

Culture, Education, Community



The 2013-2014 Scholarship Recipients. See page 4 for more details.
Back row from left to right: Anton Kikets, Ben Lockert, Kashtin Moen and Daniel Kosokowsky.
Front row from left to right: Crystal Johnson, Amanda Gannon and Tatiana Storoschuk.

Recognition of Mohyla Alumni & Members - Congratulations!

On March 23, 2013, 23 Saskatchewan residents were presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal at Government House by Her Honour the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan. It is significant to note that 6 of the 23 recipients are alumni and members of St. Petro Mohyla Institute – they are as follows:

William (Bill) Dumanski, Marie Kischuk, Dr. Edward Klopoushak, Gerald Luciuk, Sonia Mysak, and Zennia Yuzik.

The medal was created to mark the 60th Anniversary (1962-2012) of the accession to the throne of Queen Elizabeth II. The medal honours Her Majesty's 60 years of service by recognizing the service of Canadians.

Congratulations to our alumni and members who have been recognized for their valued service contributions to their fellow citizens, communities, and to our country. May God grant you good health and many years!
Многая Літа! Многая Літа!

www.mohyla.ca

1240 Temperance Street • Saskatoon, SK • S7N 0P1
Tel: 306.653.1944 • Fax: 306.653.1902

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Vision

Become the heart of the Ukrainian youth community

Mission

Ensuring our future through commitment to youth

Principles

Provide opportunity for development

Support residents in their education goals

Work together through partnerships with individuals and organizations

Bring Ukrainians together in unified purpose

Values

Develop

Learn

Lead

Commune

Goals and Objectives

Maintain facilities for community use

Expand resources

Revive cultural programming

Message from the Board Chair

Христос Воскрес! Воістину Воскрес!
Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

HOLOS INSTITUTU ГОЛОС ІНСТИТУТУ

The Mohyla Institute Newsletter is a publication produced by St. Petro Mohyla Institute.

Contributions towards the production and mailing costs of the newsletter or the Institute, are gratefully accepted and should be made payable to Mohyla Institute.

Charitable receipts and acknowledgements will be issued upon receipt.

2013 Board of Directors

Chair: Stephen Senyk, Regina
Vice Chair: Gerald Luciuk, Regina
Treasurer: Nadia Maruschak-Clay, Saskatoon

Larry Klopoushak, Saskatoon
Nancy Litwin, Saskatoon
Terry Ludyk, Prince Albert
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A big THANK YOU to our outgoing Board members!

Alicia Myall, Saskatoon
Jerry Sopatyk, Meacham

Chaplains:

Very Rev. Taras Makowsky

Employees:

Director: Sara Detenshen
Kitchen Manager: Anna Epp
Building Manager: Adrian Robson
Trent Illerbrun
Cherene Rodman
Eric Thai
Lisa Wuttunee

As we celebrate Easter, the Feast of Feasts commemorating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, I am pleased to bring Easter greetings on behalf of the board of directors, staff and residents of the Institute to His Eminence Metropolitan Yuriy, His Grace Bishop Ilarion, His Grace Bishop Andrij, Venerable Clergy, and to all members, alumni, supporters and friends of St. Petro Mohyla Institute.

В імені Дирекції Інституту з відчуттям глибокої радості і від щирого серця вітаємо вас з Воскресінням Христовим, з Пасхою Христовою, і нехай царюють у ваших серцях радість і душевний спокій! Нехай до Вашої оселі прийде здоров'я, любов, щастя, добробут, душа нехай світлішою стає, серце пламеніє любов'ю, а помисли стануть щирими та добрими. Всіх Вам земних благ і на многих, многих літ! Христос Воскрес!

I am pleased to report that the Board hired Sara Detenshen mid-October 2012 to serve as the Director of the Institute. Sara brings an impressive blend of skills, professional, personal and social attributes to her challenging leadership role at the Institute. We look forward to Sara's leadership as we move forward to meet the challenges of renewal and growth of the Institute.

