

## 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

# Seasons Greetings from the Board Chair

Вітаємо Вас з Різдвом Христовим і Новим 2023 Роком!

В імені Дирекції Інституту, бажаю Всім Вам найкращі побажання з нагоди Різдва Христового та нового року! Христос Рождається! Небо всміхається, сходить зоря: Цими словами вітаємось з Вами й бажаєм добра. Хай в сімі панує щастя, щоб весела коляда в хату радість принесла. Щоб весело і багато провели Різдвяне свято!

With the return of some sense of normalcy following the severe impacts of COVID-19, the program year 2022-23 at SPMI started off in high gear, at full capacity of welcomed post-secondary student residents. They are doing well in their studies, and we are proud of their participation in making the Institute's living and learning environment inclusive, accommodating and a safe home away from home. It is indeed commendable. A few rooms were also held on stand-by to provide accommodation for displaced Ukrainians arriving in Saskatoon.

SPMI has been around for a good long time, providing continuous and dedicated service for our Ukrainian community over the past 106 years. As a not-for-profit institution, operating on small margins in a diverse and competitive environment with rising expectations, the status quo is no longer an option. As we face many challenges in the new age, we need to



Board Chair, Stephen Senyuk

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be open to possible new ways and means of operating SPMI to help ensure its mission of valued service to our Ukrainian community. Towards this end, the board has developed a conceptual plan to move SPMI forward to make it a place of first choice for residents, a place for learning, a place for organizational work, a place for healthy living, continuing personal and social development, and a place for community development and leadership.

The conceptual plan was presented for the first time at the triennial convention of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada (USRL) which was held in Edmonton this past summer. The response from the convention delegates was positive and supportive. In the New Year, the conceptual plan will be presented at different locations in the province. Please contact the Executive Director, Sara Detenshen for further details. With this in mind, let's work together with common purpose in support of SPMI.

One important way to become involved with helping to move SPMI forward is to become a member. As a member, you will have the opportunity to help shape and ensure the future of SPMI which was notably recognized as a National Historic Event by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 2011. Encourage others to join you in becoming members of SPMI. Together, an active and dedicated membership can achieve many things. The annual tax deductible membership fee is \$35.

On the topic of dedication, you may wish to join the SPMI Board and I in recognizing and congratulating Executive Director, Sara Detenshen and Kitchen Manager, Cherene Rodman on their 10th anniversary of dedicated service to SPMI. Please see the article of recognition about these two valued members of the SPMI team in the following pages of this newsletter.

The celebration of Christmas and the New Year are traditionally a time for sharing and giving. Let's continue to keep our resolve and enduring support for the people of our beloved Ukraine, an internationally recognized sovereign country, as they valiantly defend themselves and push back against Russia's unprovoked and genocidal war. Ukraine has become the crucible of Europe and the world in the fight for democracy, freedom and peace. Ukraine needs our help. Let's be ever mindful of the men, women and children of Ukraine who continue to struggle and admirably assert and maintain their independence as a free democratic nation. What we do to help Ukraine in this crucial time of enormous need will certainly define us. Ukraine needs our moral and financial support. Let's be generous. To quote the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, Bob Rae, when he spoke at the October 2022 UCC Triennial Convention in Winnipeg – "Ukraine must win." There is much at stake for all of us.

During this very special season, I appeal to you to be generous in support of SPMI. Your financial help is needed. No amount is too small. Please also note that estate and memorial donations in blessed memory of deceased family members, alumni and friends of Mohyla are always welcomed.

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. Your understanding, caring and generosity certainly helped to generate hope and reinforce the faith that we are not alone.

In conclusion, I wish to thank fellow board members for volunteering their valued time, skills and talents to serve SPMI during the past year, and to thank our Executive Director, Sara Detenshen and her staff for their dedicated and valued services.

*...Continued on page 3*



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

З Новим роком, добрі люди!  
Сподіваюсь, з Вами буде  
Запашна, смачна хлібина,  
Щастям сповнена година,  
Сіль жадана на столі,  
Лад і спокій на землі!

