









Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him! Христос Народився! Славімо Його!



UCC-SPC's Christmas card contest: winning submission by Jeremy Ball of Saskatoon. See page 8.

Experiencing the spirit of Christmas: Holy Supper and other Ukrainian traditions page 9

#### ■ Bichuk/Visnvk



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Thank you for submitting your articles. Deadline for articles-ads & calendar of events announcements in 2007: February 9 (Spring), May 11 (Summer), August 10 (Fall), November 9 (Winter). Photos will be returned when a self-addressed, stamped envelope has been included with the submission. Please call the office regarding digital photos. Our publication identifies people in photographs from left to right, unless specified otherwise.

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Добрий вечір, тобі, пане господарю, радуйся, Ой радуйся, Земле, Син Божий народився!

Pago вітаємо Вас z Різдвом Христовим та Новим роком! Дирекція та працівники ПР КУК Саскачевану Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Board of Directors and staff of the UCC-SPC

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# Who is the UCC-SPC?

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress -Saskatchewan Provincial Council (UCC-SPC) is an inclusive, selfsustaining, vibrant organization that serves the Saskatchewan Ukrainian community to maintain, develop and share its Ukrainian Canadian identity, culture and aspirations.

The mission of UCC-SPC is to:

- represent and serve the Saskatchewan Ukrainian community;
- adhere to democratic principles and provide strong leadership;
- promote sustainable organizational development;
- · communicate effectively with membership and stakeholders;
- contribute to the enhancement of cultural diversity in Saskatchewan;
- maximize the capacity of the Ukrainian community to maintain, develop and share its identity, culture and aspirations;
- ensure UCC-SPC financial viability; and
- encourage innovation and creativity.



# **President's Commentary**

As the year 2006 comes to a close, it is fitting to look back

and reflect upon the year that was. Our Ukrainian Congress at the provincial level is strong and well, and the future is promising.

The Board of Directors is dedicated and committed to their responsibility and obligation. The inclusion of the Presidents of the seven UCC Branches adds to the uniqueness and strength of the Board of Directors. Each of the Branch Presidents brings to the Board table a reflection of their own particular community so as to cause others to become aware of the differences as well as the similarities, the strengths and the weaknesses, and the successes and the challenges that are experienced around this great province we call Saskatchewan.

As the Chair of this group of

outstanding volunteer leaders, it has been unquestionably a distinct honour as well as a pleasure to conduct the Board and Executive Council meetings. Though often challenging as a result of the limitless talent, energy, innovation, and enthusiasm of each and every one of the Directors, and the often seemingly diverse viewpoints, however, at the end of the day the group emerges as one in the allencompassing interest of the Ukrainian Canadian community of Saskatchewan.

Since the Board meets as a group no more than four times a year, the implementation and enactment of the decisions is the responsibility of our Executive Director, Danylo and his staff, Ihor and Valentyna. The community is appreciative and indebted to their dedication and commitment to the aims and objectives of our organization.

The synthesis of all of the above has resulted in UCC-SPC continuing to grow in strength and visible recognition of the everchanging communities it represents. UCC-SPC is well recognized and acknowledged in Saskatchewan, but the real humbling kudos continue to come from community leaders from outside the province. Repeatedly, references are made to the many activities, programs, and innovations that are visible evidence of the leadership role of UCC in Saskatchewan. These successes don't just happen by accident; they are the cause and effect of strong organizational and individual leadership throughout the province. This is what characterized our fore-parents, the pioneers of Saskatchewan to be recognized as founders and nation builders, and it is what we, their descendents, strive to continue.

December has to be one of the

most celebrated Birthday months of the entire year! The retail and commercial industry blossoms into full colour and sound, and everyone young and old, and most importantly, everyone young at heart, gets caught up in the excitement and anticipation of the Celebration of that most significant "Birthday".

On behalf of my colleagues on the Board and our staff, may the Birth of Christ continue to bless everyone with an abundance of peace, harmony, happiness and good health today, tomorrow and throughout the New Year! Веселих Свят Різдва Христового та Щасливого Нового Року!

- Eugene Krenosky





The Prince Albert Culture & Heritage Club wishes all our Ukrainian friends a very

**MERRY CHRISTMAS** 

and a

HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Христос Раждається! Славім Його! Бажаєм Вам Щасливого Нового Року!



## **ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ!** — СЛАВІМ ЙОГО!

3 торжественним Празником Різдва Христового вітаємо всіх!

Бажаємо Всім радісних і щасливих Свят та Божого благословення в Новім 2007 році

В особливий спосіб вітаємо Український Нарід в Самостійній Україні, духовний Провід наших Церков та всі українські організації!

Члени Відділу КУК в Канорі



An integral part of the Ukrainian Catholic community and the University of Saskatchewan for over 50 years, our co-ed student residence offers a healthy environment for body, mind & spirit. Apply **NOW** for the 2007-08 academic year!

May your family be blessed with health and happiness during this Holy Season!

Від Миколая до Йордана - бажаємо Веселих Свят та щасливого Нового 2007 Ром

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# Від столу Виконавчого Директора | Executive Director's Message



It's hard to believe yet another year is coming to a close. I can't decide if each year seems to pass

much more quickly because I'm getting older or simply way too busy. Nonetheless, 2006 did see its share of change, challenge, success and growth.

At UCC-SPC, we began a process of organisational evaluation, reflection and forward planning. This review will extend through to the end of 2007.

An important component of this process is what are called Regional Presidents Summits. By the end of 2006, three such summits will have taken place in Yorkton, Saskatoon and Regina with two more to follow

in 2007 in the Battlefords and Prince Albert regions.

The summits are designed to elicit input, feedback and ideas from the leadership of our community. Thus far a number of common themes/priorities have been emerging. They include:

- · youth involvement
- immigration settlement
- attracting new members
- succession planning
- Ukrainian cultural and education programming
- · multicultural awareness and
- the question of whether the mandates of our organisations meet the needs of today's community.

I cannot overstate how valuable the input has been thus far from those participating in the Summits. The turn out has been excellent—thank you to all those who have been able to attend!

If you wish further information



Best wishes from the staff at UCC-SPC

about upcoming Summits, please contact our office toll-free in Saskatchewan at 1.888.652.5850 or email uccspc@ucc.sk.ca. I invite you to also visit our website at www.ucc.sk.ca and read future issues of the Visnyk newsmagazine for further updates.

