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Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union

President's Message

Dear Readers,

Welcome to “*Student*” newsmagazine, the flagship publication of Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK). For several decades, “*Student*” has been the voice of young Ukrainian Canadians. As such, we continue this tradition with our first issue for the 2013-2014 academic year.

This year marks an important milestone for SUSK, as we celebrate our organization's anniversary. SUSK was established in 1953 at the 4th Triennial Congress of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress held in Winnipeg. Throughout its 60-year history, SUSK has played an integral role in the Ukrainian Canadian community by engaging youth and fostering their development for future positions in both their career and community.

I hope SUSK alumni are proud of where SUSK stands today. Over the summer, SUSKites held a formal meeting with the Ukrainian

Ambassador, his Excellency Vadym Prystaiko, in Ottawa; celebrated Ukrainian Independence Day at Queen's Park in Toronto; and participated as delegates in the X Congress of the Ukrainian World Congress in L'viv, as well as the I Congress of the World Congress of Ukrainian Youth Organizations in Ternopil'. This fall, we have worked to raise awareness of the Holodomor and build stronger community relationships by collaborating with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress National Holodomor Awareness Committee in coordinating a national speaking tour for Andrea Chalupa, author of “*Orwell and the Refugees: The Untold Story of Animal Farm*”. The tour's presentations across 8 Canadian cities have left lasting impressions on Ukrainian Canadian students, which are detailed in this issue of “*Student*”.

“*Student*” tells our collective stories. A new academic year brings us new opportunities to acquire knowledge and grow – both as individuals and as a community. I encourage you to connect with and become involved in your local





USO and in SUSK, so that you can share stories of your own. Submissions to “Student” are welcomed at student@susk.ca.

З повагою – Regards,

Christine Czoli
SUSK President

The Hangover: Part SUSK

Dear student reader, It seems that my recent article for the congress issue of student was not erotically vulgar enough to banish me to the student magazine blacklist. This being the case, I would once again like to share with you an enlightening tale. This story is one of highs as well as lows, energy as well as lethargy, engagement as well as disengagement. This ballad describes the escapades of a pair of Ukrainian-Canadian stalwarts that many of you are more than likely familiar with; Вухатий and Стукало-Дзьобало!

Many of you probably first came to know our characters at an early age on Saturday mornings, at a time when your ‘English’ friends were sleeping in and blissfully enjoying wet dreams of Barbie dolls, Pokemon cards, and cartoons, you were forced to the confinement of the cage that is a church basement classroom or the like, slaving away under the scrutinizing glare of Пані

<insert stereotypical Ukrainian female name here>, the tyrannical warden who tortured you with endless відмінки in the prison that was known as Ridna Shkola! It was here that Вухатий, Стукало-Дзьобало and a number of other characters were the source of the few amusing moments that existed throughout the otherwise horrendous Saturday morning slog.

For those of you who did not have the fine fortune of sharing in the exhilarating experience of Ukrainian-Canadian Ridna Shkola, and thus do not have a handle on the earth-shattering series of diaspora Ukrainian language education material along with the slew of legendarily comical characters contained within it, I implore you to find a copy of one of these treasures and, as the great Andriy Nahachevsky so eloquently described during the latest SUSK congress, dive into the romanticised world of ethnic symbolism that helps make up the very fabric of the Ukrainian-Canadian identity. However, for the purposes of this article, I will give you a short overview and introduction to what I am referring to.

