

Центр
Українських
Канадських
Студій



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

Faculty of Arts

Centre for
Ukrainian
Canadian
Studies

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CUCS Summer Newsletter



GREETINGS FROM THE CENTRE ACTING DIRECTOR

The word “crisis” is defined in various ways and has different emotionally-charged connotations for many of us. Most connect a period of intense suffering with change, which in turn offers opportunity. Gratefully, cannot say I personally have experienced great suffering in these last months; however, many have. Certainly, there has been confusion and lots of adjusting – discomfort.

This newsletter offering of the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies briefly highlights some of the changes at the CUCS, a few challenges experienced by those around us, and some of the ways that people are dealing with the challenges and opportunities.

The last months have highlighted to me how fortunate I am to work with students, colleagues and friends in different parts of Canada and Ukraine, as well as many other countries, to be able to communicate, puzzle, commiserate, research, tell stories, laugh and cry together. How I also miss those in-person contacts, the casual conversations and the heart-to-heart talks that are so rich when one can reach out and touch an arm or hand, or share a hug.

The shifts brought with COVID-19 have also meant a delay in our research interviews, as the project, Canadian Ukrainians’ Stories and Dreams, has been put on pause for a bit until we can meet with people in person. We hope that will happen in the next few months. Of course, on-line interviews are possible; however, in-person can offer a little more warmth and connection.

Research has brought different opportunities and challenges to researchers. Our newsletter brings you brief interviews with two young women who are doing research in Canada and Ukraine. Mariana Hasiak, is a PhD student from Lviv Polytechnic National University (LPNU) who came to Winnipeg in January to study and conduct research for the semester, and who has found herself here for an extended visit, still awaiting her trip home at the time of writing. Alexandra Kozelko is a Ukrainian Canadian Winnipegger who is gearing up to travel to Ukraine to conduct research towards her MA in Peace & Conflict Studies through the Joint Master’s Program at the University of Manitoba. We hope you enjoy hearing from both of them!

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Scholarships and awards
- 2020/21 courses
- Interviews with Ukrainian
Canadian students

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204-474-6626



FACEBOOK



WEBSITE



CHANGES AT THE CENTRE

MORE GRATITUDE

On behalf of the Centre, I want to thank Ms. Yuliia Ivaniuk, our steadfast and creative Director's Assistant for the last number of years. Yuliia has taken a position with Political Studies here at UM, and so is not far away. We are so grateful that Yuliia will continue in a voluntary capacity working on the research project, and other ventures.

At this time, I would also like to welcome Ms. Tammy de Jong, from the Faculty of Arts Administrative Hub. Tammy is getting her feet wet at a difficult time when she is not able to attend the CUCS in its physical self at our dear St. Andrew's College. We look forward to in-person work and discovery.

Mentioning St. Andrew's reminds me again of our gratitude for the folks of St. Andrews in general, and, in particular for the exemplary work of Ivan Zhovnych,

who remains the creative and technical engineer of our electronic offerings and the lovely posters we see in any iteration related to the CUCS. Thank you, Ivan.

Thank you to all our generous donors and supporters in the community. Your contributions are present in every moment of the Centre.

Thank you to the members of the Policy Council and to all our university and community partners, particularly the folks at German and Slavic Studies, and at Oseredok, for your continuing friendship, collaboration, inspiration, and support.

On behalf of the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, I wish all a sunny and inspiring spring. May we all receive just the right amount of rain and sun to keep growing inside and out!

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN HERITAGE STUDIES PROGRAM

You may be interested in completing a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major or a minor in Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Studies. The Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies (CUCS) offers a number of courses through a variety of programs annually towards such a degree. Please keep checking the website for the upcoming year's courses.



The mission of the Centre is to create, preserve and communicate knowledge relating to Ukrainian Canadian culture and scholarship.



University
of Manitoba



FALL SEMESTER 2020

HIST 2600 - Introduction to Ukraine
Wednesdays, 6:00-8:45 p.m.
Remote learning format



WINTER SEMESTER 2021

HIST 3910 - Ukrainians in Canada
Online course

ECON 2510-Economy of Ukraine
Tuesdays, 2:30-5:15 p.m.
Classroom D of St Andrew's College

For further information email:
cucs@umanitoba.ca



APPLY FOR THE Michael and Grace Hykawy Prize

Awarded to any FT student at a Canadian university with the best essay written in Ukrainian on any topic in the area of Ukrainian Canadian Studies.