One of the changes UCC-SPC will see in 2007 is the election of a new Board. The Triennial General Meeting and Board elections are scheduled to take place on Saturday 12 May in Saskatoon. More information will follow in the new year.

Від імені персоналу ПР КУК у Саскачевані бажаю Вам шасливих та радісних Різдвяних свят, щоб у наступаючому році були у Ваших домах злагода і мир, любов і повага, щастя та всі Божі ласки.

On behalf of the UCC-SPC staff, I extend warm Christmas greetings! Best wishes for a very merry and joyous Christmas season and may the New Year bring you peace, love and respect, happiness along with all the Lord's graces.

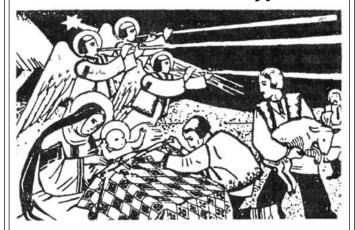
Веселих свят! Знаступаючим 2007 роком!



Danylo Puderak

# Христос Раждається! Славімо Його!

Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!



May the Spirit of Christmas bring you Peace and Happiness now and throughout the New Year.

Battlefords Ukrainian Canadian Cultural Council



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Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

3 Різдвом Убристовим та Новим роком!



# **UCC-SPC's Nation Builders & Community Recognition Awards**

Guests from across Saskatchewan and Canada, among them His Honour the Honourable Dr. Gordon Barnhart, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and Her Honour Mrs. Naomi Barnhart, attended a sold-out awards luncheon in Saskatoon on November 5th to pay tribute to ten very special people.

Recognition events, now known as the Nation Builders & Community Recognition Awards lunch-

eon, have been held in various centres around Saskatchewan every year since 1995 under the auspices of the UCC-SPC to celebrate



With Their Honours the Honourable Dr. Gordon Barnhart and Mrs. Naomi Barnhart (seated) at the 2006 Nation **Builders and Community Recognition** Awards Luncheon, J. Panio, Sister Theodosia, Fred Buchko (for wife Mary Anne), UCC-SPC President Eugene Krenosky, C. Kachkowski, A. Drebot, E. Hull, S. Nahachewsky, T. Trischuk. Missing are Dr. Lorne A. Babiuk and Brig. Gen. Joseph R. Romanow because of travel commitments.

the contributions of individuals with ties to the province.

This year, four individuals were recog-

nized as Nation Builders for providing outstanding service without reward or gain and having made a lasting impact regionally, nationally and/or internationally, while Community Recognition awards were presented to six individuals for meritorious contributions the areas of Cultural Preservation & Development, Leadership, Volunteerism and Youth Achievement.

#### NATION BUILDER AWARDS



#### Dr. Lorne Babiuk

(Canora-Saskatoon): international authority in veterinary virology and immunology, distinguished researcher, mentor, university professor



#### Sister Theodosia

(Edmonton-Saskatoon): spiritual advisor, leader, humanitarian, visionary, administrator, writer, advocate, volunteer, champion of human rights



#### †Anne Mary Buchko

(Goodeve-Ituna): educator, church & community leader, champion of the Ukrainian community, volunteer, mentor, coach, organizer, artisan



## Brig. Gen. Joseph

Romanow (Saskatoon-Ottawa): leader, decorated serviceman, author, lecturer, role model, humanitarian, community volunteer and activist.



The Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan receives traditional Ukrainian welcome.

**Cultural Preservation & Development** 

**COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS** 



#### **Anita Drebot**

(Sudbury-Regina): tireless volunteer, teacher, organizer, respected community resource in areas of Ukrainian culture, language and traditions

Leadership



## Cecilia Kachkowski

(Melfort-Saskatoon): educator, generous volunteer, respected community resource in areas of Ukrainian language and folkarts, church activist, master gardener





#### **Evelyn Hull**

(Willowbrook): church and community activist, teacher, volunteer, leader, role model, active in preserving and developing Ukrainian culture through dance



#### John Panio

(Montmartre): church and community activist, takes on leadership roles, language teacher, dedicated volunteer, musician, promoter of Ukrainian language, culture and traditions







#### Sophia Nahachewsky

(Prince Albert): role model, humanitarian, overseas volunteer, altar server, Sunday school teacher, recognized Air Cadet, Ukrainian dancer, musician, high academic achievement



## Taisa Trischuk

(Yorkton): accomplished dancer and instructor, high academic achievement, school and community leader, organizer, humanitarian, volunteer, musician, youth activist

"The Ukrainian community has made astounding contributions to Canada since the first immigrants arrived over a century ago," said Lieutenant Governor Barnhart in his greetings to the 250 assembled.

"The positive impact of Ukrainian Canadians has been especially significant in Saskatchewan, where we have been served by Lieutenant Governors (The Honourable Dr Stephen Worobetz and The Honourable Dr. Sylvia Fedoruk), a Premier (The Honourable Roy Romanow) and a Chief Justice (The Honourable Edward Bayda) who are of Ukrainian heritage."

Formal greetings were also brought from the City of Saskatoon by His Worship Mayor Don Atchison, from the Province by Honourable Pat Atkinson, MLA for Saskatoon Nutana and Minister for Immigration, Advanced Education and the Public Service Commission, and UCC-SPC President Eugene Krenosky, who presided over the event.

# **Community Development Fund**



Costume pieces for Ituna club

By Doreen Carrier

The Ituna Klenovee Lystky Ukrainian Dance Club has been in existence since 1974. In 2005, it consisted of 63 dancers who were instructed by one instructor from Ituna and two from Regina.

The club accepts all dancers from Kindergarten age to Grade 12. We have participation not only from Ituna, but also from the surrounding communities of Kelliher, Goodeve, Balcarres, Lipton and Willowbrook.

We are proud to say that we have both dancers with a strong Ukrainian heritage and dancers who are not Ukrainian, but are still a part of our club just because they "love to dance."



Klenovee Lystky Ukrainian Dance Club of Ituna (April 2005)

In addition to our annual concert in Ituna, we participate in competitions each year and also perform locally and in surrounding communities for entertainment and to promote our culture whenever the opportunity arises.

Our club is organized by an elected executive working together with hired instructors. Our dancers pay membership

fees and are also required to fundraise in order to keep our membership affordable to all families—even those with 4 dancers.

