



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Бажаємо Вам Веселих Свят!



Rizdvo Edition





President's Message

Dear readers,



The fall of 2016 has no doubt been one for the history books, whether those be positive notes or negative ones. Since our "Spooky Student" issue back in October, our member Ukrainian Students Organizations (USOs) commemorated the Holodomor at a dozen Universities across the country. In addition, Stephanie Nedoshytko (our External Relation Director) and myself participated in a symposium on Higher Education Reform in Ukraine.

Each year, our member organizations hold an event of some kind on their respective campus to commemorate the Holodomor. This year, we had about a dozen clubs do a variety of things including: information booths; vigil events; installing black flags on campus; sharing posts on social media using the SUSK hashtag #ShareTheStory; tying wheat sheaves to posts around campus with information cards - all to raise awareness about the Holodomor to the broader community. Various clubs attracted media attention from local news outlets, from Ukraine Today, and also their university communities at large. This in part comes from a more streamlined effort from SUSK to raise awareness for the Holodomor.



The Research Initiatives on Democratic Reforms in Ukraine (RIDRU) Symposium on Higher Education Reform in Ukraine took place in Edmonton in early December with Stephanie and myself speaking about the importance of student government in both Canada and Ukraine. University campuses, and their student unions, serve as fantastic democratic models on a much smaller and simpler scale for young adults. Taking the University of Alberta as an example: our Student Union provides both free and paid services to students (like a government would), holds free and fair elections (like [hopefully] a government would), and, among other things, collects some sort of tax from students (like governments definitely do). When students are



able to explore and test new ideas within student government, they can be motivated to get involved in various levels of government after graduation.

The National Executive has also worked on a new level with member USOs this school year. SUSK is currently holding conference calls twice a semester with all USOs to share local news, updates, and ideas for upcoming events. I thank everyone who has participated on these calls - your contributions have helped fellow clubs and SUSK overall these past few months and I look forward to seeing what other ideas may come out of the meetings in the near future.

All my best,
Cassian

P.S. Stay tuned for announcements about the 2017 National SUSK Congress!

Новорічні та Різдвяні Свята

Новорічні та Різдвяні Свята Ось і скінчилися Новорічні та Різдвяні свята А скільки радощів приємних турбот та гарного настрою вони нам принесли Ніби вчора ми прибирали ялинку та готували святковий стіл для зустрічі Нового року а сьогодні Новий рік вже панує по всьому світу надихаючи новими досягненнями успіхами та надіями Свято Різдва Христового для всіх українців особливе Православне



Християнство починає святкувати його січня як тільки зірочка зійшла свята вечеря підійшла В цей святий день ми зустрічаємо перших колядників пригостуємо їх святою кутьою вареничками грибочками рибою та огірочками Сміх та радість панує в ці дні в українських хатах Колядники відвідують наші оселі ще протягом тижня і в кожній хаті лунає Христос народився Хвалімо його Від щирого серця вітають нас і зичать міцного здоров'я творчих натхнень здійснення професійних планів особистих бажань та усіх мрій та задумів Я дуже люблю Різдво це моя найулюбленіша пора року І я ще раз хочу всіх привітати та сказати Нехай Новий рік принесе Вам тільки добробут благополуччя родинне тепло та злагоду ширих друзів та партнерів шани та



любові від рідних та близьких Вам людей щасливих та яскравих подій та усього самого найкращого

Kateryna Ivanchenko
University of Ottawa
From January 2012's Student

The Origin of the Malanka

Malanka season is quickly approaching! It is a sensational time of year when Ukrainians all around the world gather together for massive community dances known as zabavy. The date of the event stems from the day on which New Years is celebrated in accordance with the Julian calendar. This means that New Years Eve is celebrated on the 13th of January.

How exciting that many Ukrainians technically are celebrating New Years Eve more than once (if they attend these events). Nevertheless, despite all of the enthusiasm that surrounds these enchanted evenings, one may sometimes ask oneself where did this tradition originate from?

Although there are very few sources that support the foundation of this holiday, the earliest are from Ukrainian ethnologists. More specifically, they are those that stem from folk tales collected throughout the centuries. The most popular tale is that of a beautiful girl named Malanka. Malanka, according to the legend, was responsible for the “coming of spring” and the “blooming of flowers”, as she was the daughter of Mother Earth. The legend continues with Malanka being captured one evening by “her uncle” the Devil. However, upon return from imprisonment, spring had come again! Therefore, the actual celebration of Malanka, according to these folk tales, is the release of spring from captivity.