The most common teaching tool which was used (and in many cases continues to be used) in the Ukrainian-Canadian education system when many of the current Susk-ites were of Ridna Shkola age was a series of educational books which told short stories about a group of



characters while introducing students to the Ukrainian language. These books are most commonly known as the *Тим і Там* series, after the title of the first of these books. Among the characters found in one of *these* books was a lanky, anorexic looking, long beaked yellow bird named Стукало-Дзьобало. And a clumsy, naïve and disproportionately long eared rabbit named Вухатий, who traveled together and met various people throughout the *Ходи зі Мною* reader book. The two were partners in adventure. (Interestingly, looking back at it, I would say that it was not beyond the realm of possibility that the two may have been partners in more than just adventure. They did seem to have some pansexual leanings towards one another, or whatever the politically correct term for sexual attraction between a 'He' and an 'it' is, seeing as Стукало-Дзьобало was for linguistically-educational purposes a gender neutral being. However, this is but a non-academic theory which we will leave for someone's future Ukrainian folklore paper. I can however, with certainty say that they were indeed partners in adventure.)

Unlike the rest of us, Saturday morning was the highlight of the week for our characters. It was their time in the spotlight; they were on a high, full of energy and fully engaged in the task at hand. This was their 15 minutes of fame. They would spend all week looking forward to the few hours on

Saturday when they got to be the heroes and voyage through the glorious storylines contained within the pages of the Ukrainian school readers under the shower of attention from fanatical students. However, outside of their glamorous career on Saturday morning as friendly and lovable characters in the Ukrainian School fantasy world, the two had to find other ways in which to occupy themselves. It is an excerpt from this less well known part of their lives that I wish to share with you today.

Unlike other areas within the entertainment industry, Ukrainian School literature stardom did not pay so well and our heroes were forced to look for other means of supplementing their income during the remainder of the week. Unfortunately, they were unable to collect Employment Insurance while still keeping their Ukrainian school gig, so the pair resorted to taking a job doing security at Baba's kapusta patch. Life outside of the Saturday morning spotlight was rather bleak for our heroes. The pair was tasked with guarding Baba's prized kapusta patch and making sure no one tampered with it while she was off at the bingo hall. It was a boring and uneventful job (let's be honest, who the f*%k steals kapusta afterall!) but, it brought in just enough сap to keep them afloat until next Saturday. At first the pair sat patiently and diligently kept watch over the patch. However, after some time had passed the heroes grew lazy and lent



increasingly less attention to their task. With thoughts of Saturday morning stardom clouding their minds, Baba's kapusta became but a distant and fleeting thought.

One Saturday afternoon upon arriving for duty at the kapusta patch, after a particularly exhilarating morning session with the Ukrainian youngsters, the pair decided to celebrate their star performance with a few drinks. Earlier that week, Вухатий had glimpsed Dido hide a brand new bottle of samohonka in the barn and quickly retrieved it for the pair. "Вудмо!" The two yelled as they downed the first shot. What harm could a few more shots do, they were only watching over a kapusta patch after all...

...Beautiful dreams of warm kovbasa and fresh varenyky were abruptly ended by what could only be described as the feeling of a Topeerets relentlessly pounding away at a hollow metal object. Вухатий rolled out from underneath a pile of empty pickled herring jars and cringed as rays of sun connected with his retinas, he tried without success to avoid thinking about the pounding headache that immersed his entire head all the way up to the tip of his outrageously long ears. He finally managed to compose himself enough to stand up and look around. The first thing he saw was Dido's empty samohonka bottle. He slowly made his way to the well in an unintentionally non-linear fashion for a

badly needed drink of water. Floating in the well he found an array of discarded glow sticks, Dido's lulka and one long black leather boot. After a refreshing splash he noticed the distinct scent of smoke filling his nostrils, he looked up to see the charred remains of what used to be the barn. Ай йай! Вухатий thought, what had they done? It was at this point that he noticed an erect yellow beak with a condom pulled over it protruding from a stack of hay nearby. "Гей Стукало!", he yelled, and from the stack of hay slowly emerged a disoriented Стукало-Дзьобало who upon attempting to walk, immediately fell over, a jumble of what looked like strings from Baba's bandura were tied around his ridiculously skinny legs. While helping to untie his friend Вухатий noticed a tattoo on Стукало-Дзьобало's rear-end of a pink heart with "Paul Grod" written across it.