Our club has undertaken a modest project of purchasing new headpieces for the Poltava region and having them available for rent each year. This would provide an opportunity

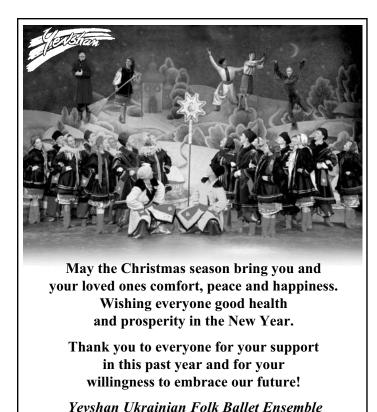
# **Next application deadline** February 1, 2007

for our dancers to experience another part of our heritage without significant added expense.

Thank you to UCC-SPC and Sask Lotteries for their generous support.







**Dancers & Board of Directors** 

UCC-SPC's Education Week Free Ukrainian Book project

# Supporting children in Ukrainian language programs

October 15-21 was Education Week in Saskatchewan schools with the theme "Our Children... Our Schools... Our Future"/"Наші діти... наші школи... наше майбутнє".

In order to promote language learning and literacy, UCC-SPC provides

every child enrolled in a Sadochok, Kindergarten or Grade 1 Ukrainian school program in Saskatchewan with a free Ukrainian book. This year, the book *Tomuuk* by Lesia Savedchuk was selected.

The Education Free Book Project also demonstrates support and draws attention to the many Ukrainian preschool and school programs while acknowledging the many families across the province that have children enrolled in these programs.







UCC-SPC Board members present books to students of the Miller High School Ukrainian program in Regina. Top right Kay Gawdyda reads to Grade 1 students. Above left from October 17: presenter – Ed Lysyk at left with teacher Helena Demchuk; guest reader – Kay Gawdyda. Above right from October 18: presenter – Eugene Krenosky at left; guest reader – Ed Lysyk.

Віншуємо Вас Святим Різдвом та Новим Роком Щастям, здоров'ям та добром!



Shepherds stood in awesome wonder Angels proclaimed the joyous news "Joy to the World The Lord has come!"

Христос Раждається!

The Eparchial Executive
Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada
Eparchy of Saskatoon greets one and all
in the true Spirit of Christmas,
its Joy, its Beauty, its Hope, its Peace

May you enjoy good health, and much happiness in the New Year 2007

## УКРАЇНСЬКА КООПЕРАТИВА

UKRAINIAN CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION LTD.

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The Board of Directors
and Staff of the
Regina Ukrainian Co-operative
extend to one and all
the Spirit of Christmas,
its Joy, its Beauty,
its Hope, its Peace
and above all
its Faith.



Христос Раждається! Славіте Його! Chzist is Bozn! Glozify Him!

The enlarged and totally renovated
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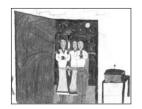




UCC-SPC's Christmas card contest Saskatoon student awarded prize package The last Visnyk announced UCC-SPC's first Christmas card contest inviting Ukrainian youth 18 years and under to submit a drawing or painting based on the theme Let's celebrate Christmas – Ukrainian traditions in our home. Submissions were recognized for creativity and representation of the theme. Jeremy Ball, a Grade 7 student at Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School in Saskatoon, will be receiving a prize package worth \$150. His artwork was selected to be represented on UCC-SPC's





















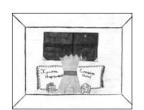




2006 Christmas cards. Congratulations, Jeremy!

Here are the other submissions that were received.





Thank you to all for participating and sharing your colourful artwork. Great job!











# We're on the radio!

By Katerina Oleski

Three students from the Regina Catholic Schools Ukrainian Program assisted in hosting Regina's Muzyka Ukraine Radio Program (held every Wednesday from 3-4 p.m.) on October 18. Lesia Lazurko, Alaina Majewski, and Kimberly Shalley did the Ukrainian Program proud hosting the entire last half of the program completely in Ukrain-

Upon first arriving at CJTR 91.3 FM (Regina's Community Radio Station, which can also be listened to on the internet at www.cjtr.ca), the students were introduced to the station manager and given a quick tour of the studio. Then, after some last minute practising, they were led into the sound room where they were able to sit back, relax and listen while Ed Lysyk hosted the first half of the program. Mr. Lysyk explained to the girls how the sound equipment

worked and they were each given a chance to come and look at it up close.

When it was the girls' turn to host, they did an excellent job. They took turns speaking a little about themselves and introduc-



ing each song, which they each chose themselves for the program. They didn't seem nervous at all and made for excellent radio announcers. We were extremely proud of them. Way to go girls!

# **Experiencing the spirit of Christmas**

## Holy Supper and other Ukrainian traditions

Christmas, which takes its name from Christ's Mass, was first celebrated on various dates from about 200 A.D., but was finally set on December 25 by Bishop Liberus of Rome in 354 A.D. The December date, which almost coincides with the winter solstice, became a popular festival in west Europe during the Middle Ages.

When Kyivan-Rus' (the first Ukrainian state) under Prince Volodymyr accepted Christianity from Byzantium in 988 A.D., many pagan traditions, which were in existence at the time, were adapted by the Church to the new religion. Some of those traditions have survived a thousand years and now form a part of today's Christmas celebrations.

■ Sviata Vecheria or "Holy **Supper**" is the central tradition of the beautiful Christmas Eve celebrations in Ukrainian homes. The dinner table sometimes has a few wisps of hay on the embroidered tablecloth as a reminder of the manger in Bethlehem. A kolach, or braided ringshaped bread, symbolic of eternity and life, serves as a centrepiece for the meal. The table always has one extra place setting for deceased family members, whose souls, according to belief, come on Christmas Eve to partake of the food. It is also appropriate for families to wear their Ukrainian embroidered shirts on this occasion.

Sviata Vecheria consists of twelve meatless courses because, according to the Christian tradition, each course is dedicated to one of Christ's Apostles. According to ancient pagan belief, each course was for every full moon during the course of the year. The courses are meatless because there is a period of fasting required by the Church until Christmas Day.

When the children see the first Star in the eastern evening sky, which symbolizes the trek of the Three Wise Men, the Sviata Vecheria may begin. In farming communities, the head of the household now brings in a sheaf of wheat called the didukh, which represents the importance of the ancient and rich wheat crops of Ukraine, the staff of life through the centuries.



Didukh means literally "grandfather spirit" so it symbolizes the family's ancestors. In city homes, a smaller symbolic sheaf of golden wheat in a vase is often used to decorate the table or placed in a corner of the dining room near the family's icons.