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

**Stephen Senyuk, Board Chair**

**СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ! ГЕРОЯМ СЛАВА!**

**GLORY TO UKRAINE! GLORY TO HER HEROES!**

## Kamieniari Snapshot



Clockwise, beginning upper left:

2022-2023 Resident Assistants:

Isabelle Steppan & Tess Johnson;

Malanka 2022;

Freshening up the space for Mohyla's new work-out room;  
Annual Christmas decorating



# 2022 Scholarship Recipients

The following scholarships were awarded to our deserving scholarship recipients.

## **Paraska Beahun Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Andrea Stickwood - \$400

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

## **John Fedan Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$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."

## **Nicholas & Olga Hawrysh Memorial Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Jacob Pilon - \$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**

2022 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$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**

2022 recipient: Isabelle Steppan - \$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**

2022 recipient: Andrea Stickwood - \$200

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

## **Daniel Krawchuk Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Isabelle Steppan - \$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**

2022 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$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."

## **Doreen Machula Pharmacy Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Jacob Pilon - \$600

"This scholarship is awarded to a University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian pharmacy student."

## **Lorraine Mead Scholarship**

2022 recipients: Madison DeCorby & Andrea Stickwood - \$250 each

"2022 only. This is an open scholarship."

## **Pitts Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Jacob Pilon - \$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."

*...Continued on page 5*



**Christa Potts Memorial Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$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**

2022 recipient: Madison DeCorby - \$400

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

**Semeniw Leadership Award**

2022 recipient: Isabelle Steppan - \$600

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

**Peter Shelepiuk Award**

2022 recipient: Madison DeCorby - \$200

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

**Sorokan Memorial Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Griffin Lehnert - \$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**

2022 recipient: Jacob Pilon - \$300

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

**Zacharuk Scholarship**

2022 recipient: Griffin Lehnert - \$100

“This is an open scholarship to residents of Mohyla Institute.”

## Annual Membership Fee

At the 2020 Fiscal Year AGM, bylaw amendments included the introduction of an annual membership fee beginning September 2021. This replaced the very long-standing lifetime membership for \$25, with that amount having never changed over the past years! The fee is now \$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](mailto: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!

# Thank You

To those who give so generously throughout the year, thank you for thinking of Mohyla Institute.  
We appreciate it more than we can possibly say.

Thank you to the following who donated to St. Petro Mohyla Institute from  
December 22, 2021 - December 23, 2022:

## Personal Donations

### > \$500

Ken & Gail Krawetz - Invermay, SK  
Lesia Perritt - Edmonton, AB  
Steve & Sandra Senyk - Regina, SK

### \$250 - \$500

Dr Dennis W S Kreptul - Vernon, BC  
Lilia & Patrick Livingstone - Norquay, SK  
D. Mitch & Marianne Makowsky - Edmonton, AB  
Ron & Janice Pilipow - Goodeve, SK  
Andrew & Elaine Smycniuk - Saskatoon, SK

### < \$250

Canada Helps - Anonymous Donation  
Stephanie Bazzaglia - Edmonton, AB  
Joseph Borsa - Winnipeg, MB  
Dr. Robert Chayka - Saskatoon, SK  
Brad Cherkas - Etobicoke, ON  
Carol Cisecki - Saskatoon, SK  
Alicia Danylchuk - AB  
Bridget Elliott - Saskatoon, SK  
Cheryl Fedusiak - Saskatoon, SK  
    In memory of Walter Fedusiak  
Tony Harras - Regina, SK  
Al & Cec Kachkowski - Saskatoon, SK  
Peter & Linda Kindrachuk - Saskatoon, SK  
    In memory of Walter Fedusiak  
Boris & Marie Kishchuk - Calgary, AB  
    In memory of The Mitred Very Reverend  
    Meroslaw and Dobrodijka Nadia Kryschuk