After the two collected themselves they suddenly realised that they had not yet checked on the status of Baba's kapusta patch! They quickly ran over and opened the gate to the kapusta patch.

We have come to the point in this story where I leave the telling up to you. What was the fate of the kapusta patch? Did our heroes slip up and leave a vital window of opportunity for a malicious kapusta thief to take advantage of our hero's state of consciousness and ransack Baba's precious patch, leaving our heroes unemployed? Or was fate on



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their side, had their *Tym i Tam* friends Цірко and Мурко come to the rescue to stand guard in their absence, leaving the kapusta untouched? That decision I will leave to you my friends.

You may now ask why I have shared this story with you. Was it to raise awareness of non-traditional sexual orientation tendencies within Ukrainian-Canadian literature? Was it maybe a cleverly concealed but well deserved glorification plug for the severely underappreciated kapusta patch security industry? Or am I just a narcissistic writer who could not resist an opportunity for a follow up article in the legendary *Student* magazine? These are all very plausible possibilities; however, none of them are in fact the primary reason for my tale.

Several months have now passed since the conclusion of the 55th national SUSK congress. Many SUSK cherries have been popped, many new friends made, countless drinks shared, many hotel eviction warnings distributed, many songs sung and (very) many resolutions made. However, the magic, excitement and energy of that congress weekend is now but a fond memory in the past for many attendees. SUSK has a tendency to be pushed to the backburner and all but forgotten during most of the year. It is important to ensure that this is not the case. In order for SUSK to be successful, all members of SUSK must take an active role in

SUSK year round. Whether this be contributing to *Student*, (It is too often that the majority of student articles are written by executive members) or even just encouraging others in your local USO to actually read *student*, or communicating ideas and concepts to your regional SUSK representative/executive member, or taking part in and spreading the word on various SUSK initiatives. Similarly to how our characters only cared about Saturday and blew off the rest of the week, we have a tendency to jump on the SUSK bandwagon for the few days a year during which the congress actually takes place and then our enthusiasm fades away for the other 360 some odd days of the year. I challenge each and every individual member of SUSK to be an active member not only at congress time but throughout the whole year. By doing so we can make sure that SUSK has purpose and meaning beyond just an annual congress.

Yours in SUSK,

Mysterious and
demanding *Student* magazine contributor

Welcome to Edmonton: The city of (Ukrainian) Champions

As I sit in my Ukrainian Folklore class I am forced to reflect on the time that has passed since this semester began, the events that our USO has completed, the





ones that are yet to come, and the impending deadlines of a million and ten things that I have yet to begin...

Our semester began with a huge "Pryvit" to all of the doe eyed first year University of Alberta Students at clubs fair. We had a great turn out and amazing interest in our club, keeping all of our volunteers busy selling memberships, taking shots of Zhyvchyk, and promoting Ukrainian Culture one Budmo at a time.

Our soccer team started the year off with a few hiccups but under the coaching skills of our very own Mila Dacko managed to win their pool and the championship.

Congratulations are also in order for Adrian Warchola the recipient of a Hetman award from Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council. Adrian's leadership and involvement in the Ukrainian community are greatly appreciated.

I am very excited to work with our executive and our many members over the rest of this school year, for the time being I need get back to my lecture.

Shaslyvo,

Tymothy Jaddock

President – Ukrainian Students Society

The Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program

Canada for me has been a country of great interest since my childhood. Primarily, as a home for millions of Ukrainians. When I was a child my father once showed me a display globe and he pointed at Canada saying that many of our relatives from my grandfather's side live there. He explained that they moved to that part of the world before and after World War I, seeking a better life. And even back then I was puzzled, questioning, well, why don't they come back home? And if Ukraine had already secured its independence, those relatives who live here in Canada – why don't they come back, don't they want to see us? Ever since then, I have pondered and considered going over to Canada and getting to the bottom of this mystery.

