

Dr. Robert Chayka - Saskatoon, SK

Joyce & Brian Gamborg - Lake Charles, LA, USA

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Mary Graham - North Battleford, SK

Tony & Sharon Harras - Regina, SK

Larry & Alicia Klopoushak - Saskatoon, SK

Lilia & Patrick Livingstone - Norquay, SK

Marianne Makowsky- Edmonton, AB

In Memory of Dmetro Mitch Makowsky

Elaine Maksymiuk - Saskatoon, SK

Natalie Maruschak - Alvena, SK

Norma & John Oliver- Calgary, AB

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Mervin Ozirny- Melville, SK

Dena Rak- Saskatoon, SK

Memberships are eligible for Income Tax Receipts. Donation receipts are issued electronically.

Please verify your email address, mailing address, and phone number when sending in your membership or donation.

Donations can be made to St. Petro Mohyla Institute via e-transfer, cheque, Flywire (credit card), or PayPal.

To donate via credit card, select Mohyla Institute as a payee on Flywire's website.

To donate via e-transfer or PayPal, send it to
info@mohylainstitute.ca.

To donate via cheque, please make the cheque out to Mohyla Institute and mail to
1240 Temperance Street, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 0P1.

Thank you for your continued support!

Emelia Samcoe - Saskatoon, SK

Connie Senkiw - Saskatoon, SK

Terry Senko - Clavet, SK

David & Wendy Senyk - Calgary, AB

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Marilyn & Samuel Senyk - Melville, SK

In memory of Gene & Helen Senyk

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Reg & Karen Senyk - Calgary, AB

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Andrew W. Serray - Winnipeg, MB

Dr. Bernie & Mary Ann Trischuk - Yorkton, SK

Leonard Wassill - Melville, SK

In memory of Natalie Senyk

Martin & Gloria Zip - Saskatoon, SK

Organization Donations

SUS Foundation of Canada - Toronto, ON

\$5,500 Grant

Ukrainian Self Reliance Association (TYC) - Steppe
Club - Saskatoon, SK

\$5,000

Saskatchewan Lotteries - Regina, SK

\$4,320 PNPCG Funding

Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada

Daughters of Ukraine Branch - Regina, SK

\$1,000

Ukrainian Orthodox Men's Association

(TYC) of Regina - Regina, SK

\$500

\$50 - In memory of Natalie (Nat) Senyk

Ukrainian Canadian Professional & Business
Association - Saskatoon, SK

\$500

Ukrainian Society of Prosvita - Regina, SK

\$500

Vale Apiaries - Lanigan, SK

\$200



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



SASK LOTTERIES



**Ukrainian Canadian Professional &
Business Association of Saskatoon**



St. Petro Mohyla Institute

future building

St. Petro Mohyla Institute's mandate is to serve the Ukrainian community through post-secondary student housing, providing cultural programming, and acting as a resource to Ukrainian organizations.

Unfortunately, Mohyla Institute is located in an ageing building unable to compete with modern apartment buildings and without the space to offer the scope of cultural programming we would like to. The Mohyla Institute Board of Directors and Executive Director recognize this and have developed a revised business model that reflects our shifting Ukrainian community needs: a multi-generational residence for students and seniors incorporating daycare, office, meeting, and performance spaces.

The development of a shared community space for different generations to facilitate social interaction and cultural education recognizes current community needs, as

well as future housing trends.

Throughout its impressive 110-year history, Mohyla Institute has been at the forefront of meeting the needs of the Ukrainian community.

The proposed business model is predicated on the concept of community building through an intergenerational living environment and shared spaces. The financial viability of the senior and student housing spaces, along with the daycare space, will enable Mohyla Institute to facilitate the shared community spaces.

This focus on multiple generations constitutes the social and cultural impact Mohyla Institute would like to provide for the Ukrainian community.





Mohyla Institute Conceptual Plan

The Mohyla Institute Board of Directors and Executive Director have developed a new Conceptual Plan for Mohyla Institute, respecting and building on our history (1916-) while innovating for a new generation. This began with us trying to answer the question: How can an innovative business model be developed with key stakeholder support for Mohyla Institute to better serve the Ukrainian community? Our answer: Develop a multi-generational Ukrainian centre.

Senior and student housing incorporating daycare/preschool, office, meeting, and performance spaces along with a grocery/convenience store and restaurant/pub (the latter two dependent on location need).

Mohyla Institute has allocated **\$200,000** to the process of developing the conceptual plan into a business plan with architectural renderings. We look forward to sharing progress as we move forward. The dedicating of funds is a strong commitment to see this project through and we welcome any and all additional support from our community.