At the start of the meal, either a prayer is said or the family sings the ancient carol Boh predvichny (God Eternal) which has a very beautiful melody and lyrics. The father then says the traditional Christmas greeting, "Khrystos rodyvsia!" (Christ is born!), which is answered by the family with "Slavite Yoho!" (Let Us Glorify Him!) In some families the Old Slavic form Khrvstos razhdavetsia is used.

The first course is always kutia—an ancient and symbolic dish consisting of wheat, honey, poppy seeds and perhaps nuts, ingredients representative of the land. After kutia, the other dishes follow: borshch with vushka (boiled dumplings filled with chopped mushrooms and onions); followed by a variety of fish (baked, broiled, fried, cold in aspic, fish balls, marinated

herring and so on); varenyky (with a variety of fillings such as cabbage, potatoes, buckwheat or prunes); holubtsi, salads with the supper ending with uzvar (stewed fruits, which should contain twelve different fruits). Recipes to these traditional dishes, are available on the internet at http://pages.prodigy.net/ I.hodges/xmas.htm.

## ■ Following Sviata Vecheria,

the family often sings koliadky (Christmas Carols) or visit with friends or go visit other family members unable to attend. For many families, the evening culminates with a late or midnight Ukrainian liturgy. For information on the times of Ukrainian Christmas liturgies, visit



In many Saskatchewan communities the Ukrainian tradition of koliada (carolling) or Vertep (mini Christmas play with carols) are carried on by groups of young people and members of organizations and churches calling at homes and collecting donations. Although not usually done on Sviat vechir (Christmas Eve), some may choose to begin their carolling with a few close friends and then continue for the next few evenings.

## **KUTIA**

475 ml (2 cups) cleaned wheat 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped walnuts or pecans 3-3.5 litres (12 1/2 - 15 cups) water 80 ml (1/3 cup) honey 250 ml (1 cup) cleaned poppy seed 125 ml (1/2 cup) hot water

160 ml (2/3 cup) sugar

Wash wheat in cold water and soak overnight in the 3 to 4 quarts of water. The next day, bring the water to a boil then simmer for 4 to 5 hours, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking. The wheat is ready when the kernels burst open and the fluid is thick and creamy. Chop the poppy seed in a food processor and set aside (ground poppy seeds may be substituted). Mix honey, sugar and hot water. Before serving, mix the honey mixture, poppy seeds, chopped nuts and wheat. More honey can be added to taste.

# БОГ ПРЕДВІЧНИЙ

Бог предвічний народився, Прийшов днесь із небес, Щоб спасти люд свій весь, І утішився.

В Вифлеємі народився, Месія, Христос наш, І спас наш, для всіх нас, Нам народився.

"Слава Богу!" — заспіваймо, Честь Сину Божому Господеві нашому Поклін віддаймо.

## **BOH PREDVICHNYI**

Boh predvichnyi narodyvsia Pryshov dnes' iz nebes Shchob spasty liud sviy ves' I utishyvsia.

V Vyfleyemi narodyvsia, Mesia, Khrystos nash, I spas nash, dlia vsikh nas, Nam narodyvsia.

"Slava Bohu" — zaspivaimo, Chest' Synu Bozhomu Hospodevi nashomu Poklin viddaimo.

To see musical notes for Boh predvichnyi, visit the website www.pisni.org.ua/files/001/000177\_boh\_predvichnyy\_narodyvsya.qif

# **Author Marsha Skrypuch** offers writing workshop

Nadia Prokopchuk, Ukrainian Education Consultant, Saskatchewan Learning

On November 24-25, 2006, Ukrainian Canadian author Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch was back in Saskatoon to launch her new anthology, Kobzar's Children, at the Ukrainian Museum of Canada. The anthology is a unique blend of stories which reflect one hundred years of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. Three Saskatchewan authors who contributed to the anthology-Linda Mikolayenko, Larry Warwaruk and Danny Evanishenwere also in attendance.

In addition to the book launch, Marsha offered a Writers' Workshop at the museum on November 25th. She encouraged all aspiring writers to document their Ukrainian history and experiences in Canada. As she noted in the *Introduction* of the new book:

"...Even now, although there are millions of North Americans whose roots are in Ukraine. only a handful of them are writers. My passion is to write stories that capture real experiences that have been suppressed or lost. That's why I often write about Ukrainians. When you don't write your own stories, others will write their versions for you."

During the workshop, Marsha shared some important ideas and practical tips which included: strive to create visual images for the reader; don't get bogged down in peripheral information; focus on stories which you are passionate about sharing with others; and most importantly, don't wait till you're retired or have taken a holiday to write! Marsha encouraged workshop participants to get into the habit of taking at least ten minutes



Marsha displays a few of her books during the Writers' Workshop at the Ukrainian Museum of Canada.

each day to write. This 'habit' will turn into a motivational tool for continued writing.

Marsha's unique gift to workshop participants was her willingness to share information about her personal struggles with writing, rewriting, editing and learning to accept 'numerous rejections' from publishers. The author's humorous self-appraisal of her initial pieces of writing as being 'quite awful' and in need of many revisions was both refreshing and comforting to all novice writers. Marsha emphasized that she still seeks constructive criticism from a group of trusted colleagues who review her writing online and offer suggestions for improvement.

Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch's personal story is one of perseverance. She encourages writers to work hard at the writing process and not to be discouraged by setbacks. Marsha continues to be one of Canada's most popular presenters at writing workshops in Canadian schools. We were very fortunate that she was able to visit our province once again.

# Голоси несуть надію, голоси вселяють віру.

«Voices bring hope, voices celebrate faith.»

By Audrey Bayduza

These are some of the lyrics to the theme song of one of Saskatoon's newest Ukrainian choirs. Founded just three years ago as an adult, non-denominational Ukrainian choir, the ensemble, Голоси, made its debut public appearance last year as part of the March concert in honour of Taras Shevchenko. Drawing from its varied and rapidly growing repertoire, the choir performed three selections, *Conue Γρic*, with lyrics by Shevchenko, a traditional folksong, Огірочки, and our own signature tune, Голоси. Two other performances rounded out the choir's season. In April, the choir was invited to participate as part of the program at very special birthday celebrations at St. Joseph's Nursing Home, and later that month, the choir provided entertainment for Sunday afternoon tea at the Ilarion Residence, as a way of saying, Дякуємо for the use of the residence's dining room facilities for our weekly rehearsals.