Tracey Koch - Regina, SK  
Taras & Dorothy Korol - Canora, SK  
Roman & Anna-Marie Koszarycz - Calgary, AB  
Dennis Kowalsky - Ottawa, ON  
Patrick Litwin - Sherwood Park, AB  
Gerald & Cathy Luciuk - Regina, SK  
Elaine Mazier Maksymiuk - Saskatoon, SK  
Marilyn Martinuk - Saskatoon, SK  
    In memory of Walter Fedusiak  
Natalie Maruschak - Alvena, SK  
    In memory of Wasyl & Anna Wasylyk,  
    Taras Wasylyk, and Ben Maruschak  
Patricia Maruschak - Calgary, AB  
Gerald & Anne Metrunc - Leoville, SK  
Daria Michayluk - Saskatoon, SK  
C. Mervin Ozirny - Melville, SK  
Zoria Kyba Poilievre - Saskatoon, SK  
    In memory of Walter Fedusiak  
Don & Joan Popowich - Cochrane, AB  
Tom & Nadine Potts - Saskatoon, SK  
Donald Purich - Saskatoon, SK  
Linda Rudachyk - Rosthern, SK  
    In memory of Walter Fedusiak  
Emelia Samcoe - Saskatoon, SK  
    In memory of John & Annie Samcoe and  
    Fred & Olga Andruschak  
Erik Schick - Saskatoon, SK  
Pauline Semenuik - Yorkton, SK  
    In memory of Wasyl Wakarchuk  
Connie Senkiw - Saskatoon, SK  
    In memory of Ron Trischuk

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Terry Senko - Clavet, SK  
 Bryan Sopatyk - Whitewood, SK  
 In memory of William Chewchuk  
 Holly Stasiuk - Saskatoon, SK  
 In memory of Walter Fedusiak  
 Moira Stoll - Melville, SK  
 J. William Strus - Oakville, ON  
 Dr. Bernie & Mary Ann Trischuk - Yorkton, SK  
 In memory of Orest Mysak  
 In memory of Walter Fedusiak  
 Dr. Sonia Udod - Winnipeg, MB  
 Emil & Orasia Yereniuk - Edmonton, AB  
 Martin & Gloria Zip - Saskatoon, SK

Ukrainian Self Reliance Association (TYC)  
 - Steppe Club - Saskatoon, SK  
 \$3,000  
 Franko Family Foundation - Toronto, ON  
 \$2,000  
 Ukrainian Orthodox Housing Corporation (Selo  
 Gardens) - Regina, SK  
 \$500  
 Ukrainian Society of Prosvita - Regina, SK  
 \$500  
 Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatoon  
 Branch  
 \$200  
 Ukrainian Canadian Professional & Business  
 Association - Saskatoon, SK  
 \$200

## Organization Donations

Saskatchewan Lotteries - Regina, SK  
 \$4,320 PNPCG Funding  
 SUS Foundation of Canada - Toronto, ON  
 \$3,250 Grant



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[info@mohylainstitute.ca](mailto:info@mohylainstitute.ca).



Ukrainian Canadian Professional &  
 Business Association of Saskatoon

Memberships are eligible for Income Tax Receipts.

Donation receipts will continue to be issued electronically in  
 2023.

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 e-transfer or PayPal, send it to [info@mohylainstitute.ca](mailto: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.



This past year is difficult to capture. At the beginning of 2022, we were so grateful for the positive shifts to the pandemic and what that meant for us, to once again plan positively for the future. To take nothing away from the wonderful groups of residents we had staying at Mohyla for the past couple of years. They were positive, welcoming, kind, mature, and generous to each other with their friendship and support. They weathered the difficult school years with remarkable spirit, and we could not have asked for better cohorts who chose Mohyla to be their home these past two years.

In March of 2022, we opened a fitness room for the residents. While most purchases were delayed or canceled due to the pandemic, we felt it was incredibly important to not delay the promised fitness space any longer than Covid made necessary, as good balance for our residents includes both mental and physical fitness. The fitness room has been used daily since its opening and the residents are enjoying the addition to the building.

After closing for the summer of 2021, the summer of 2022 was welcomed. We were thrilled to have multiple groups back with us consisting of students from across Canada, Chile, and Mexico. We also were the home base of a Ukrainian Day Camp for a week in July put on by UCC Saskatoon.