Call for Board Members

We are looking for community members who would like to sit on the Mohyla Institute Board of Directors.

If you have the following skillsets and a desire to see Mohyla move forward, we would love to hear from you!

- Relevant Industry Experience
- Accounting / Financial / Fundraising
- Marketing
- Strategic Direction
- Community Outreach

If you are interested, please send an email to sdetenshen@mohylainstitute.ca with your resume, stated interest, and if you wish to be considered for the Advisory Board or the Board of Directors. We are looking forward to hearing from you!



Advisory Committee

We are looking for members for our Advisory Committee to advise the Mohyla Institute Board of Directors with their expert knowledge and guidance as the conceptual plan moves forward. The next step for the advisory committee will be to help the Executive Director shape the RFP for the Business Plan development. This will be approved by the Board of Directors and sent out for proposals.

Day Camp



During this past summer, Mohyla Institute had the privilege of hosting a children's camp organized by Ukrainian Canadian Congress Saskatoon Branch. Throughout the week, the Institute provided facilities for workshops, music and arts activities, and interactive learning sessions. The camp offered children an opportunity to build friendships, explore Ukrainian traditions, and participate in a supportive cultural environment.

Mohyla Institute extends its appreciation to UCC-SB for the continued partnership on this important community initiative.



Mohyla Institute Employees

Sara Detenshen - Executive Director

Cherene Rodman - Kitchen Manager

Oksana Chetverikova - Administrative Assistant

Christmas Market



Chervona Kalyna Ensemble



Leleka Dance Ensemble



Holosy Choir

For the second year in a row, Mohyla Institute hosted our Ukrainian Christmas Market. It was a true celebration of warmth, togetherness, and the Christmas spirit. The event brought together residents, guests, and members of the community, creating an atmosphere of joy, meaningful connection, and support for Ukrainian traditions. We extend our sincere gratitude to all vendors and performers who shared their talent and festive spirit, helping make the market a truly memorable and uplifting experience for everyone in attendance.



A Fantastic Cultural Partnership for Students and Residents

The University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association (USUSA) is the Ukrainian culture and language club for students on campus at USask. It carries a deep and rich heritage of Ukrainian student activity at the university, originally starting in 1929. It shrank in size and significance during the COVID-19 pandemic, but during the 2024-2025 academic year it had a massive resurgence in popularity and membership. Currently the club sits at just over 70 members.

Alongside a general USUSA resurgence, there has been an increase in membership and participation among Mohyla Institute residents. At present, there are 11 registered members from Mohyla including myself, the elected treasurer. USUSA and Mohyla Institute have established a positive relationship where Mohyla very generously has agreed to host certain USUSA meetings, events, and activities, which offers very significant value to USUSA while spreading a positive image of Mohyla Institute to a wider range of the student population. USUSA activity at Mohyla Institute has been received positively by the residents, with many joining the ranks of USUSA. Mohyla residents who do not attend the University of Saskatchewan are not eligible to join USUSA, but this partnership has given them the opportunity to participate in USUSA activities happening in and around Mohyla.

This relationship started off fairly early in the academic year, with a September 9th executive meeting being hosted at Mohyla to establish a budget to be submitted to the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union. This has set the precedent for all USUSA executive meetings to be held at Mohyla each month, due to its convenient location and privacy. Later, on September 29th, Mohyla residents came together to plan, film, edit, and post a promotional video for USUSA's social mixer event. The shots were filmed right here at



Mohyla Institute, and the video garnered 6,399 views on Instagram, as well as 2,146 views on TikTok. All but one of the USUSA members who participated in this project were Mohyla residents. The posts tagged Mohyla Institute as the location, to spread awareness of Mohyla.

When the social mixer took place on campus in October, Mohyla residents came out in force to show their support. Among the residents at the mixer were two new USUSA members who were fairly new to Ukrainian culture; this event served as a tremendous opportunity for them to be exposed to Ukrainian culture and to fellow students with Ukrainian heritage.

