

## YOUTH PAGE

## What Have the CYMKivtsi Been Up to?

Greetings from our Newly Elected National President



### "Hi CYMKivtsi!

I hope you are all doing well!

I have seen so many photos from the 2017 CYMK Convention and there are so many new faces for me. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Tanya Buciora and I was elected as your new National CYMK

President for the terms of 2017-2019. This was not a position I was forced to take, this was not a position I was asked to take, this was a position I wanted to take because I love the Ukrainian youth family that we have become. I am so excited to work with you all in the next two years, visiting you, organizing events, and planning more conventions, such as the Saskatoon coming up next year and in the East in two years.

As an executive, our goal is to keep CYMK growing, we learn new things as CYMKivtsi every year and I hope we will all become closer, continue the successes we all carry, and share and have fun while we are at it!

Remember I appreciate, remember, and love each and every one of you so much and everyone one of you is so important to this youth family.

I hope you all carry on the success you have in your locals and I will keep in touch."

—National CYMK President,  
Tanya Buciora

### UCC AGM in Vancouver Report

This year, in November, the Canadian Congress Annual General Meeting Conference took place, in Vancouver, BC. As a CYMK representative, Liza Zienchuk; our past-president, attended the UCC UGM. Here are her remarks:

"I spent 3 days in Vancouver for the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Annual General Meeting Conference.

The conference began on the Friday. We began the gathering with the first part of the Board of Directors meeting. We welcomed and accepted new board members, accepted the education trust trustees, and listened about the Taras Shevchenko Foundation. We then heard an introduction to a new project by the UCC National for a Capital Campaign which will be headed by the UCC National Fundraising committee. This peaked my interest and I have since volunteered to be part of the fundraising committee and to be an active contributor to the campaign and its implementation. Following this introduction, we participated in a round-

table discussion with Ambassador Veselovsky.

The next day was a dedicated to the UCC National AGM. Here we heard the Presidents, Treasurers, Audit Committees, Executive Directors, CEOs, Taras Shevchenko Foundations, and the subsequent committee's reports, which included the Holodomor Education; Holodomor Awareness; Canada-Ukraine Stakeholder Advisory Council; Awards and Recognition; Fundraising; Invictus Host; Religious Affairs; Museums, Archives, and Research Institutions; National Arts Council; National Education & School Council; and Ukraine Appeal committees. We further discussed priority business topics which included the Ukrainian World Congress (this was just held in Toronto from November 10th-12th), Project Link, and the Parliamentary Internship Program. The provincial council reports followed, as well as the workshops of the weekend. These included "Communications and Digital Media" led by Connor Moen and Cassian Soltykevych, and "Community Advocacy and Government Relations" led by Markian Shwec and Ihor Michalchyshyn.

In the evening we attended the UCC Leadership Gala during which I made many connections with youth in Vancouver. What I found very interesting was that the youth in Vancouver are their own organization, and they are not formally governed by any executive. They do not belong to any already existing youth organizations such as PLAST, CYM, UNO, SUSK, CYMK etc. They simply are a group of young Ukrainians who live in in close proximity and who want to spend more time together by keeping close to their culture, language, and traditions. This gives us a clear-cut group of people that we can target in terms of marketing CYMK and generating interest in opening a new local in the area. The challenge that will be most prominent is the lack of youth in Vancouver Ukrainian Orthodox churches. I had a chance to meet with Daniel Huzyk (huzyk@shaw.ca), who suggested we get in touch with Daniel Lisk (daniellisk@hotmail.com) as he has the most interest in establishing a Vancouver CYMK local, but despite attempted communication, there have been no further developments.

The last day was Sunday, during which we held the second part of the Board of the Directors meeting. Here we participated in a Canada Ukraine Strategy Discussion and another discussion regarding the Capital Campaign in a roundtable format instead of a presentation format like on Friday. We then reviewed the current committees and their responsibilities, where I endorsed and supported the continuance of the Religious Affairs committee. Finally, we discussed the location of the next Triennial Congress. After the conference wrapped up, I met with some of the youth once again for some true Vancouver sushi to connect with them on a more personal level. I now consider many of them my friends and am looking forward to the relationship we will continue to build."



Liza Zienchuk and All Ukrainian Congress Executive at the Annual General Meeting in Vancouver, BC.

### CYMK Across Canada

All the CYMKivtsi are working hard with new goals and objectives for this upcoming year. Here is a little oversight to what CYMK is doing across Canada:

#### Saskatchewan

##### Past Events

In October we attended a Field Trip to Corn Maze/Petting Zoo, November was focused on Movie Night and Christmas Ornament Making, December—Christmas Bake-Sale and Wheat Cleaning.

##### Upcoming Events

In January we will be organizing Bowling, February will be Tobogganing Party,

March, Pysanky (twice),

April we will have Embroidering Lesson

May will include a Event collaborated with Regina CYMK (TBD)

And June Pike Lake Bike Trip

#### Alberta

##### Past and Upcoming Events

1) The St. John's CYMKivtsi (in Edmonton, AB), have been practicing carolling, and planning a Malanka skit, to perform at St. John's Malanka on January 12, 2018. So far, the skit's theme and plot have been decided, and the roles of the people in the skit and who they would play are slowly being decided. There will [most likely] be another CYMK gathering where we practice the skit before the big day on Friday, January 12, 2018.

2) St. John's Sr. CYMK is doing a 'Coat Drive' for the organization 'Coats for Kids'

3) Alberta Provincial CYMK has taken on a fundraising project for an orphanage in Ukraine, where items such as art supplies, personal hygiene items, school supplies, small toys, and outdoor clothing accessories such as mittens and gloves, are being collected by

CYMK groups and organizations across Alberta. So far, the items from across Alberta have been collected and are going to be sent to Ukraine soon.

#### Winnipeg

##### Past Event

In November, we had the opportunity to help Pani Irka Balan in assembling small diduchs to be handed out at the Holodomor Remembrance Service in Winnipeg, which was held at City Hall. Marissa, Max, Lukas and Ilya made over 200 bundles, consisting of wheat stalks tied with a black ribbon.

In December, we had a small get together at the Kowalchuk house before the holiday season and played a Secret Santa Gift Swap game. We also welcomed home Talia Kowalchuk from her first graduate school term in Halifax!

##### Upcoming Events

In early February, we are planning to hold a weekend workshop at which we will be constructing crystal ornaments, to be sold as a fundraiser for Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Metropolitan Cathedral and our CYMK Local. After the devastating fire at Holy Trinity, many aspects of the church needed cleaning, including the chandelier. Our crystal ornaments will be made from pieces of the old chandelier, along with ribbons and beads.

#### Toronto

##### Past Events

St. Nicholas Concert at the St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish

Attended the "That Never Happened" Screening and Premiere in downtown Toronto sponsored by SUS Foundation of Canada

"That Never Happened" recounts the forced internment and, in some cases, the imprisonment of, tens of thousands of Slavic Canadians in the period 1914-



Winnipeg CYMKivtsi helping with Holodomor Remembrance Service at Winnipeg city Hall.