To help incoming displaced Ukrainians in some small measure, the Board of Directors elected to reserve some rooms at Mohyla to provide housing. These rooms were available to displaced Ukrainians from June until December, free of charge, while they secured required paperwork/ documents and employment.

We continue to offer conversational Ukrainian language classes for adults. During Covid, we transitioned to online classes which allowed us to continue with the program as well as reach people we would not have been able to otherwise. The classes offered this last summer were an abridged 10-week program which included a beginner class specifically for those opening their homes to displaced Ukrainians. We offered this class free of charge.

In September, Mohyla Institute welcomed a full house of residents. It has been great seeing so many students call Mohyla home during the school year! They regularly plan group activities, while also being incredibly involved in campus life.

The financial challenges that came with Covid-19 have been substantial. The budget management has been prudent, with all expenditures carefully considered, and many cutbacks made. We are most grateful to the individuals and organizations who have chosen to donate to SPMI during this time. We are still recovering from the financial toll placed on the Institute and would welcome your financial support.

A great deal of time and energy has been spent working on a new business model for Mohyla Institute, which has resulted in a Conceptual Plan we hope you support. More details follow on the next page.

May the happiness and good cheer of the holiday season be yours throughout the new year. Merry Christmas!

**Sara Detenshen**  
**Executive Director**

# Conceptual Plan

The Mohyla Institute Board of Directors and Executive Director have been working on a new Conceptual Plan for Mohyla Institute, respecting and building on our history (1916-2022) while innovating for a new generation. This Conceptual Plan was developed and refined over the past couple of years. While the Covid-19 pandemic slowed this process down, we continued to work towards answering 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).

We owe a debt of gratitude to those members who helped shape this Conceptual Plan with their feedback prior to a public release. This plan was first shared publicly at the USRL National Convention, which took place this past August in Edmonton, AB. The Mohyla Institute Conceptual Plan was presented with a short powerpoint followed by questions at the Institutes' panel. Copies of the Plan were printed and distributed to those in attendance. Since the USRL convention, we have started sharing this with organizations within Mohyla's communities and are so excited to continue to share this plan with all interested members.

At the end of January and into February, we will be presenting this online, so that you can log in from anywhere, as well as at in-person meetings for Ukrainian organizations interested. Dates and locations will be announced in mid to late January.

The next steps are:

1. Share the conceptual plan with known Mohyla Institute stakeholders.  
~Timeline: August 2022 - February 2023
2. Have a membership vote at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting, on moving forward with this conceptual plan to create a business plan with architectural renderings and an economic model with full financials.  
~Timeline: February - March 2023
3. If approved, hire a specialized firm to create:
  - a. Architectural rendering and projection of size and land use of buildings, and location.
  - b. Economic model.~Timeline: March 2023 - on
4. Transition the conceptual plan to a full business plan.
5. Present the completed business plan to membership for a vote.

If you are interested, which we hope you are, please reach out to Sara Detenshen, Executive Director, at [sdetenshen@mohylainstitute.ca](mailto:sdetenshen@mohylainstitute.ca) for further details.



# Recognition of a Decade of Noteworthy Service

The success of any organization or institution such as St. Petro Mohyla Institute (SPMI) may rightfully be attributed to the people who work there. The quality of their work surely matters. In our case, the staff is small in number but big on talent. By way of this newsletter, the Board of Directors wishes to take this opportunity to publicly recognize and to thank two of our staff members on the occasion of their 10th anniversary of dedicated service. We are indeed blessed and fortunate to have these two commendable, long-term employees who have served SPMI with a sense of excellence for the past decade – yes, 10 years.

## **Sara Detenshen, Executive Director**

Sara's progressive journey with SPMI dates back to July 2012. Then in October 2012, she was appointed as the Acting Executive Director. She came with an abundant supply of curiosity and energy coupled with a high level of integrity, and abilities needed for the challenges at stake.