The Institute's greatest and lasting legacy is one of growing people. There is a Chinese proverb which states that if you want one year of prosperity, grow grain; if you want ten years of prosperity, grow trees; and if you want 100 years of prosperity, grow people. In keeping with the proverb, the Institute will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2016. This is no small feat. Over the years, the Institute has faced and continues to face ongoing pressures of change and the need for renewal to ensure its residential, educational and cultural role in our Ukrainian community. During the ensuing year, attention will be dedicated to drafting a road map for the future direction. Stay tuned. Some immediate challenges the Board intends to address include advocacy and marketing the Institute, bylaws and policy review and development, board development, membership and alumni development, and a fundraising event that is detailed elsewhere in this newsletter.

As we look to the future, let us work together to sustain and strengthen the determination and foresight of our founding members and supporters toward the ongoing fulfillment of our vision - *Ensuring our Future through Commitment to Youth.*

Steve Senyk

Meet the New Director

Hi there! I'd like to introduce myself to everyone I have not had the pleasure of speaking with or meeting. My name is Sara Detenshen, and the last name is pronounced detention. I can tell you that led to a slew of jokes throughout school and up to today. I love it when I hear one I haven't heard before so I challenge you all to come up with a good one for me!

I grew up in northern Alberta, in a tiny village called Berwyn located near Peace River. My parents are still living there and I love taking every chance I can to go visit. They have the best in-town garden I've ever seen and raiding it is a favourite summer pastime!

After high school I moved to Edmonton to complete a degree at the University of Alberta (UofA). I was heavily involved in residence life at the UofA. While living there I was a Resident Life Assistant in my second year and a Floor Coordinator in my third year of University. In my fourth year, I lived outside of residence but was still involved through my volunteer work with the UofA Sexual Assault Centre (SAC). A part of my involvement with the SAC was co-chairing the Sexual Assault Awareness Committee within Lister Centre. I gained so much through my three years of volunteering at the SAC and will carry that experience and growth with me for the rest of my life.

Shortly after I completed my Bachelor of Arts, Majoring in Sociology and Minor in Psychology, my husband and I moved to Saskatchewan. We have been in Saskatoon for six years this summer and we love the city. Work wise, I was with the Innovation Place Brand Management Department for five years before starting to work for Mohyla Institute.

We will certainly be busy at Mohyla this summer, what with being full for five weeks with the University of Saskatchewan French Immersion students and doing some building upkeep and improvements. For example, our hallways will be getting a face-lift with a fresh coat of paint; check out "Tune-Up Talk with Adrian" on page 10 for some great tips on painting in your own home.

I am really enjoying working for Mohyla Institute! Every day brings new experiences and I absolutely love being involved in residence life again. The Board of Directors have been fantastic to work with and the community has been so welcoming. I can't wait to see what tomorrow brings!

Sara Detenshen



Best Wishes to our Graduating Residents

This year Mohyla Institute is saying goodbye and good luck to three of our long-term residents who are all graduating from the University of Saskatchewan.

BingBing Lu - Bachelor of Computer Science, Mathematics and Economics

Joseph Ortynsky - Bachelor of Commerce

Ye Wang - Bachelor of Business Economics

These three young men have called Mohyla home for a number of years and we will certainly miss them all next year! We wish them all the best as they leave Mohyla to start their careers.

2013 Scholarship & Graduation Banquet

The 2013 Scholarship & Graduation Banquet took place on April 6, at Mohyla Institute. The dining room was transformed into a formal setting for the evening, and everyone who attended was dressed in cocktail attire. It was a lovely evening when everything was said and done.

The evening kicked off with a fantastic supper prepared by Mohyla kitchen staff. The supper was followed by a picture donation from Nestor and Jennie Ortynsky. The picture was presented to the Mohyla Board Chair, Steve Senyk, by a few members of the Ortynsky family; Joseph, Mikaila and Brenda.