Moving into November, my fellow resident Olivia Mikolas and myself were very graciously afforded the opportunity to represent Mohyla Institute at UCC Triennial Congress in Toronto. We attended alongside three of our USUSA peers, and a separate article will go into detail about this incredible opportunity. Upon our return, USUSA co-hosted a very successful Holodomor awareness night in conjunction with Mohyla Institute. Mohyla had its own Holodomor displays put up for three days, so USUSA joined up with Mohyla to play a Holodomor themed film for people to view. USUSA members, Mohyla residents, and

members of the public were invited to Mohyla to view the Holodomor displays then watch the film, titled Mr. Jones, before participating in a workshop led by USUSA. At both the film and the workshop, many Mohyla residents who were ineligible to join USUSA were still able to participate in these cultural activities and learn more about Ukraine's past. In the workshop, dried stalks of wheat were tied into sheafs with small strips of paper that contained information about Holodomor. Upon their completion, groups of USUSA members and Mohyla residents taped them around the USask campus and throughout Saskatoon. Pictures of these wheat sheafs would be taken then posted to Instagram after tagging Mohyla and USUSA. The posts were very successful for both Mohyla and USUSA, and even got reposted by SUSK (Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union). To finish off the month, a USUSA general meeting was held on November 25th. Turnout was strong, especially among the residents, and after the meeting a social night full of board games, cards, ping-pong, pool, and good conversation ensued.



December has been a much slower month due to final exams, but we have many amazing activities planned in the new year. USUSA will continue its January Ukrainian Christmas carolling, which is a fantastic opportunity for club members to participate in a really fun tradition. Mohyla members are already signed up for many of the nights of carolling and are eager to learn. The carolling is made super accessible for everyone, since lyrics are transliterated into English letters. Carolling is often the highlight of the year for

many members, and we are very excited to share this experience with Mohyla residents. Speaking of carolling, USUSA (along with its Mohyla members) will open up Mohyla Institute's Malanka festivities on January 23rd with its carolling. Mohyla's Malanka is planned as a joint project between Kamenari and USUSA to help create a memorable experience for all. Mohyla residents will get to enjoy traditional Ukrainian music, dances, and a kolomeyka. Partnering with USUSA will bring in Ukrainian students who are skilled dancers and well-versed in cultural traditions, enriching the experience for residents and strengthening friendships among the two groups. To make it as fun and inclusive an experience as possible, a dance workshop night is being planned at Mohyla in early or mid January, where USUSA dancers will teach Mohyla residents some simple traditional Ukrainian dances that they can participate in during Malanka.

Much further down the road, USUSA is planning a social night for Ukrainian newcomers. This project is still in the works, but it has been proposed to the planning committee that we ask Mohyla Institute to host this event. The reasons cited were the convenient location, beautiful Ukrainian decorations and feeling to Mohyla, and the great selection of games and activities to participate in.

USUSA feels strongly that Mohyla residents have been an excellent boost for the club, while my fellow Mohyla residents are always eager to participate in Ukrainian events offered to them by USUSA. So far it has been a very fruitful partnership that we hope to continue long into the future.

Steven Klus



2025 - 2026 Scholarships

The following scholarships were awarded at the September 2025 Welcome Banquet for residents.

Paraska Beahun Scholarship

2025 recipient: Mykaela Gaudreault - \$400

"This is awarded to students who achieve above average academic standings at the University of Saskatchewan."

John Fedan Scholarship

2025 recipient: Steven Klus - \$800

"The candidate for this scholarship should be between the ages of 19 and 25, have an academic average standing of at least 75% and be in their second year of attendance at the university. Other factors that are given consideration are leadership, wholesome participation in co-curricular student activities at the Institute and financial need."

Sophie Greschuk Award

2025 recipient: Yevhenii Baklanov - \$800

"The Greschuk award is offered to students who develop fluency in spoken and written Ukrainian, demonstrate appreciation of the value of Kamenari student club, have at least an average achievement and may have financial need for assistance."

Nicholas & Olga Hawrysh Memorial Scholarship

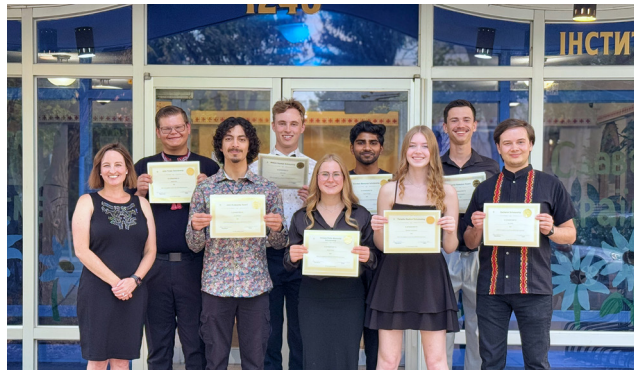
2025 recipient: Yevhenii Baklanov - \$200

"To be awarded to a post secondary student of Ukrainian descent. The student must demonstrate average or above average academic achievement, and be actively involved in Ukrainian cultural activities. This award is open to residents of Mohyla Institute."