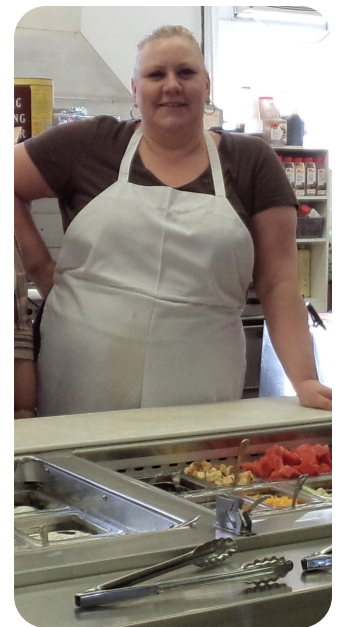
Providing leadership and managing a not-for-profit institution takes skill, experience, knowledge and a lot of moxie. It involves accountability to the board of directors, staff, members, donors, program recipients, and to our Ukrainian community to help keep SPMI sustainable and moving forward. There is no slush fund to depend on. Sara's outstanding performance helped SPMI navigate through some very difficult times over the past ten years, including the severe impacts of COVID-19.

Sara's continuous leadership growth, positive attitude and passionate caring for and attention to the residents and all others served by SPMI are indeed laudable attributes that are highly valued and appreciated.

## **Cherene Rodman, Kitchen Manager**

Cherene's career at SPMI began in October 2012. She was promoted to the position of Kitchen Manager in March 2015. Operating an institutional kitchen that keeps the residents of SPMI well nourished and happy requires a high level of organization, efficiency and resourcefulness in creating appealing menus, maintaining inventory, and ensuring cleanliness and food safety. And all of this is done while adapting to rising costs and supply chain pressures. Most importantly Cherene continues to demonstrate her exceptional talents at finding creative ways to make enjoyable, delicious homemade meals.

On a personal basis, Cherene has the knack of being able to interact with all of the residents, often with humour and encouragements which help to facilitate an environment of inclusiveness and belonging, the kind of traits on which SPMI prides itself. We are so happy to have had Cherene as a member of the SPMI team for the past ten years and look forward to many more.



We recognize and celebrate this tenth anniversary of our Executive Director, Sara Detenshen and our Kitchen Manager, Cherene Rodman, both of whom have contributed significantly in making Mohyla a welcoming, inclusive, affordable and safe place for all of its residents. Thank you, Sara and Cherene for doing it so well!

# Lastiwka Ukrainian Orthodox Choir and Orchestra

After a very mixed-up 2020 and 2021, Lastiwka began singing officially again this past September of 2022. What a blessing, to be making music again and being able to share it with our fans and supporters once more.

The fall began quickly with a concert on November 12 at Saskatoon's TCU Place, entitled 'United for Ukraine' along with the Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble, Yevshan Ukrainian Folk Ballet Ensemble and the Zabutney Dance Ensemble (from Regina). This two hour special fundraising concert was mounted by the ensembles and coordinated by Serhij Koroliuk, artistic director of PFE. It turned out to be a very successful event and was well-attended by enthusiastic audience members from far and wide.

Lastiwka is now preparing for our regular visits to Saskatoon Care Homes and Senior Residences, and into the private homes of our many friends and patrons for our usual singing of Koliady and Shchedrivky to spread the joy of this festive season through January and February.

We sincerely hope and pray that we can get visit you all, our long-standing, generous and faithful supporters, in the not-too-distant future of 2023. We truly enjoy the lovely reception at all of the residences and homes we visit and very much appreciate the generous donations to the choir.

In the meantime, stay safe and be well, and we will see you soon. Let us pray that 2023 will be a much brighter, safer and happier year!



**Larry Klopoushak**  
**Artistic Director and Conductor**

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

“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 Своїм милосердям. Нехай Дитячко, яке народилося у Вефлеємі більше як дві тисячі років тому, надалі благословляє всіх нас.

Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

*...Continued on page 12*



“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 Archbishop Taras Małowski  
Cathedral Dean***



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

# Remembering Julian Stechishin

In the year 1978, St. Petro Mohyla Institute published a book which was the 1974 master thesis of the late very reverend Hryhory Udod of blessed memory. The book was entitled **Julian W. Stechishin - His Life and Work**.

