

# e-bulletin

St. Petro Mohyla Institute

## Special points of interest:

- Golf Tournament
- Summer Immersion Program
- Feature Article by *Our Man in Kyiv*, Dr. Evan Ostryzniuk
- Mohyla Institute 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mohyla Golf Tournament - June 18<sup>th</sup>!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Petro Mohyla Institute Golf Tournament is just 1 week away! Get your team in today so that you don't miss this fantastic annual event. We tee off with a shotgun start at 12:00 noon at The Willows Golf & Country Club in Saskatoon, with the supper immediately after.

If you are interested in golfing, attending the supper, volunteering, or sponsoring in any way, please be sure to let us know by Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. We would love to sell out our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Tournament!

A big thank you to those who have already signed up to generously sponsor and participate in our event!

We'll be joined by many Mohyla supporters from around the province for this fun day of golf.

Please consider this your personal invitation to spend a day on the links, while supporting Mohyla Institute.

[Golf Tournament Registration & Sponsorship Form](#)

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## Mohyla Kitchen Renovation

This February, we were required to replace the kitchen ducting, range hood, fan, as well as install a make-up air unit.

At the same time we took the opportunity to replace the pizza oven as it was no longer keeping a consistent temperature.

This entire project came in at just under \$60,000.

A huge thank you to everyone who financially supported this project!



## Ukrainian Summer Immersion Program

St. Petro Mohyla Institute is very pleased to announce the re-introduction of the Mohyla Institute Ukrainian Summer School Immersion program for the summer of 2016. We are very excited about the potential of this educational and cultural experience.

Learn the Ukrainian language & culture, earn a high school credit, make lifelong friends, and have a lot of fun!

As more plans are formulated, they will be advertised in the Mohyla newsletter (or e-bulletin) and on the [website](#). Plan now to have a great summer in 2016!



## Whither Terrorism in Ukraine?

by Dr. Evan Ostryzniuk in Kyiv



Dr. Evan Ostryzniuk

Ukraine has been infected with a classic case of terrorism. The wave of blasts that has rolled across the cities of Kharkiv and Odessa since Russian President Putin's attempt to throw Ukrainian forces out of Donetsk and Luhansk provinces last autumn failed have no stated purpose. This is no Palestinian Intifada or Islamic State's mass murder of non-Muslims. No one claims responsibility for these attacks. No demands are issued to stop them. No 'great idea' apparently motivates them. Bombs are being detonated just for the sake of terror.

That does not mean, of course, that that they are meaningless, random acts of violence. Rather, assuming that these attacks are coordinated in some way by people hostile to Ukraine, I see three aims of the

campaign of terrorism in these two important cities, all of which serve Kremlin interests. And let's not beat around the bush: the blasts show enough of a pattern to indicate that they originate from one source.

The terrorists want to instill fear and uncertainty amongst Ukrainians. This undermines morale, hinders investment and reminds people of the war going on. It is hard to plan a future when the spectre of bombs is looming. Fear breeds contempt, and should local residents become angry, they might pressure Kyiv to end the war in the Donbas on any terms, undermining national sovereignty and giving legitimacy to the anti-Ukrainian separatists.

### Continued...

The terrorists also want to divide Ukrainians. There is an assumption in Russia that Ukraine suffers from inter-ethnic conflict, or that great swathes of the population want to topple the pro-European government in Kyiv. It is no accident that the blasts have almost exclusively happened in Kharkiv and Odessa. They are large urban centres on the periphery of the country, distant from the capital. Kharkiv is close to Russia by location and culture; Odessa is a famously cosmopolitan city. Neither has ever shown much enthusiasm for the Ukrainian statehood project. Bombs have been planted either near pro-Ukrainian activist centres or under transport links. So, the plan goes, should Kharkivites and Odessites openly blame Kyiv for the war and terrorism, they might pull the country apart.