Visit bit.ly/2yqct1 for eligibility and application info.

DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2020



University of Manitoba

Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies

APPLY FOR THE Steve and Anna Zurawecki Fellowship

Awarded to a FT UM graduate student in the interdisciplinary MA or PhD program in Ukrainian Canadian Studies, or a post-doctoral fellow associated with the UM Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies engaged in the area of Ukrainian Studies.

Visit bit.ly/2yuQ78Y for eligibility and application info.

DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2020



University of Manitoba

Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies

APPLY FOR THE Nicholas and Annie Dawyduk Scholarship

Offered to any FT UM student who achieved the highest GPA on at least 12 credit hours of courses with significant Ukrainian cultural content and/or Ukrainian Canadian content.

Visit bit.ly/3ems8bp for eligibility and application info.

DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2020



University of Manitoba

Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies

APPLY FOR THE Anne Smigel Scholarship

Offered to PT or FT UM students who best exemplify an interest and promise in the study of Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Studies.

Visit bit.ly/2AT1sAt for eligibility and application info.

DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2020



University of Manitoba

Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies

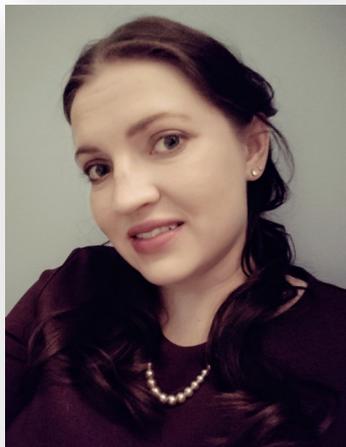
ABOUT

THE CENTRE

The Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, as a part of the University of Manitoba, operates, therefore, within this rubric. Specifically, the mission of the Centre is to create, preserve and communicate knowledge relating to Ukrainian Canadian culture and scholarship. While our focus must by definition maintain a Ukrainian flavour, nevertheless, the Canadian dimension must be paramount in our thinking. Likewise our audience begins with those of Ukrainian Canadian heritage, but then extends to those who are interested in things Ukrainian Canadian, and ultimately extends to all the people of "Manitoba, Canada and the world". The Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, established in 1981, provides undergraduate courses and interdisciplinary programs of study in areas relating to Ukrainian Canadian culture. The Centre also encourages and promotes research and scholarship in all areas relating to Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Studies.

INTERVIEW WITH ALEXANDRA KOZELKO

May, 2020



Alexandra Kozelko is a student in the Joint Master's Program in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Manitoba. As a Ukrainian Canadian, she has a life-long awareness and affinity to her Ukrainian roots on both sides of her family. We reached out to Alexandra to ask her about her upcoming research in Ukraine, a trip planned to coincide with her own first visit to Ukraine. Alexandra is supported in her work by advisory committee members from both Canada and Ukraine. Following is our "interview" with Alexandra.

Can you please tell us more about the research you plan to do in Ukraine and what your hopes are connected to the work?

My research will examine the impact of the current conflict on young people (defined as those aged 18-35) in Lviv, Ukraine. This topic remains under researched and I hope that this project will contribute to the literature on this topic. I will use Participatory Research (PR) methods and tools to engage the research participants. Rather than emphasizing divisions based on identity and nationalism that have divided Ukrainians for centuries and that have contributed to the current conflict, engaging in research *with* young people in Lviv serves to unite

future generations by bringing young people together. Those who take part in PR projects often become motivated to take action in their communities and generate positive social change and build peace. Participants will have the opportunity to identify needs and concerns, their hopes and aspirations for Ukraine's future as a united and peaceful nation, and to promote peacebuilding in their communities. I hope that by participating in this project, participants will be inspired to continue this work together at the grassroots level, further realizing their potential as peacebuilders to help bring a long-lasting, positive peace to Ukraine.

What drew you to the topic?

As a young, Ukrainian-Canadian woman, I have been immersed in Ukrainian language and culture since birth and this research is of personal significance to me. My family came to Canada during various waves of immigration, fleeing war and persecution in search of a better life. I have been involved in the Ukrainian community in Winnipeg, Canada since I was a young child and continue to be involved today. Facilitating this research project will provide me with an opportunity to explore my ancestry, learn more about Ukraine's people and culture, build relationships, and support young people in their work towards peace in Ukraine.