“This is a picture of a gathering of Orthodox leaders in front of the old Mohyla Institute on Main Street in Saskatoon. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the future of the Orthodox Church and Mohyla Institute. It was found in the estate possessions of Nestor Ortynsky’s mother. Nestor stayed in the Mohyla Institute in the 1940’s. His son Evan in the 1970’s and Evan’s son, Joseph ends a 4 year residence as he has just completed his Bachelor of Commerce. This picture is donated by Nestor and Jennie Ortynsky of Canora, Saskatchewan.”

We were pleased to have a guest speaker, Lara Zaluski, be a part of this year’s program. Lara spoke about her involvement as an election observer for the recent parliamentary elections in Ukraine. In 2012, Lara was selected to be a member of Mission Canada as a long term election observer and team leader for the recent parliamentary elections in Ukraine. Lara was initially assigned as part of a two member team to Vinnytsya oblast. However, three and half weeks into the Mission she was asked to organize Khmelnytsky oblast on her own. As a result, she brought a variety of stories and an interesting, comparative perspective based on these experiences to her talk.

After Lara’s talk we moved into the scholarship presentation portion of the evening. All of the scholarship recipients bring the best of themselves to the Institute and in turn we are honoured to present them with scholarships for the upcoming year.

Christa Potts Memorial Scholarship

2013 recipient: Amanda Gannon - \$200

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

Connie, Olga & Ludwig Kay Jubilee Scholarship

2013 recipient: Tatiana Storoschuk - \$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.”

Kraynick Leadership Award

2013 recipient: Ben Lockert - \$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.”

Marie Kotelko Scholarship

2013 recipient: Daniel Kosokowsky - \$200

“This scholarship is offered to assist academically successful students and leader in student affairs to pursue their higher education objective.”

Nicholas & Olga Hawrysh Memorial Scholarship

2013 recipient: Tatiana Storoschuk - \$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.”

Paraska Beahun Scholarship

2013 recipient: Kashtin Moen - \$400

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

Pitts Scholarship

2013 recipient: Daniel Kosokowsky - \$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.”

Sorokan Memorial Scholarship

2013 recipient: Amanda Gannon - \$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

2013 recipient: Anton Kikets - \$300

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

Zacharuk Scholarship

2013 recipient: Crystal Johnson - \$100

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

We would not have scholarships without the kind and generous donations provided by the scholarship namesakes. We thank you and your family for trusting Mohyla Institute with this honour.

Golf Tournament

This fall will be the first annual St. Petro Mohyla Institute Golf Tournament! On Saturday, September 14, we will be at Holiday Park in Saskatoon kicking off a beautiful sunny day with friends. We are excited to have a fun annual event to fundraise for Mohyla, while enjoying ourselves and the great company.

We will be looking for companies or individuals to sponsor different golf holes and contests. The sponsorship package will be available in May. Please contact Sara at 306.653.1944 if you are interested.

Save the date: Saturday, September 14!

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! - Donations

St. Petro Mohyla Institute has been open for almost 97 years! We have been able to stay open for so long thanks to the generous donations of the community who supports us.

In the past year some of what we put donations towards includes:

- A new self-serve area in the dining room we call "Baba's Bistro". This allows our residents to have access to food 24/7: cold cereals; instant noodles; fresh cut fruit and vegetables; milk; yogurt; hard boiled eggs; supper leftovers; bagels and bread; muffins and cookies.
- Some new dressers and wardrobes for two of our suites (the rooms without built in closets and dressers).
- Two new washing machines for our laundry room to replace the old machines which broke down in the fall.

We can't say it often or loud enough: Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!!! to the following people who were kind enough to donate to St. Petro Mohyla Institute from January of 2012 - April of 2013.