CUPP (Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program) has been in operation since the early 1990s. It was established by Ukrainian Canadian lawyer Ihor Bardyn to give young Ukrainians an opportunity to work and study at the Canadian Parliament, and gain the type of experience from which generations of Canadians, Americans and West Europeans have benefited. After all these years nearly 800 Ukrainian students have been given this unique opportunity.





For me CUPP has served as a gateway to Western democracy and what you call civil society. This is where I have experienced the spirit of freedom, touched the rule of law in action – by working for three months on Parliament Hill. As a CUPP intern I assisted Corneliu Chisu, MP for Pickering-Scarborough East, in his daily

duties such as performing analytical work, communications with the riding and other governmental bodies, acquiring administrative skills, attended Committee Meetings and Q&A sessions, meetings with other parliamentarians, Senators, Cabinet Ministers and diplomats. As well I have had the opportunity to do research and studies in the truly magnificent Parliamentary Library and attend English classes.

This year the CUPP Program is hosting 34 interns from Ukraine, Canada, Austria, Belarus, the Russian Federation, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany and Georgia.





As the CUPP network grows larger and larger, it creates a complimentary and constructive environment in Ukraine and abroad for implementing the ideas and knowledge which this Program promotes. It is clear to me that every CUPP graduate returns to Ukraine with a stronger sense of patriotism, appreciation for Ukrainian heritage and devotion to the betterment of their homeland. It is attested in our education, social projects, work in the "Plast" Scouting movement, and in the charitable and voluntary sectors.

The Ukrainian community of Canada has demonstrated to us that through



unity, passion and hard work it is possible to change the country you live in. This has reinforced our faith and determination to import the best achievements and practices of the western world and put our own knowledge, skills and talents to work in our native Ukraine. The experience every CUPP Intern is sure to gain, I believe is stored within us and is brought back to be implemented for the benefit

of Ukraine. In the end we serve, as most efficient "transmitters" of the values of a true civil society and a market economy possess. And I have come to the conclusion that the reason that the Canadian Diaspora has not returned to Ukraine en masse is that their place is to remain in that wonderful country until Ukraine becomes like Canada. Until then they should remain there in order to serve as a moral compass and as a society to be emulated for us. Partners in rebuilding Ukraine. No less important for Canada is that each of us will bring back our newly acquired skills and talents to our homeland and the seeds of a Canadian democracy. The CUPP family grows in Canada, Ukraine, and beyond.

Roman Tychkivsky
Danylo Korbabicz

Poetry is nearer to vital truth than history (Plato)

Дев'ятнадцятого березня 2013 року Україна святкувала День народження видатної письменниці й поетеси Ліни Костенко. Авторка вважається одним з найяскравіших представників української літератури двадцятого століття, окрім цього Ліна Костенко присвячувала багато часу



громадській діяльності країни, займається цим і донині.

В Україні поезії Ліни Костенко вивчаються лише в одинадцятому класі, але, знаєте, враження неймовірне.. Ото так буває, прочитаєш поезію й одразу забудеш і про що вона, і ким була написана, і не залишиться ні сліда від неї. Та тут не так! Не буде такого, щоб, переглянувши поезію Костенко, читач залишився без емоцій. Назва поезії, звичайно, може загубитися серед великої кількості лекцій та робіт, але емоції, – вони живуть у серці.

Пам'ятаю, з яким задоволенням вивчала поезію авторки “Крила” і мала чудову можливість прослухати її у виконанні українського культурного діяча Богдана Ступки.¹ Його сильний голос найкраще передає рішучість поезії, але й наповнений мрійливістю, загадковістю. Такі митці як Ліна Костенко надихають, дають поштовх перу й думці, дають можливість людині злетіти в небо, навіть не маючи крил.

