

**UKRAINIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

СОЮЗ УКРАЇНОК КАНАДИ ЦЕНТРАЛЯ

910 Spadina Crescent East,
Saskatoon, S7K 3H5 Canada

Phone: 306/256-7013

pz.yuz@sasktel.net

(Zennia Yuzik, President) (Vesper Kowalsky, Corr. Secretary)



NEWSLETTER #10

MAY, 2011

**CHRYSTOS VOSKRES!
CHRIST IS RISEN!**

**VOISTYNU VOSKRES!
INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

With the joyous Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, we warmly greet His Eminence Metropolitan Yuriy, His Grace Bishop Ilarion, His Grace Bishop Andriy, the clergy, and all the members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. May the spirit and the light of the Easter Season shine brightly in our hearts throughout the coming year. May we all follow the Commandment of our Lord to "Love one another as I have loved you".

MOTHER'S DAY

We greet all mothers, grandmothers, and wish all of them good health, and much happiness with their families. A mother's love is as constant and never-ending as the passage of time, and a mother's love is one of devotion and many sacrifices. On this special day, and on each day during the course of the year, in our own way, we express our love, gratitude and appreciation to our mothers; and if our mother is no longer with us, we remember her with a prayer, and thoughts of gratitude for the love and care she gave us throughout her life. We also greet and remember other special women in our lives, our godmothers, and aunts with thanks and appreciation for their love and support. May God bless all of you with good health, a happy Mother's Day, and grant you much joy throughout the year.

CONVENTION 2011

1. Reports

1.1 Provincial Presidents and all Convenors

Please submit your activity reports for publication in the Convention Booklets. In provinces, or region, where there was a change of Provincial President, we ask that both presidents send their report for the portion of time in office (2010-2011). These presidents may submit one report to which they both contribute.

1.2 Convenors are asked to submit their report to the chair of their group so that the chair can include it in one collaborative report. Any Convenor who does not have anything to report should let the chair of the group know as soon as possible so that she can complete her work on time.

1.3 The deadline for submission of reports is June 1, 2011.

2. UWAC Sessions

Please note that as at the last convention, the **UMC AGM is at 10:00 – 12:00 am, and the UMC 2nd session is at 1:30 – 4:00 pm on Thursday, August 12.**

UWAC Session #1 is at 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm also on Thursday, August 11th.

Please make your travel arrangements so that you arrive in time to take part in these important sessions.

3. Official Opening

Thursday, August 14, 2011, 7:30 – 10:00 pm at the Westin Hotel

3.1 Please bring your Branch Banners, (prapory) if possible.

3.2 Please come prepared to sing the UWAC Hymn during the Opening Ceremonies. We are enclosing copies of the words and music for those who receive this newsletter by regular mail. We will send them by email to those who are on the email list.

4. Resolutions

Any branch wishing to submit resolutions should send them in by **June 1, 2011** so that they are included in the Convention Booklet. A Resolutions Committee is being formed to formulate the resolutions for presentation.

5. Convention Information

The Convention Committee will be sending us all the information by May 1, which in turn we will be forwarding to you. This will include the program outline, travel arrangements, registration forms and hotel information.

For more information, you may contact (in Edmonton):

-Cheryl Moisey, Convention Chair, at: 780 910 0887, or by email at cmoisey@telusplanet.net Or:

-Emil Yereniuk at 780 457 1451; or by email at emil@yereniuk.com

You may also visit the USRL website at www.usrl-cyc.org

ANKETY

We thank the branches who have sent in their ankety, and for the generous donations. **We urge those who have not yet sent in their ankety to do so as soon as possible, so that they can be processed by year end, which is May 31.** We want to send in the financial allotments to the Provincial Executives before the summer holidays.

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

Included with this Newsletter are the amendments to the Constitution as proposed by the Constitution Committee. Please discuss these at your meetings, and be prepared to approve the changes, or offer your suggestions. Please bring your existing copies of the Constitution to use as reference during the discussion and voting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee for election of the next National Executive consists of:

- SK: Sylvia Boychuk and Mary Humen
- BC: Audrey Sojonky
- AB: Pauline Mudrey
- MB: Olena Garrity
- East: Darcia Moskaluk-Rutkay

Following the rotation, it appears that the next National Executive should be based in the eastern region. Members of the Committee will be approaching people to take positions on the new executive. We urge you to consider accepting a position when we know in which province or region the executive will be based, and if there is a position that interests you, we invite you to volunteer your name.