It should be noted that the terrorists have been mostly careful about what they destroy. With the tragic exception of the February 22 attack on a pro-Ukrainian rally in Kharkiv, where three people were killed, the detonated bombs have only damaged property. Should they become more lethal, contempt for the attacks might grow into resentment towards Kyiv and pro-Ukrainian activists, leading to instability. Such consistency of approach suggests that professionals are coordinating the terror campaign.

Finally, the terrorists want to discredit the Ukrainian state. An ongoing wave of blasts in politically tepid cities should suggest that Kyiv's security apparatus is woefully unprepared to protect the citizens and property of the state, which is one of its fundamental duties, and by extension the inability of the government to fully control its territory. After all, it has already lost its south-eastern corner and Black Sea peninsula. European and North Americans governments would be less willing to support Ukraine, while Kyiv itself should be put to panic.

While it is widely assumed by the Ukrainian government, Western intelligence agencies and the local media that the acts of terrorism are being organized by Russian special services, the many arrests of local residents that the Ukrainian security service has already made is intended to foster the lie that this terrorism is a wholly Ukrainian phenomenon, which arose as result of native rejection of the Kyiv government and sympathy for the anti-Ukrainian separatists. For example, law enforcement has discovered, along with specifically Russian gear, printed matter declaiming the presence of "Kharkiv partisans" and "Bessarabian People's Republic" (Odessa) and the like, as well as actual militants who fight for the faux republics of the Donbas.

The truth is, of course, that the "local" terrorists are little more than individual radicals or saboteurs in the pay of the Kremlin, or perhaps organized crime.

These aims have failed.

Both the Ukrainian security apparatus and local residents themselves have responded to the crimes committed against them with reason and restraint. No one is panicking. No one is storming parliament. In fact, the terror is having an unintended effect. The Ukrainian state security service is finally learning from their Russian counterparts how to deal with internal threats to sovereignty. And this despite infiltration of their ranks by Russian special services. Of course, it helps that the terrorists are rank amateurs, judging by reports.

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Not only that, but the terrorists have also failed to goad Ukrainian law enforcement into undertaking repressive measures that might have stifled the free expression of hostile media outlets. This only burnishes Ukraine's reputation abroad and prevents paranoia at home.

Even more impressive has been the response of Kharkivites and Odessites. They have shown measured outrage, and what is more striking, identification with the Ukrainian state. Being forced by the Kremlin to choose sides, a recent poll in Odessa revealed that the vast majority of residents consider themselves to be Ukrainian and only a few identified exclusively with Russian culture. What the revolution and war has revealed is that the people of Ukraine, wherever they are, on the whole want to respect all cultures.

Yet, ambiguity remains. Inter, the most watched television channel in Ukraine, recently broadcast a report speculating that any number of groups could be behind the wave of terrorism, from Russian special services to local pro-Russian activists to organized crime trying to show the authorities in Kyiv who's really boss. Inter is owned by exiled oligarch Dmytro Firtash and Opposition Bloc leader Serhiy Lyovochkin, so it must be taken with a grain of salt. Nonetheless, while the or-

chestrated violence has failed to fragment the Ukrainian people, it has partially succeeded in placing the seed of doubt in some minds.

What worries the people of Kharkiv and Odessa, not to mention the rest of Ukraine, now is the possible escalation of terrorist attacks. The war on the Donbas is in stasis and Putin is running out of time to subject Ukraine to his will. Terrorism is just another flexible tactic at the Kremlin's disposal, certainly part and parcel of Putin's "hybrid" war against Ukraine. A rise in the intensity of bombings by fictitious separatist groups could serve as justification for direct aid and the intervention of "advisors" from Russia, or even formal invasion. Precedent can be found in the Donbas events of one year ago, when Russian operatives and adventurers flooded the region to "help" the handful of anti-Ukrainian gunmen who seized government offices for fear of Ukrainian nationalist persecution.

Putting an end to urban terrorism in Ukraine will require the continued determination of government, law enforcement and citizens not to be intimidated by these cynical acts, to turn the tables on the enemies of the state by remaining united in their choice of civilization over barbarism.

## Board Chairs Message: 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary - 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This edition of the Mohyla e-bulletin marks its first anniversary. 2016 marks Mohyla's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Over the past 99 years, the Institute has certainly passed the test of time.