Olga Bokshowan - Saskatoon, SK
In memory of Paul Bokshowan

Michael & Edith Burianyk - Regina, SK

Olga Byckal - Battleford, SK

Roman Chez - Coldstream, BC

Mae Chwaluk - Shoal Lake, MB

William S. Fedeyko - St. Albert, AB

Oricia Feist - Saskatoon, SK

Patricia & Leonard Gatzke - Swift Current, SK
In memory of Mrs. Ann Makowsky &
Avery Procyshen

Mary A. Graham - Saskatoon, SK

Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church -
Prince Albert, SK

Kathy Hrabowy - Saskatoon, SK

Taras Hryhor - Erin, ON

Al & Cec Kachkowski - Saskatoon, SK

Kathryn Keaschuk - Edmonton, AB

In memory of Anton & Mr. Markowski

Estate of Edythe Kireliuk - Saskatoon, SK

Edward Klopoushak - Regina, SK

Taras Korol - Canora, SK

Allan D. Kowalchuk - Regina, SK

Alice Kowalsky - Saskatoon, SK

Lastiwka Ukrainian Orthodox Youth Choir -
Saskatoon, SK

Gerald & Cathy Luciuk - Regina, SK

David Luciuk - Rosetown, SK

From the generosity of Jacob & Mary
Michel and Matt & Eva Luciuk

Gerald & Anne Metrunc - Leoville, SK
 Gordon Nikiforuk - Toronto, ON
 Nestor Ortynsky - Canora, SK
 Florence Pachkowski - Burnaby, BC
 Annie Samcoe - Saskatoon, SK
 Donna S. Samcoe - Calgary, AB
 In memory of John Samcoe
 Emelia Samcoe - Saskatoon, SK
 In memory of Mr. Fred & Mrs. Olga
 Andruschak and John Samcoe
 William & Pauline Semenuik - Yorkton, SK
 Natalie Senyk - Regina, SK
 In memory of Alex Dumalski
 Steve & Sandra Senyk - Regina, SK
 Sheho Ukrainian Women's Association -
 Sheho, SK
 Walter Stelmaschuk - Edmonton, AB
 Helen Stefaniuk - Cudworth, SK
 In memory of George Chernowski and
 Wasyl & Irene Hryniuk
 Victor & Patricia Stelmaschuk - Lloydminster, SK

Bernie & Mary Ann Trischuk - Yorkton, SK
 Ukrainian Canadian Professional & Business
 Association of Saskatoon - Saskatoon, SK
 Ukrainian Orthodox Men's Association, Steppe
 Club - Saskatoon, SK
 Ukrainian Society of Prosvita - Regina, SK
 Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada,
 Daughters of Ukraine Branch - Regina, SK
 Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada,
 Hanka Romanchych Branch - Saskatoon, SK
 Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada,
 O Pchilka Branch - North Battleford, SK
 Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada,
 Olena Pchilka Branch - Yorkton, SK
 Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada,
 Olha Koblanska Branch - Saskatoon, SK
 Alexander Wakarchuk - Delta, BC
 In memory of Lillian Wakarchuk &
 Wasyl Wakarchuk & Zennovia Oystrek
 Fred & Lorraine Waskowic - Prairie River, SK
 Ludmilla Weaver - Victoria, BC
 Adolph M. Wolkoski - Airdrie, AB

All of our anonymous donors are greatly appreciated as well! If there are any omissions or errors to the above list please don't hesitate to let us know, 306.653.1944.

Future Donation Goals

Some of the items we will need to be replacing in the upcoming year are listed below. While we are hopeful they will have longer lives, realistically these will need to be replaced soon!

- Pizza Oven in the kitchen
 - The pizza oven is almost 50 years old and does not maintain a set temperature anymore. Which means baking pies is out of the question and makes everybody sad!
- Stand up refrigerator/freezer in the kitchen
 - An original in this building, this unit is also almost 50 years old. It broke down on us a couple of months ago and we were lucky enough that the part needing repair was still available.
- Desks and chairs for the resident rooms
 - Some of the room desks and chairs are quite beat up and we would be replacing on an as needed basis.
- Computers for the resident classroom
 - We currently have five computers that are about 15 years old in the classroom. We look forward to replacing them.

If you are interested in donating to Mohyla Institute for any of these projects please state the donation is to go to facility needs. This way we can replace whatever happens to break first!



Getting to Know Anna Epp

Hi, my name is Anna Epp. I began working as kitchen manager at Mohyla Institute in May of 2011. I would like to tell you a little about me.

