

PROMIN REPORT - March, 2011

On March 9th, 1814, Taras Shevchenko, one of Ukraine's well-known poets, came into this world. Taras was born into an impoverished family of serfs and in spite of that he rose to become a great inspiration to the people of Ukraine. His works spoke to the hearts of his people, calling on them to continue their struggle for freedom. He is known internationally and many of his greatest works have been translated into other languages. To honor his memory, many communities still hold programs featuring his works. His poem "Zapovit", which has been set to music, is perhaps one of the best known and best loved. Let us continue this practice of holding Shevchenko concerts, so that our youth of today learn of this great man in our history, and have the opportunity to listen to his words of inspiration in readings and beautiful song.

CONVENTION 2011

The CYC Convention, being held in Edmonton, is just five months away, and we are again encouraging all branches to send delegates. There will be important issues to discuss and vote on, and we would like everyone's input at the deliberations.

Any Provincial Executive, Branch, or Convenor wishing to send in a Resolution(s) should do so by May 31, 2011.

ANNIVERSARIES

2011 is a significant year for the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada. This year we recognize the 85th Anniversary of our organization. We ask each branch to plan a special function to mark this important day in their parish. As announced previously, this is the year for the 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian Museum of Canada as well, and these two significant days can be celebrated together.

To celebrate, the UMC has put together a wonderful Tour to Ukraine, where the participants will have an opportunity to visit museums, historical sites, and see beautiful works of art and architecture. To find out more about this tour, please call the UMC at 306 244 3800.

ANKETA

To date we have received anketa from a few of the branches, and we remind everyone that they are due by May 1, 2011 so that they can be processed before the year end of May 31, 2011. We would like to send the financial allotment to the Provincial Executives before the summer holidays. We thank you in advance for your generous donations, and reiterate that you should include a list of your members, which we need for our files.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee consists of 2 members of the National Executive, and one member from each of the other four regions. These people can be the Provincial Presidents, or people appointed by the Provincial Executive. To date we have received one appointment. We ask each Provincial Executive to send in the name of their Nominating Committee member as soon as possible, so that the committee can begin their work.

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has been keeping us informed of the developments regarding the Canadian Museum of Human Rights – CMHR, which is to be built in Winnipeg. In 2003, the promises made to the Ukrainian Canadian community by the Asper Foundation, stated that the Holodomor and the Internment of Canadians would have permanent and prominent space in this museum which is to be publicly-funded. However, in the final report of the Content Advisory Committee, we see that those pledges have not been honored. The Chief Operating Officer of the CMHR recently stated that only the suffering of the Jews and the Canadian indigenous peoples will have permanent and prominent assigned gallery spaces. A hundred, or so, other genocides or crimes against humanity would be put together into a “Mass Atrocities” zone.

We should not accept this – in a museum that is tax-payer funded, all peoples should be fairly and equitably represented.

The UCC has called on all Ukrainians to take action by writing their Members of Parliament of their displeasure, and by signing a petition which has been circulated. Very recently the Ukrainian Canadian Congress sent out packages of postcards to sign and send to your member of parliament. If you received this package of postcards in your community, please take the time to pass them to all members of your branch and Parish. We must stand united in this matter so that the Genocides suffered by Ukrainians are not slighted.