



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

March 2008

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February Meeting

Serge Cipko and Glenna Roberts gave an interesting presentation on their recently published book, *One-Way Ticket: The Soviet Return-to-the-Homeland Campaign 1955-1960* (2008).

This is a collection of stories of those Ukrainian Canadians who answered the call of the Return to the Homeland Committee which invited Ukrainians, Russians and other to 'return' to the Soviet Union in the 1950's and 1960's. This is an example of a 'return migration' movement which is rarely documented and analyzed by Canadian historians. According to some sources, about 10-20% of immigrants to Canada from Europe eventually returned to their countries of origin.

In many cases, the culture shock of moving and settling in a Soviet city with very different standards of living decided many to seek a return to Canada. In this case, it was the children of these returnees that attempted to return to Canada after their parents settled in the Soviet Union. They contacted the Canadian Embassy in Moscow but were faced with enormous bureaucratic problems. The book documents their efforts, the bureaucratic obstacles and some success stories.

For more information on the book, you may contact the publisher, penumbra.press.ca

April Meeting

We are fortunate that Daniel Galadza has agreed to give a presentation on Ukrainian Canadian Church Architecture on April 22, 2008. Daniel has conducted research on the architecture of Ukrainian Canadian churches and will make a presentation based on his research.

Family History Publication

This book is available at the Library and Archives Canada in the Genealogy section on the third floor: CS90 S86 1983 fol. RR Patricia Mielnichuk and Peggy Supruniuk (compilers), *Canada, You Have Fulfilled Your Promises, Descendants of Roman and Paraska Supruniuk*, UVISCO Press, Edmonton, Alberta, 1983, 337 pages.

The family immigrated from western Ukraine in 1935-37 and settled near Bonneyville, Alberta. This book contains information on the Supruniuk, Ogrodiuk, Yewchuk and other families.

The Sanctuary Project

A workshop was held on January 26, 2008 at the University of Alberta to plan the project, Sanctuary: Spiritual Heritage Documentation Project.

Among other objectives, the project intends to systematically photograph all churches, cemeteries and tombstones in the Ukrainian Canadian prairies. Most of this material will be made available on the Internet.

Representatives of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church participated in this workshop.

Detailed information about this workshop and conference are on the Religion and Culture Program of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies web-site:

<http://www.ualberta.ca/~cius/religion-culture/index.htm>

New patron, partners join the Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project

An honorary patron and two new partners have joined the Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project in its mandate to help families interested in exploring their past in Alberta and Ukraine.

On 5 February 2008, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress-Alberta Provincial Council became the honorary patron of the Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project. In support of this venture, the UCC-APC will encourage the full support of its members in documenting this part of Alberta's heritage.

The Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project is also pleased to announce that in February 2008, two new organizations partnered with the AUG project to help undertake the documentation of church properties in rural

communities in Alberta: - Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada (UCBC)- Edmonton Eparchy - Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association (USRA)- Edmonton Branch

Beginning in May 2008, the generous financial support provided through these partnerships will allow fieldworkers to travel to rural church properties in east central Alberta. While at rural church properties, the project's fieldworkers will work with volunteers to record and photograph cemetery tombstones and markers. The information and photographs collected through the "Documenting Church Properties in Rural Communities in Alberta" will be available on the internet to those persons seeking information about their family history and relatives.

A one-day workshop in March will train fieldworkers and volunteers to take consistent and web-ready photographs of cemetery tombstones and markers. Members of parishes in east central Alberta who wish to assist in the documentation of their ancestors' cemeteries are invited to this workshop as well.

For more information, please contact David at the Alberta genealogical research office at (780) 431-2324. Written inquiries may be forwarded to the Alberta genealogical research office by e-mail, at AB-Ukraine.Genealogy@gov.ab.ca, or by mail: Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project Old St. Stephen's College 8820 - 112 Street Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2P8 Canada

The Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project has been made possible through the financial support of the Alberta Lottery Fund.