Connie, Olga & Ludwig Kaye Jubilee Scholarship

2025 recipient: Jack Craig - \$800

"This scholarship was set up to encourage students to develop leadership in Ukrainian Community Work. The student must demonstrate an average academic achievement level but wholesomely and successfully be involved in cultural co-curricular specific activities. The applicant for this scholarship should have demonstrated leadership qualities and continued interest in the future."



Prokop Kindrachuk Award

2025 recipient: Ashlyn Gnyp - \$800

"The Kindrachuk award is to recognize the Mohyla Institute resident who took the objectives of the Institution seriously, was involved in student organizations, was competent in the Ukrainian language and achieved academically on at least an average level."

Marie Kotelko Scholarship

2025 recipient: Kayla Gregorash - \$200

"This scholarship is offered to assist academically successful students and leaders in student affairs to pursue their higher education objective."

Daniel Krawchuk Scholarship

2025 recipient: Ian Michasiw - \$800

"The applicant must be at least partially of Ukrainian ancestry and should have a working knowledge of spoken and written Ukrainian, or is pursuing the study of the Ukrainian language. This student must be enrolled in the College of Arts & Sciences and majoring in Ukrainian Studies, Political Sciences or Economics, or enrolled in the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan."

Kraynick Leadership Award

2025 recipient: Jack Craig - \$600

"This award is presented to students who demonstrate exceptional leadership and involvement at the Institute. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of fulfillment of requirements for good leadership, combined with their being judged for leadership potential."

Pitts Scholarship

2025 recipient: Ian Michasiw - \$300

"This scholarship is awarded to a University of Saskatchewan student of Ukrainian origin and a resident at Mohyla Institute. (At least one parent should be of Ukrainian Descent). It is to be based upon academic achievement primarily and secondarily upon financial need."

Christa Potts Memorial Scholarship

2025 recipient: Ashlyn Gnyp - \$200

"This is awarded to a female University of Saskatchewan student who serves on the executive of the Kamenari Student Society or who makes major contributions to the activities sponsored by the Society."

John Rudewsky Award

2025 recipient: Ian Michasiw - \$400

"This award is to recognize leadership qualities in the cultural-educational activities at the Institute."

Semeniw Leadership Award

2025 recipient: Steven Klus - \$600

"This award is presented to students who demonstrate leadership qualities and involvement in Canadian Ukrainian student affairs."

Peter Shelepiuk Award

2025 recipient: Steven Klus - \$200

"This award is to recognize leadership qualities in the cultural-educational activities at the Institute."

William Sopatyk Scholarship

2025 recipient: Jack Craig - \$200

"To be awarded to a first year student and maintaining an Honours (70% or above) average and of Ukrainian descent. The candidate must be a full-time student and from Saskatchewan."

Sorokan Memorial Scholarship

2025 recipient: Trijesh Dudgol - \$400

"This scholarship is awarded to a University of Saskatchewan student who achieves average or above average academic standing and participated in cultural activities at the Institute."

Taras & Myron Stetzenko Scholarship

2025 recipient: Yevhenii Baklanov - \$300

"This scholarship is awarded to students who are culturally aware and are in financial need to pursue academic goals."

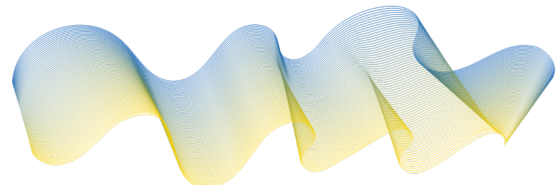
Zacharuk Scholarship

2025 recipient: Rio Mota - \$100

"This is an open scholarship to residents of Mohyla Institute."

Annual Membership

Membership matches our fiscal year, September - August. All memberships expire annually on August 31.



Please consider purchasing a membership to support Mohyla Institute! The fee is \$35 on an annual basis. A current membership is required to participate in annual general meetings. Membership must be current a minimum of two weeks prior to any general meetings.

To purchase your annual membership, please send a cheque or e-transfer for \$35 to Mohyla Institute. The e-transfer can be sent to: info@mohylainstitute.ca. The cheque can be mailed to:

St. Petro Mohyla Institute
1240 Temperance Street
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0P1

Please include the following information with your membership fee:

- Full name and maiden name (if applicable)
- Years resided at Mohyla Institute (if applicable)
- Connection to Mohyla Institute (if non-resident)
- Mailing address
- Email address
- Telephone numbers

All membership purchases receive an Income Tax Receipt for the cost of the membership.