Over the centuries, the celebration of Malanka has evolved into more of a New Years celebration rather than “the coming of spring”. All over the world Ukrainians now greet the New Year at Malanka. It has become a time of year where all may gather together to socialize with old friends and create new friendships as well. At a Malanka today, one could expect delicious food, lively Ukrainian folk





music, dancing, kolomyjka and door prizes. If one is interested in celebrating New Years more than once (other than December 31st), Malanka is the event at which to be.

Adelia Shwec

University of Ottawa

'STUDENT' Article: 2017 Festive Edition

Although these words are not written by me, I felt like sharing this with the rest of you all reading this. The message is so lovely in these paragraphs, and I think it speaks volumes. Happy New Year, SUSKites near and far, above and beyond!

A decade ago, I wrote:

May your coming year be filled with magic and dreams and good madness. I hope you read some fine books and kiss someone who thinks you're wonderful, and don't forget to make some art -- write or draw or build or sing or live as only you can. And I hope, somewhere in the next year, you surprise yourself.

And almost half a decade ago I said,

...I hope you will have a wonderful year, that you'll dream dangerously and outrageously, that you'll make something that didn't exist before you made it, that you will be loved and that you will be liked, and that you will have people to love and to like in return. And, most importantly (because I think there should be more kindness and more wisdom in the world right now), that you will, when you need to be, be wise, and that you will always be kind.

And for this year, my wish for each of us is small and very simple. And it's this: I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something. So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make new mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made



before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life.

Whatever it is you're scared of doing, do it.

Make your mistakes, next year and forever.

Inga Bekbudova

SUSK Alumni (2015/2016 Media Director)

The “wikiHow” of becoming a successful networker



On Thursday October 13th, I attended a Networking event in Toronto at St. Vladimir's Institute. Although I'm not one who really enjoys networking, I learned some easy tricks to use to make myself become a better and more successful networker. Here are some tips that Andy Semotiuk provided that you will find extremely funny, yet somehow useful.

Step one: When given a name tag, if you are a 'serious' networker, then you will place the tag on your right side.

Reason- When shaking someone's hand, it's easier for the other person to view your name when your name tag is worn on your right side. We tend to forget names quickly after someone introduces themselves, therefore having your name tag on your right allows for the other person to view



your name without asking twice, or making it bluntly obvious that they have already forgotten your name.

Step two: Make sure your name is one or two syllables.

Reason- People tend to remember shorter names. If you are not fortunate enough to have a short name, then as Andrij Semotiuk would say, “change it”! If changing your name is not an option, make sure you take the time to make an association with your name. For example, telling someone the meaning behind your name allows you to make a connection that will help the other person remember you better.

Step three: Start off with a joke

Reason- Humoring someone will definitely not only make you stand out from the crowd, but allows for a personal connection to be made with the other person. Apparently, people who have jokes up their sleeves tend to be considered more personable, which is critical for networking.

Step four: When receiving a business card always place it in your left jacket pocket near your heart

Reason - In some cultures, such as Chinese, it is a sign of respect to have the receiver place it there. Showing respect is extremely important, and will get you ahead of the crowd.

Step five: At the end of your networking day, make sure to follow up promptly with the people you made a connection with.

Reason- Even though you were able to make a connection there, relationships take time to grow. Therefore contacting the person via skype, linkedin, phone call is important to keeping up with the connection.

Oksana Kaczala

VP Central, SUSK





MUCSS ZABAVA IN HONOUR OF 125 YEARS OF UKRAINIANS IN CANADA

On November 19th, a Zabava/Social in honour of 125 years of Ukrainians in Canada was held by Manitoba's Ukrainian Canadian Students Society (MUCSS). The Zabava was MUCSS' major event for 2016 and we are happy to announce that it was a tremendous success. MUCSS was blessed with more than 250 guests, all of whom were provided with the opportunity to immerse themselves in a celebration of Ukrainian culture, identity, and community.



The event was held at a historic meeting place for Ukrainian Manitobans, the UNF (Ukrainian National Federation) Hall in Winnipeg. MUCSS is thankful for the support of the Centre of Ukrainian Canadian Studies (CUCS), at the University of Manitoba, who worked together with UNF to cover the venue cost. Our student group is very fortunate to have had such generous supporters willing to donate both time and goods to make our Zabava possible. Without these people and local organizations, this celebration would not have been possible.