¹<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNMMxSnE5k>

Одним з найулюбленіших творів Ліни Костенко я вважаю роман у віршах “Маруся Чурай”, який розповідає історію молодій дівчини, що мала нелегке життя але за допомогою пісні та любові до життя не втрачала надії. З якою майстерністю автор передає сумну долю Марусі Чурай, використовуючи мелодійну українську мову! Особливо мені запам'яталися стрічки:

Як дивно, жар, але холонуть руки.

А солов'ї чогось як навісні!

Самотній добре, – жодної розлуки.

Сухотним добре, – гаснуть навесні.

(Ліна Костенко “Маруся Чурай”)

Під враженням від такого ліричного твору я склала свої думки у невелику поезію:

*Я дякую Вам, Ліна Костенко, за те,
що Ви надихаєте мене писати!*

З Днем народження Вас!

Самотнім людям надзвичайно пощастило!

Їм не потрібно до самотності зивать

Хоча немає, буцім, кого обійнять



Але й не треба від печалі голови
схилиять

Самотнім людям пощастило, справді

Вони не знають, що є те мрійливе
"краще"

Їм звично так - інакше жити нащо?

Не знають, що любов - то є з зубами
паща

Самотнім людям вельми пощастило

Не треба чекать зради, як нема від
кого

Вільні, не прив`язують нікого

Бездумних вчинків задля не живуть
убого

Самотні лиш страждають від
самотності, щастить..

А в "несамотніх" тисячі завдань:

Звільнитися від суму, дорікань

"Не будь черствим, не кинь, не рань"

Ці люди є щасливими, везе ж так!

Самотні мають час пізнати себе

І на землі побути, і злетіти в небо

А "несамотнім" піклуватись треба

Чекайте, то ж самотнім теж буває
гірко

Бо "несамотні" все псують власноруч

А їм, куди не глянь, праворуч чи
ліворуч

Ніде не скажуть "Я люблю тебе, я
поруч"

19 березня, 2013 рік

Так. Такі митці як Ліна Костенко
надихають, дають поштовх перу й
думці, дають можливість людині
злетіти в небо, навіть не маючи крил.
Насправді, Ліну Костенко важко
порівняти з іншими письменниками
та поетами, в ній є так багато
справжньоукраїнського, вона є
символом нашої культури. Такому
читачеві, як мені, перебуваючи
далеко від Батьківщини, тільки й
потрібні, що й поезії Ліни Костенко!

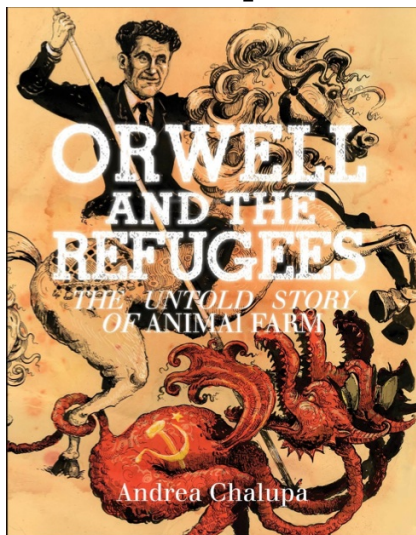
If you want to understand a mystery of
Ukrainian heart, you should read the
poems of Lina Kostenko. She is a master
of words, a great storyteller and an
ambitious woman who made a great
contribution to Ukrainian public life. It
is hard to preserve cultural spirit
translating a poem into different
languages, but reading her works is
worth it. You can also study Ukrainian



and try reading original poems ;) You won't regret it!

Катерина Гордійчук

**“From Hens to the
Holodomor”: A National
Speaking Tour for Andrea
Chalupa**



In order to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Holodomor this fall, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress National Holodomor Awareness Committee (UCC NHAC) and the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK) partnered to coordinate a national speaking tour, “*From Hens to the Holodomor*”, for Ukrainian American journalist Andrea Chalupa, author of “*Orwell and the Refugees: The Untold Story of*

Animal Farm”. Throughout October, Andrea presented her book in Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Ottawa, Montreal, Kitchener-Waterloo, Hamilton, and Toronto, captivating audiences across the country with her powerful story.