In 1916, the activities of a dynamic group of Ukrainian immigrants culminated in the founding of the Mohyla Institute at the first Ukrainian national convention in Saskatoon. Named after Metropolitan Petro Mohyla, a leader of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church who lived in the early part of the 17th century in Ukraine, the Institute's accomplishments are significant and its legacy inspiring. Coinciding with the celebration of its 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 24, 2011, the Government of Canada National Historic Sites and Monuments Board recognized the Institute as a National Historic Event.

As we prepare to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will salute and pay a deep tribute to the visionaries who founded the Institute. It will be a time to celebrate and reflect on fond memories, to remember and recognize the hundreds of alumni who have become community leaders, and to give thanks to the faithful members, alumni, benefactors and countless volunteers who have served the Institute over the past 100 years.

I invite you, our members, alumni, friends and supporters, to offer your ideas and suggestions, your memoirs, memorabilia and photographs, as your contribution toward the making of a truly memorable celebration of the Institute's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

*Steve Senyk, Board Chair*



## Announcements

### Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to our 2015-2016 scholarship recipients!

- Riley Burkart
- Kristopher Cipywnyk
- Riley Dobrohoczki
- Andrew Dusevic
- Malshi Karunatilake
- Daniel Kosokowsky
- Justin Norton

A total of \$6,900 was presented thanks to the generosity of the scholarship donors.

The full listing is on the [website](#).

### Mohyla Alumna

Congratulations to Mary Ann Trischuk who was recently elected president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress—Saskatchewan Provincial

Council (UCC-SPC).

### Mohyla Institute Website

The new website is up and running!

[www.mohylainstitute.ca](http://www.mohylainstitute.ca)

Please take a look and let us know if there is anything you would like to see added.

## Executive Director Update

Next Thursday is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Petro Mohyla Institute Golf Tournament and we still have some spaces left available. Please register by Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mohyla Institute has been bustling since the last update at Christmas.

This February we completed a major kitchen renovation with the install of new ducting, a range hood, fan, make-up air unit, and oven. A huge thank you to the kitchen staff for working around the construction for two weeks and still managing to serve fantastic meals! We sincerely appreciate all of the donations that have come in to support this renovation.

In March we held our Year End Banquet where we acknowledged our graduating residents and handed out scholarships for the 2015-2016 academic year. This year we had seven well-deserving recipients. We are grateful to the donors of these scholarships for helping these

students to complete their academic goals while supporting Mohyla Institute.

April wrapped up the 2014-2015 academic year for our residents and we said good-bye to a few graduating students.

This last year we had a full house for the majority of the school year and a little less than a third are returning for next year. We are now accepting [applications](#) for the upcoming year and are optimistic it will be a full house again.

In May the Explore group arrived for five weeks of French Immersion with the University of Saskatchewan Language Centre. With these students in residence we were once again at capacity for May & June.

June 19<sup>th</sup> marks the arrival of a group of engineering students from India, who will be staying at Mohyla Institute for four weeks while they learn about the engineering programs available at the

University of Saskatchewan.

The day the engineering group leaves Mohyla Institute, we welcome a group of Agriculture and Forestry students from China. This group will be with us for four weeks as well.

This leaves us with just enough time to get the place ready for our residents staying with us for the academic school year.

These past couple of summers have been very busy and that is exactly how we like it! Next summer will be even more fun with the Ukrainian Summer Immersion program as a kick-off to our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

100 is a milestone anniversary and we are thrilled to be heading in to celebrate it with a thriving occupancy and a clear direction fueled by our strategic plan.

*Sara Detenshen, Executive Director*

## Accepting Residents for 2015-2016

We are now accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year. Last year we were full so make sure to apply early!

You can take a look at all Mohyla has to offer under the [residence](#) section of the website.

If you are interested in a tour please contact the office to set up a time, 306.653.1944.

*We hope you enjoyed reading our e-bulletin. Please be sure to sign up to continue receiving electronic communications from Mohyla.*

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