This year's season is off to a busy start. In November the choir shared some of the rich tradition of Ukrainian Christmas music with the community as a whole by being part of the Festival of Trees entertaiment program. Christmas shoppers at St. George's annual Christmas bazaar will also be entertained by the choir this year. This year the choir continues with a project it began last year by making a special effort to add to its repertoire of schedrivky.

Membership in the choir is open to anyone 19 or over with an interest in singing Ukrainian music. Reading knowledge of Ukrainian is not necessary transliterations of lyrics are provided. Rehearsals are held Monday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30. Anyone interested can call Audrey Bayduza, 373-8905.

Голоси (Holosy) is sponsored by UCC Saskatoon. — Ed.

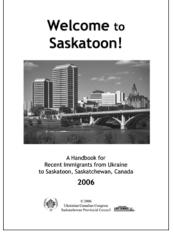
## Correction re: PA Veselka CD

Page 19 of the Fall 2006 issue listed an incorrect phone number to the Veselka Prince Albert & District Culture & Heritage Club. Please call 306-763-2396 if you are interested in purchasing a CD.



Correction to "First Bilingual School Opens in Saskatchewan" (Fall 2006): I apologize for inadvertently leaving out a staff member's name in my article. Rose Blush is a long-standing and valuable staff member and this year is our teacher librarian and Science teacher.

— A. Wasylow



# **Immigration** handbook for Saskatoon now available

Please contact the UCC-SPC office.

## Coming soon:

Handbooks to be published for the Battlefords and Prince Albert & District.

# **Newcomers treat Tisdale** to concert of Ukr music

By Fr. Jeffrey Stephaniuk

A concert of classical and Ukrainian music was held in Tisdale on November 26. Among the performers were recent Ukrainian immigrants to Saskatchewan.

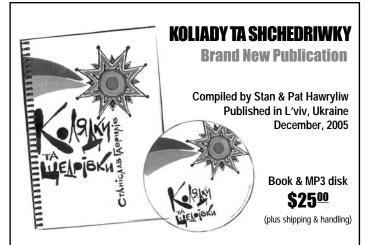
Serhii Striltsov and Oleksandr Zayets currently work as welders for a manufacturing company in Tisdale. Yana Sharov is a Grade 7 student. Her father also works as a welder.

Other performers included Ukrainian dancers from Carrot River, and music students from the Vopni Music Studio of Tisdale.

The concert concluded with a traditional Ukrainian prayer for the deceased (panakhyda) in memory of the Ukrainian victims of the Famine of 1932-1933 (Holodomor).



Some of the participants at a Ukrainian Music Concert, held in Tisdale, Sunday, November 26th L-R Serhii Striltsov (Luhansk), Yana Sharov (Kirovohrad), Fr. Jeffrey Stephaniuk (Melfort), Oleksandr Zayets (Bila Tserkva)



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# Agreement-in-principle being reinterpreted

As published on page 12 of the Fall 2005 issue of Visnyk, on August 24, 2005 in Regina, the Government of Canada signed with the Ukrainian Canadian community an agreement-inprinciple providing funding for commemorative and educational projects having to do with Canada's first national internment operations.

On November 25, 2005, Royal Assent was given to Bill C 331 (tabled by Inky Mark, MP), legislation which obliges the government to initiate a series of measures similar to those described in the agreement.

To date, however, neither the terms of the agreement nor the measures provided for in Bill research, cultural and educational initiatives.

The Ukrainian community is in the process of trying to learn from Saskatchewan MP Ralph Goodale why so little progress is being made with the implementation of the agreement.

> from correspondence by Lubomyr Luciuk, UCCLA

The current Minister of Canadian Heritage, the Honourable Bev Oda, has said that the \$2.5 million pledge made in the agreement would be honoured, but that there was no agreement whatsoever on "additional funding." She has also specifically questioned whether there was any pledge on the part of the Government of Canada for additional funding for longer-term



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May the Christ Child, born in a manger in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago, fill your hearts with true Peace, Joy and Goodwill for the coming year.

Christ is Born! Let Us Glorify Him!

Greetings from the Ukzainian Catholic Brotherhood Branches in the Epazchy of Saskatoon:

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Бажаємо Вам веселих свят Різдва Христового і щасливого Нового Року.



# **UCC applauds Ukrainian** law on Famine-Genocide

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress applauds the November 28, 2006 decision of the Ukrainian Parliament to adopt a Law which recognizes the Famine of 1932-33 as an act of Genocide against the Ukrainian nation and declares denial of the Famine-Genocide a criminal act.

This famine, known in Ukraine as the Holodomor or murder by starvation, occurred as a result of a direct Soviet policy to crush the nationally conscious Ukrainian people. By introducing unrealistically large quotas on grain, the Soviet Government stripped the peasants of their food supply thus launching a famine that in 1932-33 claimed the lives of between 7 to 10 million innocent victims.

In his book The Harvest of Sorrow, historian Robert Con-

quest provided a vivid picture of the devastating effects of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine: "A quarter of the rural population, men, women, and children, lay dead or dying, the rest in various stages of debilitation with no strength to bury their families or neighbors."

In June of 2004, at the initiative of Honourable Senator Raynell Andrevchuk the Senate of Canada unanimously adopted a motion calling on the Government of Canada to recognize the Famine in Ukraine as nothing less than genocide. UCC now calls on Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the Canadian Government to recognize in the House of Commons that the Holodomor in Ukraine was an act of genocide committed against the Ukrainian nation.

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## РІЗДВ'ЯНЕ ВІТАННЯ Крайової Управи КОНҐРЕСУ УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ

2006-2007

У ці святкові дні Різдва Христового та Нового року, з великою радістю Конґрес Українців Канади висловлює найкращі побажання Ієрархам Українських Церков, Крайовим Проводам та членам скадових організацій КУК, всій українській канадській громаді та всьому українському народові у Батьківщині та в діяспорі!

Нехай Ваше життя наповниться новими надіями і радощами, зміцниться здоров'я та здійсняться Ваші мрії.

> Христос Рождається! Славімо Убого!

> > Орися Сушко Президент



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## **UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS National GREETINGS**

2006-2007

On the occasion of the Nativity of our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ and the New Year. the Ukrainian Canadian Congress extends sincere best wishes to the Hierarchy of our Ukrainian Churches, the Presidents, National Executives and members of UCC member organizations and to the entire Ukrainian Canadian community as well as our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and the Diaspora.