I first met Julian Stechishin at Mohyla Institute in 1957 when I enrolled into the University of Saskatchewan Arts Program and resident at Mohyla Institute. Julian Stechishin would often be invited by the Institute board for supper and after the meal he would impart his knowledge in well received speeches which were enlightening to the students.

Julian was gifted in that he was blessed with many talents, and he didn't let any of them go to waste. He excelled in being an educator, scholar, organizer, and publicist. Typically working many hours a day was his norm.

On September 18th, 1910 at the age of fifteen, he left Ukraine determined to have a better life in Canada. He became fluent in the English language in a short period of time. Julian then applied to enroll in the Ruthenian Training School in Brandon Manitoba in 1911. This school was specially organized by the Manitoba Government to prepare teachers for the Ukrainian Districts in the province. Julian completed his course in 1914 and began teaching in schools in Manitoba and Saskatchewan until he was accepted into the University of Saskatchewan College of Arts in the year 1917. Longing to live at Mohyla Institute, he became a student resident in 1918. Julian graduated in 1921 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and in 1934 he completed his Bachelor of Law from the University of Saskatchewan.

The Mohyla Board of Directors recognized Julian's abilities, intelligence, his maturity, and his interest in all things Ukrainian. They offered him the position of rector of Mohyla Institute, and he accepted the position in 1921. He served as rector of Mohyla from 1921 to 1929 and then from 1931 to 1933. Julian acknowledged the tremendous amount of dedication, sacrifice and work that went into establishing the Institute at 401 Main Street in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. He believed that much greater progress would follow if those who built the Institute would send their children to Mohyla. He hoped that a student of Mohyla would become an individual independent in thought and work, proud of his or her national background, have a broader education, good moral character and have a practical approach to things. Julian believed if one was a better Ukrainian, they would be a better Canadian.

Julian Stechishin left behind a great heritage. Hundreds of students were educated and influenced by him at the Institute. They dispersed throughout Canada, becoming an integral part of Canadian Society, knowing their past and ready to face their future in Canada.

As a scholar, during his lifetime, Julian delivered many popular and scholarly lectures on different topics derived from Ukrainian History, Literature and Culture. An example of one such lecture was based on Shevchenko's political poems as being the main source of the Ukrainian movement for independence. An additional example was a lecture on Mazepa, who created a proclamation of a short lived Ukrainian Independent State approximately 300 years ago.

Julian Stechishin authored several books. Of particular importance was the book he wrote entitled **Ukrainian Grammar** and for this he was recognized as a scholar. He became aware years prior that there was a need for a Ukrainian Grammar textbook in English. However, it took many years of

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research before the widely acclaimed textbook was published in 1958. Students in High Schools and Universities, who are enrolled in Ukrainian classes, are certainly familiar with this book. Other books noteworthy of mention include the *History of the Peter Mohyla Institute* also known as the Jubilee Book. He was in the process of writing the book *History of Ukrainians in Canada* when he died suddenly and could not complete this work. The project was completed by other scholars and later published.

On a personal note, when I was a resident at Mohyla Institute, I witnessed meetings between Julian Stechishin and Dr. Ivan Rudewsky who also lived at Mohyla Institute. I remember that Julian, brief case in hand, would often come after work was done in his Law Office and Dr. Rudewsky and he would discuss and debate the finer points of Ukrainian Grammar. These meetings would regularly last late into the early morning hours. They reviewed and passionately debated the contents of the Ukrainian grammar book in detail. Both of them were perfectionists and were not always in agreement, but in the end a compromise was always reached. As a result of these meetings and common goals, they became best of friends.

Throughout his life he organized and gave his unwavering support to organizations which he judged to be necessary for the development of the Canadian Ukrainian Community. He was a supporter and founder of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church and was a supporter of the Ukrainian Self Reliance League (USRL) and many other organizations. Mohyla Institute is a member organization of the USRL. He encouraged all organizations to be supporters of the formation of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (KYK).