What, if any, can you imagine will be challenges to you fulfilling this work?

Right now, the main challenge is the actual travel to Ukraine which is dependent on what happens with the Covid-19 pandemic and how it will continue to affect

Picture of the University of Manitoba Administrative Building

international travel and for how long. There are also some unknowns as I am not in Lviv and must be prepared to deal with many things that cannot be confirmed in advance.

What usually helps you get through hard times? How do you imagine you will deal with challenges?

Whenever I am facing hard times in my life, I turn to my family and friends for support. My family, both immediate and extended, has been instrumental in supporting me whenever I face challenges in my life and encourages me to follow my head and my heart when I'm faced with difficult decisions. My friends have also been supportive and they know how connected I am to my Ukrainian roots and how much I am looking forward to going to Ukraine, meeting people, and further exploring my cultural heritage. As a person who is optimistic, hopeful, and a firm believer in education, social justice, and the importance of dialogue and collaboration, I continue to remain optimistic about the power of young people to change the world they live in. This attitude will guide my approach to this project and help me deal with any challenges that may arise.

What kinds of supports do you have in place to help you along your process?

I have had the opportunity to "meet" my Ukrainian committee members who will be there to greet me on the ground in Lviv and support me throughout the research process. I also plan to keep in close contact with my advisor, Dr. Maureen Flaherty, and my family and friends while I travel. I hope to keep a blog and/or journal about conducting this

research as a way to reflect on my experience throughout the process.

Besides doing the research itself, do you have any other plans for your visit to Ukraine?

I plan to spend at least a month in Ukraine. I intend to explore some other areas in Ukraine including Kyiv, Odessa, and do some traveling in the Karpaty (Carpathian Mountains). I will also visit the villages where my family is from in the Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, and Ternopil oblasts, including my Dido Sam's selo (village) that is now just over the border in Poland near Lubaczow.

Is there anything else you would like to share with us at this time?

I think it is very important, especially in these challenging times, that we remember that the conflict in Ukraine has been going on for the past six years and that it continues to affect Ukrainians' lives every day. Despite the fact that interest in the conflict from international actors, the media, and others may have dwindled, the conflict has not ended and peace (either negative or positive) is not the reality Ukrainians experience on a daily basis. The voices of young people and their lived experiences during the conflict must be heard and acknowledged in peacebuilding efforts as they are the future of Ukraine. I hope that conducting this research project will encourage future initiatives (research or peacebuilding) that consider the impact of this conflict on young people in Ukraine.



INTERVIEW WITH MARIANA HASIAK

May, 2020



The CUCS faculty, staff, and volunteers reached out to Ms. Mariana Hasiak, doctoral student from Lviv Polytechnic National University at the end of April 2020. Mariana came to Winnipeg at the beginning of January of this year, for a term of study related to her research. She took classes in Peace & Conflict Studies as in support of her research, which also involved meeting a variety of people in the Winnipeg community. Ms. Hasiak intended to return to Lviv immediately following classes at the beginning of April. Covid-19 intervened and so Mariana is still here, not safely able to return to Lviv. We connected with Mariana to ask more about her research and how she is keeping herself occupied while in Winnipeg.

Can you please tell us more about the research that brought you to Winnipeg?

My research is devoted to the formation of inclusive education environment for war veterans at higher school. During my research I am going to explore theory and best practices for assisting former military personnel and their families to reintegrate into civilian society and particularly the role that access to higher education might play. The aim of my visit was to get exposure to Manitoban and other Canadian experiences in this area and how they may be adapted to the Ukrainian context. During my term at the University of Manitoba I was able to take two courses at Peace and Conflict Studies and to meet professionals working in the field of inclusion as well as those connected to military. The cooperation between University of Manitoba and Lviv Polytechnic

National University, my home university, started more than 20 years ago, so I am happy to be a part of this ongoing process.

How did you find yourself still in Winnipeg now at the end of April?

It was not actually my choice. The situation around COVID-19 interrupted both my study process and my plans of going back home to Lviv at April, 6. There was one flight to Ukraine at the end of March. At that point I hadn't finished my classes and the situation looked pretty unsure. I was really hoping everything would be fixed and return to normal soon. But it did not happen. I have realized I am not a risk-taking person at all. I would not be the one taking dangerous or let say not completely safe flights to Ukraine, as well as navigating Ukraine in the current situation of strict quarantine limitations there.