May your lives be filled with new hope, joy and peace, your health strengthened and your wishes granted.

> Christ is horn! Glorify Him!

Irene (Orysia) Sushko President

# Sts. Peter & Paul Bodnari Parish celebrates milestone

By Bernie Bodnar

On July 9, 2006 some 250 parishioners and guests celebrated a Pontifical Divine Liturgy commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the parish.

The celebration began with the arrival of His Excellency Bishop Michael Wiwchar, Archdeacon Ray Lalach, Father Walter Kostiuk, and Father Andre Lalach. Clergy vested at the home of Robert and Betty Mantyka, from where they were transported by horses and buggy.



Bishop Michael was presented with the traditional Kolach and Salt by the eldest parishioners, Patricia Bodnar (left) and Helen Mantyka. Flower petals were tossed on the ground by young children creating a path and at the foot of the steps. Bishop Michael was also presented with the symbolic keys to the church by parish president Bernie Bodnar.

The choir, composed of parish members and parishioners from neighbouring parishes, was led by cantor Daniel Bodnar.

Icons of Sts. Peter & Paul, courtesy of the Ukrainian Sisters of Saint Joseph of Saskatoon, were given to everyone attending the Pontifical Divine Liturgy.

Following the liturgy, a Panakhyda was sung for the founders of the church, pioneers, deceased family members and deceased clergy who had served the parish. A procession around the church was followed by blessing of water and the unveiling and blessing of the Centenary Plaque, a wood carving done by Vasyl Stratiychuk of Regina.



The Blessed Centenary Plaque is dedicated to pioneers, founders and benefactors of our church. Our forefathers, through their hard work and vision, strove to make this a safe place to live in and keep up our traditions and place of worship.

Daniel Bodnar was MC at the banquet, which was held at the Vonda Ukrainian Parish Hall and prepared by the Vonda parish ladies auxiliary.

We were blessed with guests from British Columbia to Ontario. There was excellent local support from individuals, towns, local districts and neighbouring parishes.

On behalf of the R.M. of Grant #372, Betty Mantyka (Morrissey) presented a centenary plaque to the Parish of Bodnari. Father Larry Kondra gave words of congratulations and spoke about his great-grandfather's involvement in the parish. Archdeacon Ray, who serves the parish, welcomed and offered con-



gratulations to the parish, the parishioners and their families for their dedication and commitment. Bishop Michael offered congratulations and spoke about the great achievement. He stressed the significance of this centenary celebration and presented a wooden plaque to the parish.

For making this celebration a great success, thank-you's go to: Archdeacon Ray and Father Andre for your spiritual guidance and support; donors and supporters of our celebration; parishioners and families, and the individuals who make the day a reality by planning activities, raising funds, and obtaining prizes as well as through their restoration work, maintenance clean-up, preparation and cleaning of the church.

It is up to our future generations to carry on the torch. Let us commend the founders, our forefathers: Mnohaya Lita! Everyone joined in to sing De zhoda v rodyni, and the celebration ended with a Closing Prayer.

Thank you everyone for your support, dedication, commitment and celebrating with us. With your prayers, support and assistance from above, we are preparing for the next hundred years. May the good Lord keep you in His care and Bless you and your families with good health. Till we meet again!

Donations of \$100 or greater will be recognized by a name plate. Accepted until the end of 2006, donations may be made on behalf of oneself and/or in memory of a loved one. For more information, contact Bernie Bodnar at 306-382-1647.

## District parishes bringing greetings & congratulations

- Sacred Heart, Vonda Roman Hyshka
- Saint John the Baptist, Smuts John Shutiak
- Saint John the Baptist, Prud'homme Martin Hryniuik
- Sacred Heart, Hawryliuke Johanna Bidulka

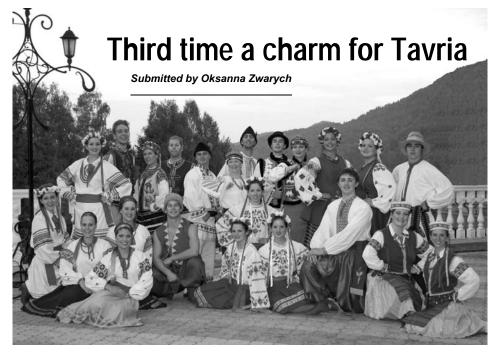
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This is the third time in ten years that the Tavria Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble of Regina has travelled to Ukraine.

On August 8, 2006, the same day that Tavria began its trip, 11 suspected terrorists were caught in Britain on suspicion of planning to blow up some airlines. In Regina and Toronto it was chaotic, to say the least, but we felt this was going to be the safest day to fly since security was so tight.

Our group of 24 dancers and 20 family members was met at the Kyiv airport by our tour guides. In previous trips, Tavria dancers were well prepared for the shock of the accommodations, which were not up to North American standards—this was all part of the Ukraine experience. But on this trip, we were treated like royalty. The accommodations in all the cities we travelled to were not just great hotels, they were resorts. We had luxury suites with massive party rooms in almost all places. We could not have asked for better rooms and service.

We saw the Pechestra Lavra, went on a Dnipro river tour, and visited two castles and cathedrals. We were also part of a mock Hutsul wedding in Bukovets in the Verkhovyna district. The villagers chose two young people from our group to be the bride and groom and they were engaged to be married, with the wedding date set for October in Edmonton. We participated in all aspects of the wedding: the dressing of the bride and groom, walking up the mountain to the church, the ceremony, the bride riding on horseback to the hall, the supper, the toasts, the food and all the traditional

dances which involved the entire group. It was absolutely fabulous.

The dancers performed to sold-out and standing room only crowds that were both knowledgable about dance and extremely appreciative. It was common for audience members to bring flowers to the dancers after each dance. The emotional response from the audience brought tears to the parents who had travelled with the dancers. I hope that every parent will experience seeing your child on a Ukrainian stage, dancing to a Ukrainian audience and feeling the patriotic response from the Ukrainian people. Tavria dancers felt they danced not for an audience, but for family. Everyone had the same heart, soul and spirit for dance.

Tavria was very fortunate to dance at the world renowned and breathtaking Opera



Taking part in a mock Hutsul wedding

House in Ivano-Frankivsk. Again, the audience applauded from the moment the curtain was raised to the time of the final bow. It was overwhelming, physically draining and emotionally uplifting. This was what all the practising, fundraising and hard work was for.