We know that we have many very capable women across Canada who could contribute much to our association. Please do not “sell yourself short” before giving the matter serious thought. Being part of the National Executive brings many rewards. To mention a few, it is, of course, a great learning experience; you meet and make many new friends; and you gain confidence, an inner sense of satisfaction and accomplishment because you are serving your church and your community which we are called upon to do. We must honor our predecessors by continuing the work we have been doing for the past eighty-five years.

Heroines and heroes are not only in books and movies, there are many hundreds or even thousands of every-day heroines and heroes among us. In my mind, our Ukrainian pioneers, and those who came after them are among these every-day heroines and heroes. They carved out a life for themselves and their children here in a new land, leaving us the richest legacy – our precious lifesaving Orthodox faith, and our unique and beautiful Ukrainian culture. They secured for us a significant place within this Canadian society. We owe them a great debt. If they had been as complacent, and even negligent, as we, who are their successors, have become, we would have no knowledge about who we are, nor where we came from. By this point in time, we would be totally assimilated and lost within this country. Let us keep them and this legacy they gave us in our hearts, let us not fail them. Let us follow in their footsteps, continuing to maintain and pass on this precious gift they gave us.

ANNIVERSARIES

The year 2011 is a significant year for the Ukrainian Women’s Association. This year we recognize the 85th Anniversary of our Association, and the 75th Anniversary of our own Ukrainian Museum of Canada. These anniversaries will be recognized at the USRL Convention in Edmonton.

We ask each branch to plan a special function within their parish to recognize these important milestones. Perhaps a fund-raising function for the museum would be something you want to do. For the past two years donations to the museum from both the UWAC branches and UWAC members have dropped significantly. For those of you new to our Association or those not familiar with this, at the National Convention six years ago, each component organization of the USRL made a pledge to donate a certain amount of money yearly to the museum. Our UWAC pledge is \$20,000. For two years now the pledge has not been met by donations, therefore, we have had to make up the shortfall from our National office funds, which in turn is depleting our operating budget.

I realize that asking for funds is not the most popular, or desirable, thing one can do, but, unfortunately, we must face reality, “bite the bullet”, and do what needs to be done. I thank you all for your patience and consideration.

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has been keeping us informed of the developments regarding this 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 a 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. Is it right to make the suffering of one group of people more significant than another?

The UCC has called on all Ukrainians to take action by writing their Members of Parliament of their displeasure, and by signing the petition which has been circulated. Very recently the UCC sent out packages of postcards to sign and send to your MP. 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 take action and stand united in this matter so that the genocides suffered by our people are not slighted.

BRANCH CLOSURES

Unfortunately, each year we lose a branch or more due to a large decrease in membership. The procedure for the disbanding of a branch is outlined in the Constitution. Please send a letter to our office of your intent before you disband completely.

If at all possible, I would encourage branches to try amalgamation with a sister branch before complete disbanding. It can be made to work if the distance is not great.

If your branch has become disbanded, each of the members can pay a direct membership to our National Office. That way your years of service would still continue. You would receive our Newsletter so that you can stay informed and be a part of what we do. You could actively participate in our conventions, and you would still be contributing to our Association and the work that we carry out.

VISNYK ARTICLES

I take this opportunity to invite everyone to read the articles I have been sending in for printing in Visnyk. As I stated in the first article, I have had a significant number of questions about the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League - USRL, or CYC by its Ukrainian acronym, namely, the structure of CYC, and the relationship of the CYC component organizations with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. It seems that some of our people, more significantly the younger generations, are not quite familiar with our organizations and how they fall in with our Church.

This prompted me to outline, briefly, the beginnings of our people in Canada, and the development and growth of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church and our Organizations. I felt that every Orthodox member should know, and be familiar with, our history in Canada in order to help promote better understanding of each other, how we work together with the Church. My goal is also to dispel the misconceptions that do occur, and to promote unity and harmony among our members.

God Bless!
Zennia Yuzik, President