We look forward to receiving your new annual memberships!

UCC Triennial Congress



UCC Triennial Congress was hosted in Toronto this past November, and we were both very graciously afforded the opportunity by the Board of Directors to represent Mohyla Institute at the event. The lessons we learned and the people we met have been incredibly valuable to us, while also renewing our sense of Ukrainian culture and identity. The knowledge we gained will stick with us long after university and into our future professional careers.

The keynote speakers at Triennial Congress were awe-inspiring, and it was an incredible experience to realize that we were in the same room as some of these VIPs; it made us realize that we were part of a group that was worthy of such an audience, and that we belonged there. Some of the most notable speakers and guests include Minister of National Defence David McGuinty, Senator Stan Kutcher, MP and special representative for the reconstruction of Ukraine Chrystia Freeland, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Mayor of Toronto Olivia Chow, retired lieutenant-general and senator Roméo Dallaire, Ukrainian ambassador to Canada Andrii Plakhotniuk, Canadian ambassador to Ukraine Natalka Cmoc, UCC national president Alexandra Chyczij, Ukrainian World Congress president Paul Grod, and many more.

There is unfortunately not enough time to talk about the fine details of every speech, but Roméo Dallaire delivered a standout speech that touched us at a very emotional level. It was passionate, fiery, encouraging, and compelling. General Dallaire maintains that Canada should have put boots on the ground as soon as Russia invaded, because standing up against evil

is the only way to stop it. His speech focused mostly on the troops, and he went on to say that Ukrainian veterans cannot be abandoned or forgotten by their country. We as a Ukrainian diaspora need to support veterans and rehabilitation efforts as best as we can, because they are the ones paying the ultimate price for Ukraine's freedom. When the nation rebuilds after the war, the veterans need to be involved in its reconstruction and they need to be re-integrated into society. General Dallaire talked at length about families being just as much a part of the military as the soldiers fighting; families need to be considered, consulted, and included. The speech resonated with many of the overall themes and teaching points of Triennial Congress, especially in saying that ordinary people are part of extraordinary efforts, and that we all can make a difference.



In addition to the speakers, there were workshops to attend. We split up to cover as much ground as possible and learn different things, which was very helpful. I, Steven, attended workshops titled Organizational Governance, and Funding Our Communities. Organizational Governance was very interesting for me because I involve myself in several organizations: the University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association (USUSA), the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK), Edwards Business Students' Society, and our very own Kameniar at Mohyla. The workshop spoke at length about the importance of maintaining and updating bylaws, structuring and restructuring your organization, improving participation by removing barriers, and plans of succession or onboarding. All of these are issues that very closely relate to my roles in the various organizations I am apart of, especially USUSA, so the insights provided were invaluable to me. If I did nothing all weekend but attend this one workshop, it would have been a worthwhile trip for me because the knowledge I have gained will be useful for all organizations I will be apart at any and all stages of my life. Funding Our Communities had a lot of excellent points, but what I found most valuable was a representative from Taras Shevchenko Foundation speaking about how best to apply for grants and funding, which is really important for all of the non-profit organizations I am a part of. I plan to continue participating in non-profits after university, so this is knowledge I will use for life.



Olivia attended workshops titled Our Community Volunteers, and Engaging Government. Our Community Volunteers was led by our peer and friend from Regina, Anya Shyian. She was inspiring to hear and spoke about her involvement in re-founding the Ukrainian National Youth Federation (UNYF) in Regina; this is inspiring to hear and reminds us that our involvement in the community absolutely can make

a difference. It is always important to volunteer and make an effort. The next workshop Olivia participated in was Engaging Government, where she learned from an experienced panel of former politicians and current advisors. Cooperating with the government and securing funding where possible are two super important aspects of successful organizations. The panel advised that, when talking to governments, it is important to align organizational goals with the goals and values of the government. They also recommended being short, concise, and powerful so as not to waste the government's time or lose their interest. These lessons can be carried on to future organizations but also to the work place and in personal letters to politicians.



Olivia and I shared what we learned from the workshops and we can agree that there was, indeed, a wealth of knowledge available to learn. We found that the workshops provided us with the most resources to continue being leaders in our communities and to run successful organizations.