I grew up the youngest of nine siblings on a farm close to Medstead, Saskatchewan where a strong work ethic was instilled in me. Helping my mother garden, cook, and bake and all the other aspects that are involved was a very large part of my childhood.

After high school, I spent two years in a boarding school where I learned all about living in residence and eating dining room food. This was followed by a year of cooking in a residential school for children in northern Saskatchewan. For a totally new experience I traveled in Europe for nine weeks visiting seven different countries, and sampling the local foods. I really appreciated getting to experience all of the different European breads and bakery items.

After returning from traveling I together with my sister opened and operated a bakery and coffee shop in Medstead for five years. I enjoyed making all the breads, rolls, pies, donuts, cookies and muffins - all made from scratch. Since selling the bakery, I have worked in a small town restaurant as well as a restaurant in Saskatoon. I have also worked as a home coordinator in a group home for women with disabilities, tending to all their needs.

Prior to coming to Mohyla I worked at a senior's complex as cook and later as kitchen manager. I worked in this capacity for over 18 years. As you can see all my jobs have involved trying to make people happy with good food. There is no better feeling then to see our students enjoy fresh cinnamon buns after they have had their choice of main course!

Anna Epp

Meet Adrian Robson

Hello everyone! My name is Adrian Robson and I have been the Building Manager here at Mohyla Institute for almost three years now.

I started working here half way through my undergraduate degree at the University of Saskatchewan. I have since finished my Bachelor of Commerce, with a Major in Management, and continue to enjoy the challenges that this old building continues to throw at me.

My education has spanned many years as I grew up on a small farm near Outlook, SK. Raised around animals and machinery teaches a person more than one could ever image, actions and reactions make for some very interesting stories.



Being a car and motorcycle enthusiast lead me to attend SIAST in Regina to obtain an Auto Body Certificate. A great program that I still cannot recommend highly enough, taught me the specificities of a craft that always interested me. Unfortunately, the work environment was a little too toxic for me and I decided to go for career a little more healthy and attend the University of Saskatchewan. I love a challenge and solving problems which is why keeping a building over 50 years old running smoothly for everyone in it gives me a lot of satisfaction.

I still am a car and motorcycle enthusiast, restoring old bikes and fixing cars takes up most of my time. Spring is here so it looks like it's finally time to dig the motorcycle out of the garage, clean it up, and get out on the road. So, if you see someone out on the streets with a big motorcycle, that could be me, make sure you wave and enjoy the nice weather!

Adrian Robson

Spend an Afternoon with Anna

One of the recipes that our students enjoy is our homemade dinner rolls, hotdog buns, hamburger buns, sub buns as well as Kringle (which is a twisted roll that comes from my heritage). These all can be made from the same dough. I would like to share the recipe with you.

This recipe can be made smaller or bigger depending on need!!

White Bun Dough

2 Cups Warm Water
2 Tablespoons Sugar
4 Tablespoons Traditional Yeast
½ Cup Sugar
3 Tablespoons Salt
3 Tablespoons Sugar
1 Cup Shortening
1½ Cups Margarine
3 Cups Milk (warmed)
5 Cups Warm Water
24 Cups White Flour (approximately)

Dissolve yeast and first amount of sugar in 2 cups warm water; let rise for about 10 minutes. Meanwhile mix second amount sugar, salt, shortening, margarine, milk, water and some of the flour in big mixer. Using the dough hook to mix the dough, add the yeast mixture and enough flour to make a soft dough. (Dough should be soft to touch but not sticky.) Mix well then put dough into a large bowl, cover and let rise in a warm place for about 1 hour or until double in bulk. Punch down dough and let rise for about 40 minutes, then shape into desired shape and put on pans to rise. Rise until double again and bake at 400°F for 18-20 minutes, or until desired colour.

Makes about 10-12 dozen buns.

Anna Epp

Tune Up Talk with Adrian

With spring finally starting, the weather becoming nicer, spring cleaning is upon many of us. For some, a deep scrubbing and polish throughout the house is more than enough. Although, if a room is still looking a little worse for wear a new coat of paint may be enough to rejuvenate an ageing space.