MUCSS would also like to thank everyone who came out and took part! All in attendance heard a breathtaking performance by the Ukrainian Canadian band Budmo, participated in traditional Ukrainian dances (kolomyyka, anyone?), and had their pictures taken in vibrant traditional Ukrainian attire at our photobooth. As a break from all the fun, everyone with an appetite enjoyed delicious Ukrainian Manitoban “social” food and refreshments. Those willing, also tried their luck at prize draws consisting of Ukrainian memorabilia as well as other amazing prizes.

On a night which most will never forget; the traditional and contemporary, historic and modern, past and present, all came together to create a celebration worthy of the occasion. Good times were had, old friendships were strengthened, and new friendships were made during a wonderful evening of Ukrainian Canadian culture in our province. MUCSS once again thanks all who joined together in the singing of Mnohaya Lita. Joining with the spirit of our ancestors, who laid the foundation for this celebration, we sang to give thanks for the many years in Manitoba and prayed for many more happy years to come!

To learn more about MUCSS, or to see more photos of our Zabava check out our [Facebook page](#), and don't forget to follow [@manitobaucss on Instagram!](#)

Romana Sucha

Manitoba's Ukrainian Canadian Students Society





Does swimming in debt count as cardio?

Just get a consolidation loan from UCU from 4.99%!



PERSONAL LOAN SALE!

Debt Consolidation Starting at 4.99%

Get financially fit. Borrow from UCU instead.

A UCU Personal Loan can provide the funds to make it right. It only takes a few minutes to apply online or in your branch.

Visit ukrainiancu.com or your member service representative for more information!



ucuykc UKRAINIAN CREDIT UNION LIMITED
УКРАЇНЬСЬКА КРЕДИТОВА СПІЛКА



ukrainiancu.com
facebook.com/ucuykc

* DAC, APR. Rates are subject to change. Fees and charges may apply. Refinances of existing Ukrainian Credit Union loans do not qualify for this offer. New credit accounts are subject to application, credit qualifications, and income verification. May be subject to penalty for early withdrawal. Other terms, conditions, fees, charges and lending criteria may apply and are available upon application and subject to change without notice. Applications may be submitted online or at any Ukrainian Credit Union Limited branch location.



Joining Your Local UCC Branch

Have you ever thought about joining the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), but then didn't know how to go about it? The UCC may seem a little intimidating, but trust me, it is a welcoming and friendly organization. The UCC has led the Ukrainian-Canadian community for 75 years, and it relies on dedicated individuals on the national, provincial, and local level to continue its work. Integrating youth into the organization is a goal of the UCC and it is a necessity in continuing the success and strength of the Ukrainian-Canadian community.



Becoming involved in my local Ukrainian Student Organization (USO) has opened up various opportunities for me, including recently joining my local UCC branch executive board. Each branch may have its own set of procedures, however I will explain how I became a part of my branch and why you should also.

My USO is a member organization of the local UCC Branch because it offers us options in regards to funding for events and community support. It also gives students the opportunity to become more active in their local community. As a designated representative of my USO, I attended UCC council meetings where various community organizations discuss events, issues, and projects.

When the time came for the branch's annual general meeting, I was fortunate because a fellow SUSK member had been elected to the local board, however they were unable to accept the position. My name was then put forward, and because I had built up contacts I was able to join the executive board. I have now been on the executive board for five months which has led me to challenge myself and grow more than I could have imagined.

Being a part of a formal organization like UCC, you will gain skills that are crucial to your professional career. But above that, you will be able to work with incredible volunteers and build lifelong friendships as you fortify our community. And if I could offer any advice to someone who is thinking about pursuing membership on their local UCC branch, it would be this:



- 1) reach out to the board and let them know you are interested;
- 2) make space for yourself in an effective position because you are a valuable resource;
- 3) learn from the experienced community members alongside you.

I have learned that throughout my time with UCC that I should take every opportunity to get involved because it can lead to great challenges and outcomes. You may think that you do not have enough experienced for the UCC, but it is important to understand that I did not have much experience either. As a youth community member, you are an asset to the UCC. I would highly recommend volunteering to take on communication activities because it is an area we are particularly strong at as millennials and an area that I have particularly enjoyed.

Even if you are just beginning your integration into the community, don't be discouraged there are opportunities out there, but you have to be ready to take them.

Nykole King,

University of Saskatchewan

Do you want to be heard? Do you have something you want to share? Submit it to student@susk.ca today!