Julian Stechishin was a realist and he wanted to bring up the level of national awareness and create a social conscience in the Ukrainian Canadian Community to a higher standard than they could attain in Ukraine. He wanted Canadian Ukrainians to maintain their culture, language, and identity but also to be knowledgeable in the Canadian way of life. The question is why would Julian Stechishin spend a lifetime devoting his time and efforts for the betterment of the Ukrainian Diaspora in Canada? The answer, in my opinion, is that he cared for Ukraine, cared for the Ukrainian People, and respected Canada. I believe him to be a true nationalist.

Julian Stechishin was born in June 30th, 1895 in a village of Hleshchava in Western Ukraine. He died February 25th, 1971 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

***Dr. Robert Chayka***

## Ukrainian Language Classes

Mohyla Institute will once again be offering online Ukrainian Language Classes in the new year. Classes will begin to be advertised at the end of January, with a start date in late February / early March. To be notified of classes, request to be added to the Mohyla Institute distribution list by emailing [info@mohylainstitute.ca](mailto:info@mohylainstitute.ca).

# In Memoriam Вічна їм пам'ятть!

Mohyla Institute notes with sadness the passing of the following people in 2022. 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.

Peter (Myron) Kowalsky

Orest Mysak

## In Memory of Peter (Myron) Kowalsky

*Editor's Note: Taken from Myron's obituary as posted by Park Funeral Chapel. Portions were edited for purposes of this newsletter.*

After a wonderful and accomplished life, Peter (Myron) Kowalsky passed away peacefully at his home with his family by his side on June 8, 2022.

Myron was born in North Battleford, Saskatchewan on July 11, 1941. He attended grade school in North Battleford and finished high school in Saskatoon. While attending North Battleford Collegiate, Myron joined the Sea Cadets where he developed his love of sail boating and knot tying. During this time Myron participated in various sports, music, and cultural activities nurtured by the CYMK youth organization. He also belonged to the Yevshan Dancers and to the 4-H Club.

Myron stayed at the Mohyla Institute while attending Nutana Collegiate to complete grade 12 and continued to stay there to study at the University of Saskatchewan. While at the University of Saskatchewan he met his wife to be, Olesia Kindrachuk, on a CYMK trip to Prince Albert. He received a Bachelor of Education with Distinction and a Post Graduate Diploma from USask.

Myron's first year of teaching was in Quill Lake. He and Olesia married a year later in 1964 and moved to Unity where he was vice-principal. The couple relocated to Prince Albert in 1967 where they had two daughters, Lisa and Lara. Myron then worked as Vice Principal at Riverside Collegiate, and later taught at Carlton Comprehensive High School where he remained until 1986.

During his teaching career he went to The Gambia with Project Overseas and he remained involved with the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation. Throughout his life he was active in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church community, singing in the choir and as a member of the boards for TYC and the Ukrainian Museum of Canada.

Candle Lake was Myron's second home where he built a cabin and spent many weekends with his kids and grandkids partaking in numerous projects, fishing, sailing, golfing, boating, mushroom harvesting, visiting, and planting trees. Myron enjoyed the lake immensely and opened his cabin to family and friends for many memorable occasions.

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Myron was first elected to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan as an MLA in 1986 and re-elected in 1991, 1995, 1999, and 2003. He served as Government Whip and was the Chair of the Standing Committees on House Services and Privilege, and chaired the Board of Internal Economy of the Legislative Assembly. In 2001 he was elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and was re-elected as Speaker in 2004. In his role as Speaker he hosted the Midwest Legislative Conference held in Regina in July 2005 and chaired the Special Committee on Tobacco Control.

He made a number of trips to Ukraine as an educator and legislator from 1991 – 2014. In his early trips he was there with Project Overseas aimed at strengthening professional skills of teachers. He then participated as an election observer in the 2004 Presidential election and an observer during the 2006 MAIDAN Crisis.

The Funeral Service was held on June 13, 2022 at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of Holy Trinity, Saskatoon, officiated by Rt. Reverend Taras Makowsky.

Вічна Пам'ять – Memory Eternal

*Martin Zip*

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