Andrea Chalupa's book is about a personal journey into her family's history, during which she found a Ukrainian translation of George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. The translation was authorized by Orwell himself and widely disseminated in the post-WWII Displaced Persons camps in Europe. Andrea has written this book making interesting connections to the Soviet Union and specifically, the Holodomor.

In addition to raising awareness of the Holodomor in the Ukrainian Canadian community as well as in the broader Canadian public, the tour was successful in building relationships in local communities across Canada. In each city, a UCC Provincial Council/Branch and a USO partnered to host and organize a speaking event for Andrea. Venues included community centres, universities, and public bookstores.

Andrea shared an inspiring story that created lasting impressions for many



students, some of which are included below:

“Andrea’s talk made it very clear that human rights and values are and should be respected, regardless of nationality or the colour of one’s skin. George Orwell and the Ukrainian refugees might have had very little in common, however, they did share a love and passion for justice and freedom”

- Levko Ivanchuk & Zoryan Davydov (Winnipeg)

“As was visible in the room, Andrea sparked a desire in the audience to bring awareness to the Holodomor and to learn more about it. Not only to sympathize, but to actually empathize. Passion, humanity, and love were rekindled in all”

- Kristi-Mari Fedorko-Bartos (Calgary)

“The entire talk was inspiring. Hearing Andrea speak about her book and her life experience surrounding the story of DP camps and the Holodomor was absolutely incredible and the Ukrainian community should be proud to have the chance to listen to such a great mind speak”

- Cassian Soltykevych (Edmonton)

“Andrea Chalupa’s Ottawa appearance was fantastic! Thank you to everyone

who made the event possible! Andrea’s book is a fascinating narrative which brings light to many unknown aspects of the Holodomor genocide”

- Gregory Wilson (Ottawa)

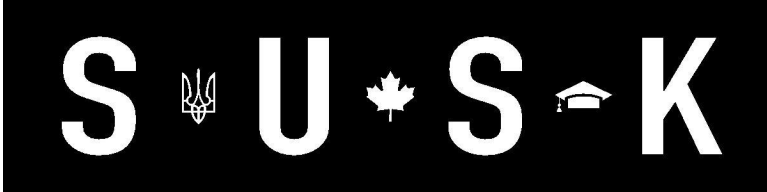
“This is how you get immersed, how you get inspired, how you research and stay open-minded. These were my thoughts after attending Andrea Chalupa’s book presentation”

- Olesia Bilash & Kateryna Gordiychuk (Montreal)

“Andrea’s presentation was a truly engaging and inspiring experience. The stories she shared were not dry facts about Ukraine’s history, but accounts of the lived experience of its people. Andrea also shared emotional accounts of her family’s experiences of the Soviet regime, the Holodomor, and life in the DP camps following WWII. In addition, Andrea’s dedication of her book to her dear grandfather Lonya, who has inspired her in difficult times, added a personal touch to the presentation”

- Iryna Balytska (Kitchener-Waterloo)

“‘Why should people know?’ was one of the many questions asked at the presentation in Hamilton. I think this question, posed by an interested non-



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Ukrainian student, solidifies the importance of Chalupa's book. The Holodomor was a tragedy that has not been given the recognition it warrants worldwide. By addressing the Holodomor through powerful authors such as Orwell, Andrea draws attention to this dark page in history"
- Marusia Douglas (Hamilton)

"Andrea's talk was not only inspiring, but also relatable. Nearly everyone in the audience was either a former DP or a descendant of one, bringing many to tears as they listened to Andrea's stories and were reminded of their own. Her story was one of an underdog, George Orwell, who struggled to publish a book that exposed the truth of a hidden genocide, covered up by the Soviet



regime and media figures like Walter Duranty. In "Animal Farm", Orwell exposed an evil that sought to eliminate a people, decimate a culture, and

eradicate a nation"
- Emily Bayrachny (Toronto)

Andrea has passed along her own impressions of the tour: "The tour organized by SUSK and the UCC National Holodomor Awareness Committee was seamless yet an absolute adventure! Every city I landed in had a different feel, a different set of personalities to welcome me. But there was always the same "famous Ukrainian hospitality" throughout, exactly like the kind I experienced while traveling through Ukraine for four months after college. Back then, I didn't want to leave Ukraine, and last week I had a hard time leaving Canada!