Painting is one of the most economical upgrades you can do to a room. Almost anyone, regardless of experience, can undertake this project with great success. Here are some tips that I have discovered, and practises to help ensure top quality results.

- Meticulous preparation is crucial for a professional end result. Drop cloths protect your floor from splatters and any accidental spills. They also will keep any dust that may be on objects or the floor from sticking in your freshly applied paint.
- Fix any imperfections in your walls with a light drywall filler. Drying filler with a hair dryer can speed the process up allowing you to sand it smooth and carry on the same day, or else the filler can air dry naturally overnight.
- Wash walls down with a TSP (Trisodium Phosphate) solution to remove all contaminants. Follow the label correctly or it could leave a film.
- Use a high quality masking tape to give you a sharp and straight edge where your painted surface meets a surface that you don't want painted. Painter's Tape (usually green or blue) is great on delicate surfaces as its low tack prevents the tape from peeling up existing paint and damaging finishes. The conventional white masking tape is stickier and will stick better to surface, but be careful when removing it after you are finished.
- Stir and strain old paint well. Paint that has sat for a while will separate in the can and perform very poorly. Also, paint from a can that has been opened and closed frequently can have clumps in it, so make sure to strain the paint before it goes into the tray.
- Take your time. Applying paint fast will create an uneven finish as well as make a mess with splatter everywhere. Cutting in the edges of a room takes a steady hand and cannot be rushed.
- Multiple coats. One thick coat may look okay, but chances are there are still thin spots where the old colour is bleeding through. Painting a new color will definitely require multiple coats and a quality primer is a must, as it will save time and money in the long run.
- Clean any spills or mess immediately. Most modern paints are soap and water clean-up. If you accidentally go over an edge or brush some paint on a surface that you didn't want to, now is the time to wipe it up. New paint even comes out of carpet if it is caught quickly enough.

By taking your time and methodically planning out your project, you can have a result to be proud of. Professional painters work so fast and utilize their own different techniques because of their experiences in their trade. Carefully go step by step and you too can enjoy a new room you created yourself out of an old and dated space.

Adrian Robson

A Mohyla Historical Blog (let's say reflections)

Many “baby boomers” are downsizing these days and discarding old books and historical materials. In like fashion, Church organizations are also giving away library materials which are no longer read or readable (in Ukrainian) by present day Church members. Two books came my way recently from such dispersals – “ A history of Ukrainian Settlements in the Gimli area” by Michael Ewanchuk and a collection of Pavlo Krat’s poems entitled “ Za Zemlyu i Volyu”. From the title and content one might think that these treatises could not be further separated in time and geographic space from Saskatoon and the St. Petro Mohyla Institute.

On the contrary! The two works provide an intriguing insight into one of the earliest periods of Ukrainian settlements in Canada and the dynamics (and enduring lessons for us) of the magnificent contribution by our forbearers to the Canadian mosaic. How contrasting are these lessons, when we try to extricate ourselves from the babble of racial intolerance and violence of Boston bombers and Via Rail plotters! But let us pursue the insights generated from the foregoing literary pieces.

The author of the Gimli history spent considerable effort in researching homesteading records and detailing the families who at the turn of the century populated some of the most inhospitable agricultural land to be found in Canada and within the Inter-Lake region of Manitoba. Even more fascinating is how Ewanchuk has woven the evolution of these communities in a political, sociological and religious sense. His book weaves a much broader context for the specifics of the Gimli region. And as Dr. Francis Swyrypa so eloquently summarized at the St. Petro Mohyla Institute dedication some months ago, our Institute and its ideological fervor were right at the centre of the action.

Anyone interested can search these rare titles in local libraries and read the detail for themselves. One striking dimension of the Gimli history was the wealth of genealogical data (related to where families settled) contained in this work. Unfortunately, such titles are not widely available (further compounded by lack of English translations) and genealogical researchers all too often end up depending on port landing records together with the Mormon birth and death records in Salt Lake City for their study of family trees.