How do you feel about that?

Everyday feels different to be honest. News from Ukraine and all over the world can be overwhelming sometimes. The uncertainty of when I will be able to get home is also quite challenging. Today social media is creating a picture of ongoing development and improvement during quarantine. It puts pressure on me. Every time I am "wasting" time I feel like I am not good enough, not meeting criteria I created by myself under the influence of beautiful images. Therefore, I am trying to negotiate my relations with media these days, limit reading or watching news to once per day, and staying connected to my relatives and friends. Finally, the spring has come to Winnipeg and it really makes me happy.

How are you managing to pass your time while here?

For now, I am staying at the same place I used to stay while studying and have amazing people supporting me here. I have finished my UofM courses, so I can use and incorporate some of gained knowledge into my research. My Canadi-

Picture of the St. Andrew`s College in Winnipeg

an and Ukrainian advisors and I have managed to establish ongoing connections, and it really helps to move on. However, I am not only working here. The lady I am living with owns a large library of great books I am able to read and discuss. This is an amazing opportunity to open something really new for myself. I have also started taking few online courses I was dreaming of taking. It was supposed to be more like entertainment, but it appeared to become an inevitable part on my way to myself. I have even started to do some cross stitching. Speaking literally about your question, I have noticed that I really treat time differently now. I do not need alarms; instead, I can listen to my body, I can appreciate every minute of reading or talking to someone without rushing. This is something I am really grateful to have; this level of safety I have in these uncertain days.

What are your greatest challenges?

I am not used to life without a schedule. My life was full of events I wanted/needed to attend, people I was meeting, work I had to do. And now it feels more like: "Is it really something I want to do? Is it making my life full? Does it bring me happiness?" Even though my life was full of amazing interesting things, I have realized part of those are not something I really want. Being distanced from close people I have got a chance to really fix the most important relationships I have in my life, relationships with myself. Now I am thinking on who I am, what is my mission, what is the spiritual component of my being. These all are not easy. All the routine of busy everyday life is gone and this silence is really challenging. Sometimes I am just filling that gap with movies, books, or phone talks, but sometimes I'm really taking a step back trying to find answers within myself.

You might see I am really concentrated on myself these days. Although I am talking a lot of inner peace, all the important issues connected to COVID-19 as well as my status in Canada, options to return home, the safety of my loved ones, and my own remain there in my mind.

Can you share a moment or two that surprised or inspired you?

Although I knew about a strong Ukrainian community in Winnipeg, I was really surprised to meet so many Ukrainians or people of Ukrainian ancestry and to have some great conversations. I would say, it made me look at Ukrainians and Ukraine quite differently.

These days I am touched with the care and support I am surrounded with. A lot of people from Ukraine are really attentive asking about my safety, as well as people here in Winnipeg. Some of those I met only once or twice before, but they are checking in and staying in touch all this long quarantine time. I also highly appreciate the work of U of M units, who were and still are providing me with ongoing support, the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies and International Centre in particular.

Also, I do not know what spring usually looks like in Winnipeg, but seeing all the families together walking or biking is really inspiring to me. And I am actually positively surprised how people still are able to keep the distancing. I think this is something, that teaches both children and adults that we all are in charge of our lives and safety of our community local and universal.

Do you have any tips or advice you can offer others in a similar situation?

I am sure everyone is living these unexpected and unique experiences differently. My advice would be for everyone to take care of themselves, find ways to support loved ones and do things that bring joy. Internal peace is something we need not only during quarantine life, but everyday. For those who are lucky to have a safe place and to stay healthy (as much as it is possible these days) I just wish to use this time for (re)finding that internal peace. I am sure we will all need it after coming back to new "normal" life. Please, take care of yourselves and stay healthy!



ZOOM MEETING OF THE CUCS TEAM



From the top left: Assistant to the Director **Tammy De Jong**, volunteers **Ivan Zhovnych** and **Yuliia Ivaniuk**, Acting Director of the CUCS **Maureen Flaherty**.

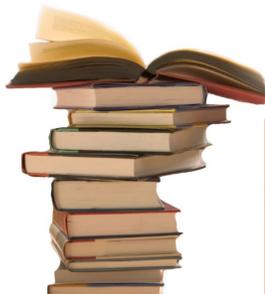


University of Manitoba



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