One of the scheduled performances that our dancers were looking forward to was at the 15th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence celebrations in Lviv in front of 100,000 people. It would truly have been spectacular, but unfortunately it was not to be. Due to a tragic Russian plane crash, the Ukrainian government cancelled all Independence Day celebrations throughout the country and Tavria was leaving the next day.

For one part of the trip, our tour guide insisted on us visiting an orphanage. Despite our initial apprehension, we did so, going to one that had 64 children ranging in age from 3 months to 6 years. It was emotional to say the least. The children showed great excitement receiving our gifts. We



Visiting children in an orphanage

had brought small stuffed animals, colouring books, toys and clothes; their favourite was the candy suckers we gave them. One could tell that these young children had nothing and it was like Christmas, not just for the gifts, but for the touch and contact of other people. Many of us wanted to pack these kids up and bring them back with us. It was very difficult leaving the orphanage and the few dedicated workers.

Great accommodations, great architecture, great people and, of course, great shopping. It was a pilgrimage, a holiday, an emotional roller coaster and a trip of a lifetime. I would recommend everyone to travel to Ukraine at least once. If you are a part of a dance group, choir or want to go to Ukraine, please do not hesitate to contact Tavria Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble. We can tell you who to contact in Ukraine to make your experience a great one. We are already planning on going back again.

# Educational ties with Ukraine PART II

By George Zerebecky, Multicultural Consultant, Saskatchewan Learning

## Joint program development

In 1995, the Premier of Saskatchewan, the Honourable Roy Romanow, signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the first deputy prime minister of Ukraine, which supported joint initiatives in a number of sectors, including education. He also signed a Memorandum of Intent between Saskatchewan and the Chernivtsi Oblast, supporting similar activities. Both agreements served to strengthen the growing conviction between Saskatchewan and Ukrainian educators that more effective collaboration would require targeting specific issues and would need to be longer-term in nature.

## Canada-Ukraine Comparative Teaching Units Curriculum Project

This project was one direct result of the two agreements. Its objective was to develop thematic teaching units for use in secondary-level English language classes in the Chernivtsi Oblast and for high school Ukrainian language classes in Saskatchewan. The Teacher Manuals and Student Activity Books used a thematic approach to provide information on the Chernivtsi Oblast, the province of Saskatchewan, and the countries of Canada and Ukraine. Individual units also included cassette tapes, grammatical exercises and multi-media support materials.

For a six-month period, between 1996 and 1997, a curriculum writer from Chernivtsi came to Saskatchewan, learned about our system of education, and worked with education officials and classroom teachers developing the necessary teacher and student materials. Next, the Ukrainian writer and a Saskatchewan consultant conducted a two-week

implementation seminar for teachers of English in the Chernivtsi Oblast who would pilot the materials. By 1997-98, the materials were being piloted in 13 secondary schools in the Chernivtsi oblast and also in Ukrainian classes in Saskatchewan. Final publication of the materials in digital form occurred in 2003.

The project was sponsored by Saskatchewan Education and endorsed by the Chernivtsi Oblast Ministry of Education. An evaluation of the project praised its effectiveness, underlining the success of this strategy of close collaboration between educators and institutions in both countries.

## **Healthy Schools**

A second event, which facilitated effective collaboration, occurred at about the same time. This was our joint participation in the Canada-Ukraine Partners in Health, "Healthy Schools" project, managed by the Canadian Society for International Health. In 1996 they requested Saskatchewan Education to facilitate this project for the Ukrainian Ministry of Education, the Ukrainian Ministry of Health and the Saskatchewan Teachers of Ukrainian.

The overall goal of this twoyear project, divided into three phases, was to develop and implement an experimental health (valeology) education program and materials for Grades 1-11 students in Ukraine. Phase One targeted Grades 4-7 and developed four themes selected from the Ukrainian health curriculum: nutrition, hygiene, anti-smoking and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Three Ukrainian curriculum writers worked in Saskatchewan in May-June 1996. Initially they visited a variety of classrooms,

observed instruction, met with teachers, curriculum writers and university professors, and discussed a wide range of educational issues. Following this orientation period, writers from both sides developed a Teacher Manual, Grades 4-7, including a thematic scope and sequence, sample lessons and teaching units, suggested teaching methods and techniques, and evaluation procedures. They also created student workbooks for each of Grades 4, 5, 6 and 7, and a variety of visual aids.

In September 1996, three Saskatchewan educators travelled to Kyiv and delivered a five-day implementation workshop to teachers, principals, city and oblast education administrators, and instructors from teacher training institutions.

trovsk, Chernivtsi and Ternopil.

An evaluation of the pilot program implementation reported a high level of satisfaction from teachers and students and the project continued into a second phase.

Phase Two involved the development of materials for Grades 8-11, their implementation and piloting and followed the same process as Phase One. The joint writing team drafted a Teacher Manual, Grades 8-11, student workbooks for each grade level and relevant audiovisual aids. Phase Three, the development of a teacher manual and student workbooks for Grades 1-3, proceeded in tandem with Phase Two.

The success of the project caught the eye of UNICEF in Kyiv. They provided financing to print materials for an additional five schools in Kyiv and seven in Odesa. To support this increased workload, the Saskatchewan government provided funding to release one



Healthy Schools workshop, Kyiv 1996 - Saskatchewan teachers C. Schabel and A. Bodnarchuk thanked by Dr. O. Savchenko (far right)

Over one thousand Grades 4-7 students from nine oblasts in Ukraine took part in the field test of Phase One. Ukraine had selected schools from the following oblasts: Kyiv, Lviv, Kharkiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Cherkasy, Odesa, Dnipropeofficial to coordinate project activities.

This action flowed from the spirit of a Memorandum of Cooperation signed between Saskatchewan's Minister of Education and the deputy minister of Ukraine's Ministry of Education in Regina in June 1996. The memorandum reaffirmed our existing relationship and facilitated further educational initiatives between our two ministries.



Regina 1996 - Honourable Pat Atkinson, Saskatchewan's Minister of Education with Dr. Oleksandra Savchenko, Deputy Minister, Ukrainian Ministry of Education.

In September 1997, a combined team of Saskatchewan and Ukrainian presenters delivered implementation workshops to Grades 1-3 and Grades 8-11 pilot teachers, school principals and city administrators in Kyiv, and a similar workshop in Odesa in December 1997.