A second dimension of the Gimli history was the sociological dynamics of the early settlements. His citations of first accounts of the earliest tribulations of settlers are moving. As settlements evolved, we get a glimpse of the organized community life and religious-sociological movements of the day. Pavlo Krat was a fervent socialist in the Ukraine of his day and in Canada. His collection of poems is an eloquent example of pre-Soviet time’s revolutionary thought. In Gimli, he was a political agitator and experimented with a collective enterprise that ultimately failed due to the sociological and geographic in-hospitability of the area. The history of Krat falls with that period of social ferment which saw the evolution of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and the sorry short episode of Protestant proselytism and the pseudo-Orthodox ‘Seraphimska’ Church. That period also encompassed the creation and historical contribution of our own Ukrainian Voice (and originals from the first date of publication that exist to this day at the Mohyla library).

The Gimli settlements were a tough experience for the Manitoba Ukrainian settlers. And, in fact, many moved on to other regions not once but twice. After a decade of difficult and all too often futile adaptation, some pioneers were forced to seek alternative farm lands in a rapidly diminishing pool of agricultural homesteads. This gave rise to the Ukrainian settlements in the Prelate, Sceptre, Eatonia and Kindersley areas of Saskatchewan. Some decades later, the droughts and economic desperation of the 1930’s drove some of our unfortunate Ukrainian settlers yet another time into the Peace River region of Alberta.

Notwithstanding the interminable physical adversity of the pioneers, their community sense and leadership prevailed. A most intriguing element of the Gimli history is the families who became a part of the Ukrainian Orthodox milieu and adherent of Mohyla. Fr. Seneshen, noted Ukrainian Orthodox priest and former Mohyla Rector, had his roots in the area. During his career, he served the Prelate Church area and must have felt at home there.

Many other names are mentioned in the history who ended up in Saskatchewan and whose families were associated with the Institute – Raychyba, Boychuk, Humeny, Filyk, Kinesawich, Charnetsky. Charnetsky was a name associated with leadership in agricultural endeavour. Another name of that era and the Gimli region was that of Dr. William S. Chepil, soil physicist. A ‘bursak’ and President of Kamenari, he achieved worldwide recognition whose work remains cited to this day in the field of wind erosion control and soil conservation.

Many other regions of Ukrainian settlement in the Canadian Prairies contributed in equal measure to our collective history. Hopefully, other similar historical recollections will not be lost that document these contributions. The current work of Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) on compiling records of Church parishes and structures is one worth noting at a time of rural declining and Church closures. The 125th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement is approaching as is the 100th anniversary of St. Petro Mohyla Institute. Our community context has dramatically changed over that period of time. However, we fervently hope that the cohesiveness and passion of the early pioneer vision and its lessons will be embraced as our community looks forward to constructing new pathways into the future. Such an opportunity is forthcoming at the Biennial Convention of CYC this August.

During the Convention, much discussion will take place about how we have changed and how we need to change. St. Petro Mohyla Institute is a valuable resource that needs to be part of that change.

***Gerry Luciak
Bursak, 1962-67***

P.S. Historical records and archives are very important resources in ensuring that our past can become a part of the future serving both academia and the general public. During the 2013 Convention, the Institute has arranged to undertake a preliminary assessment of our archival holdings to determine where our holdings might be best placed to have a local, national and international impact. Dr. Jars Balan from CIUS at the University of Alberta and Boris Kishchuk of Saskatoon have agreed to assist in this evaluation.

Register for Residence

If you know of anyone heading to the University of Saskatchewan or SIAST this fall, Mohyla still has student rooms available. All of the bedrooms come fully furnished with a bed, dresser, closet, desk and chair.

Rent includes all utilities, wireless internet, and food services - all meals and 24/7 access to a self-serve area which is always fully stocked. For amenities we have a large study space with computer access, multiple lounges, a theatre room with cable, and a games area with a ping-pong table, foosball table and pool table.

If you are interested in staying at Mohyla while attending a post-secondary institution please call 306.653.1944 or email admin@mohyla.ca.