Getting to know SUSK students was especially meaningful. They reminded me of all the life-changing friendships I formed while in college and organizing cultural events. The lesson I was reminded of was this: Always take on leadership roles! You meet the best people that way and discover potential life-long collaborators! Also, remember to take time out to get lost, explore, and discover—that is exactly what led me to the film and Orwell's Ukrainian DP camp edition of *Animal Farm* in my family.



Thank you SUSK for all of your hard work that went into organizing and promoting this tour. I have no doubt that I will stay in touch with the people I met. And everyone should let me know if they ever come to New York. Let's continue working together. The Holodomor was swept under the rug of history. Now it's up to each of us to continue to promote the Holodomor and help it get into the mainstream"

"Famous Ukrainian hospitality": the collection of gifts Andrea received on tour

Andrea Chalupa's story is also one of hope: "the details of the lives the Ukrainian refugees, the cultural renaissance that they created in the freedom of the refugee camps, and how they developed a correspondence with a struggling, fringe writer in London is a story that will inspire anyone to stay true to his or her convictions. As long as your message is true, it will receive a worthy audience, and it will last", she writes. Her book has not only found a worthy audience in the Ukrainian Canadian community, but has captivated and amazed it.

If you'd like to order a copy of Andrea's book, please email president@susk.ca.

Christine Czoli
SUSK President

Літня Пригода в Україні

Цього літа, я була мандрівничкою,
бо ми з братом їздили туди,
де колись жили дідусь і бабуся,
щоб нарешті побачити, звідки вони.

Як тільки вийшли ми із літака в
Львові,

то в Івано-Франківськ поїхали.

Отож, наш перший спогад про
Україну - старе таксі,

та дороги які є дуже страшними.

Та ось нарешті наших родичів
зустріли ми,

з ними їздили ми у Маняву, Яремче,
Карпати.

Під час того тижня непорозуміння
між нами виникли,

однак менше-більше могли з ними
розмовляти.

А після того поїхали назад у Львів,
бо інші родичі на нас чекали.

В цьому місті ми жили 6 тижнів,



і в літній школі українську мову
вивчали.

В Українській Католицькій
Університет ми ходили,

там зустріли цікавих людей з усього
світу.

Лекції слухали, на екскурсії їздили,
навіть з репетиторами гуляли по
місту.

Так, ми скоро зорієнтувались у
Львові,

завжди знаходили щось цікавого
робити.

Ми разом з братом були в театрах, на
Ратуші,

а ще з усіма студентами в цікаві
кнайпи ходили.

Ми також відвідали Київ на два дні,
там побачили іншу сторону України.

Пам'ятки чималі, церкви прекрасні,
але майже всі там говорять по-
російськи.

А що найбільше мені сподобалось в
Україні?

Це, без сумніву, подорож на село.

Побачила, де колись дід жив, стояла
на тій самій землі,

щоб здійснити ту мрію було
неймовірно!

Ну, одним словом, Україна мене
вразила,

люди такі щедрі, їжа така смачна.

І раз в моєму житті мені було легко на
душі,

бо всі вміли вимовити моє ім'я!

А зараз я вже вдома, тобто в Канаді,

у нас дороги рівні, але узвару не
знайду.

Мені так сподобалось цього літа в
Україні,

що другу нагоду поїхати вже шукаю!

Леся Кінах
Торонтський Університет

*Do you want to be heard? Do
you have something you want
to share?*

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today!