There was also obviously a lot of socializing that happened at Triennial, and this was very enjoyable but also enriching. Workshops and speakers do an excellent job of imparting explicit knowledge that is easy to conceptualize, but meeting individuals provides inspiration and tacit knowledge that you cannot simply read about in a book. We met people our own age from across the world and heard about their various accomplishments, as well as contributions to their respective communities. It's so positive to hear from fellow students and see how connected we all are to one another. We have made friends that we keep in touch with, and revitalized old friendships that we already had. Seeing how other students tackle issues in their lives and exchanging stories helps all of us diversify the way we think. Beyond our immediate peers, it was incredible to speak with prominent members of the Ukrainian

community and learn about their stories. I, Steven, am a member of the SUSK Board, so meeting SUSK Alumni and hearing about how successful many former board members went on to be was really inspiring. Speaking of SUSK, I got to meet my president in-person for the first time and also reconnect with other board members whom I had only met at one previous event. Olivia was introduced to some of these fantastic folks, which has opened her up to the possibilities that heavy involvement with USUSA and SUSK can bring.

We learned very much from the speakers and workshops, but meeting individuals of all ages and backgrounds helped ground us and put things into perspective. Meeting people at Triennial has given us very valuable connections across Canada, but also here in Saskatchewan with our local UCC branch and

Saskatoon's very own Ukrainian Museum of Canada. It enriched us with new and interesting ways to be involved in the community, and reminded us that all contributions are important.

The knowledge we have gained will strengthen our resolve within the Ukrainian community itself, but is also applicable in so many other areas of life. We are both very driven individuals who value community involvement, and we are now so much better equipped to participate in other community initiatives and organizations, engage with various levels of government, raise funds, participate in the work place, advocate in unions, and overall be leaders of our communities.

Steven Klus & Olivia Mikolas

Christmas Greetings from the Executive Director

Mohyla Institute is full of life, laughter, and joy this year, and I hope the articles in this newsletter have shared that with you. We have had a very full last year, from the Kamenari & Alumni Wine & Cheese last winter, to Bandura lessons and Ukrainian Language Classes, the summer kids camp, fall resident move in and the Welcome Scholarship Banquet, our Holodomor Awareness Exhibit, Mohyla's 2nd Annual Christmas Market, and so many Kamenari events! We have been filled to capacity with residents, and they are truly some of the most active and engaged students in the past decade. Spending time with the two Kamenari representatives at the UCC Triennial Congress was a pleasure.



We will be continuing our language classes in the new year, and are thrilled to continue to partner with UCC-SB on cultural programming such as Bandura lessons and the day camp.

There are plenty of new items in and around the building as well this past year, with new landscaping and kitchen equipment being the major expenditures. The equipment includes two new deep freezers, two commercial refrigerators, a new dishwasher and dishwasher booster. This coming new year, Baba's Bistro will be getting new stainless steel lower cupboards, countertops, and sinks. The resident common areas are also overdue for some new couches. While we are looking to the future for Mohyla, we will be maintaining the building and offering a positive resident experience for those who live here.

I would like to thank Alice Maxymyshyn for her incredibly generous donation of \$10,000 to Mohyla Institute this year. We are most grateful to all of the individuals and organizations who have chosen to donate to SPMI this past year. Thank you for your support.

I hope you enjoyed the 2025 edition of the Mohyla Christmas Newsletter. May the happiness and good cheer of the holiday season be yours throughout the new year. Merry Christmas!

Sara Detenshen
Executive Director



From November 18 to 20, 2025 an informational exhibit dedicated to the memory of the victims of the Holodomor was held at St. Petro Mohyla Institute. The exhibit provided visitors with an opportunity to learn more about this tragic chapter in Ukrainian history.

Residents, guests, and members of the broader community visited the exhibit to reflect, remember, and pay tribute to the millions of innocent lives lost during the Holodomor. Through an educational display, the exhibit encouraged thoughtful reflection and awareness of the importance of preserving historical memory.

We are grateful to everyone who took the time to attend. Such initiatives play a vital role in honoring the past and ensuring that these events are never forgotten.

Holodomor Awareness Exhibit



Vision

To serve as a premiere student residence and cultural centre that promotes the highest ideals of Ukrainian culture and Orthodox spirituality within a global community.

Mission

To provide a supportive and inclusive living and learning environment for our residents and community at large.

Values

- Orthodox world view in the Ukrainian cultural tradition
- Education
- Leadership
- Stewardship
- Social Responsibility
- Inclusivity
- Integrity



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Cathedral Dean
- Ashlyn Gnyp
- Steven Klus
- Olivia Mikolas
- Stephen Senyk

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