Ultimately, 21 pilot schools from ten Ukrainian oblasts participated in field testing the Grades 1-11 materials. Three implementation workshops were held and attended by over 200 teachers, principals, city and oblast administrators, and university and teacher institute representatives.

Funding for all related travel, accommodation and publication costs of the project was arranged for by the Canadian Society for International Health. The project was approved and supported by Saskatchewan Education and the Ukrainian Ministry of Education.

By 1998 many projects had been successfully completed by our two countries. In the process there developed a mutual respect and trust between our two ministries. Thus, Saskatchewan Education was well positioned to undertake what became our most ambitious project with Ukraine. This will be the subject of Part Three.



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# **Departed Nation Builders**

Saskatchewan's Ukrainian community mourns the loss of:



Former MLA and community leader Bernard Korchinski of Regina, who helped found UCC-SPC, passed away October 13 at the age of 100. He was recognized as a Nation Builder in 2000.



Long-time community activist Sonia Sagasz of Regina passed away on October 24 at age 81. In recognition of her contributions she was a recipient of the Taras Shevchenko Medal and the UCC-SPC's Nation Builder Award in 2001.



Alex Chomyn of Saskatoon, dedicated community leader, entrepreneur and UCC-SPC Nation Builder Award recipient in 2000, passed away October 29 at the age of 93.

Sincere condolences to the families and friends of these outstanding individuals. Вічна їм пам'ять!

Leader-Post and Star-Phoenix announcements are reproduced at:

- http://www.ucc.sk.ca/new/2006/20061017korchinskibobit.htm
- http://www.ucc.sk.ca/new/2006/20061025sagaszsobit.htm
- http://www.ucc.sk.ca/new/2006/20061029chomynaobit.htm

Their biographies, as published in commemorative booklets, are available on the UCC-SPC website.



# **UCC-SPC** gratefully acknowledges the following for their support:





Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko







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The Board of Directors of Vesna Festival 2007 would like to wish each of you good Health and Happiness this Christmas season and invites you to join us in celebrating Vesna Festival in Saskatoon in 2007.

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Ukrainian Canadian Professional & Business Association	Regina, SK200	Dance Saskatchev
Ukrainian Canadian Professional & Business Club		Adeline Day
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Olga Kurylo	Saskatoon, SK 100	Shaun M. Kopczyr
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Juanita Polegi	Jedburgh, SK	An additional
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Juanita Polegi	Saskatoon, SK 40 Saskatoon, SK 40	An additional who requested name to be list

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rtion of each ticket sold for the 2006 Nation Builders and Community ards luncheon in November totalled \$3,640 and is included in this total.

al \$120, for a total of \$9,665, was collected from donors ed their names not be published. If you expected your name to be listed, please notify the UCC-SPC office.

# **Ukrainian Canadians – Nation Builders**

## Calendar of Events



EVENT	WHEN	WHERE & CONTACT INFO  http://www.ucc.sk.ca/calendar.htm
Malanka	Jan 13	Lloydminster 780-875-7884
Malanka	Jan 13	Ukrainian Orthodox Auditorium, Regina
Ukrainian Tryzub Society Malanka	Jan 13, 5:30 pm	Prairieland Park Hall 'B', Saskatoon 306-934-5003
Eastern Rites Carol Festival	Jan 14	Ukrainian Orthodox Descent of Holy Spirit, Regina
Shevchenko Foundation Fundraiser and Donor Appreciation Night	Feb 2	By invitation only, Saskatoon 306-374-7675
Ukrainian Wedding Bukovynian-Style (supper & dance)	Feb 10, 5:30 pm	Ukrainian Orthodox Auditorium, Regina 306-789-7708
Inaugural Saskatchewan Ukrainian Film Festival	March	Saskatoon 306-652-5850
Ukrainian Dance Festival: Nipawin Veselii Dancers	Mar 9-11	Nipawin 306-862-2602
NASHI Perogy Paradise	Mar 10	Army, Navy, Airforce Hall, Saskatoon 306-653-4646
Tavria Ukrainian Dance Festival	Mar 16-18	Regina Performing Arts Centre 306-352-4596
Cabbage Roll Classic Fun Curling Event	Mar 17	Regina 306-780-1811
North Dakota Ukrainian Dance Competition	Mar 22-24	Dickinson, North Dakota 701-590-0920
Lloydminster Ukrainian Dance Festival	Mar 30-Apr 1	Vic Juba Community Theatre, Lloydminster 780-875-0264
Prince Albert Ukrainian Dance Festival	Apr 12-15	E.A. Rawlinson Centre for the Arts, Prince Albert 306-764-9057
Pavlychenko Folklorique Ensemble Showcase	Apr 20-22	St. Joseph High School, Saskatoon 306-931-0988
Yachminka Ukrainian Dance Competition	Apr 20-22	Russell, Manitoba 204-773-2275
Svoboda Dance Festival	Apr 27-29	Don Ross Centre, North Battleford 306-445-1378
Lloydminster Malanka Dancers Heritage Concert	Apr 28	Lloydminster 780-875-7884
Foam Lake Veselka Festival	Apr 28	Foam Lake 306-272-4196
Third Annual Sadok Ukrainian Dance Dessert Concert	Apr 29	Kamsack 306-542-2133
Yorkton Kalyna Dance Festival	May 3-6	Anne Portnuff Theatre, Yorkton Regional High School, Yorkton 306-782-2577
Western Canadian Conference on Human Trafficking hosted by NASHI	May 11-12	Saskatoon 306-653-4646
Kyiv Pavilion Preview Night: UCC Regina	May 30, 5:30 pm	Agribition Building, Regina 306-757-8835
Regina Multicultural Council's Mosaic 2006	May 31-Jun 2	Regina
Rushnychok Ukr Folk Dance Assn 40th Anniversary (supper, performance, dance)	Jun 2, 1 pm (registration)	new hall in Martensville bkhryniuk@sasktel.net
Annual Meeting & BBQ: Ukr Cdn Professional & Business Assn of Regina	Jun 15	Regina Wildlife Federation, Regina 306-789-4062
Adult Ukr Language Immersion Camp: Regina UOMAC & UCPBA Optional extended camp until Aug 17	Aug 9-12	Trident Camp at Crystal Lake N or Canora 306-586-6805
Ukraine Day in the Park (7th annual festival): UCC Saskatoon	Aug 25	Saskatoon 306-374-7675
UCC National Congress 2007	Oct 5-7	Winnipeg, Manitoba 1-866-942-4627

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