



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group

## National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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### Welcome to our 2016-2017 Season

We are beginning a new season of meetings and, once again, we are encouraging members to volunteer to make presentations on their own family history research and writing. If possible, members can make short presentations on their own research problems and successes and a meeting can be devoted to several similar presentations.

According to the present schedule, the monthly meetings after the New Year would be a good time for such presentations. As a 'self-help' group in the area of Ukrainian family history, this can be a learning experience for all of us.

### May 24 2016 Meeting

*"Still wedded to the cause? Ukrainian Canadians and Canada's policies towards Ukraine (1991-2014)"*

Klavdia Tatar introduced her presentation by describing her previous academic work in Russia and in Manitoba. She is a PhD candidate, Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa. Her research deals with the role of ethnocultural communities, organizations and generally diasporas as lobby groups in influencing and forming government policies in relation to countries of origin. In this case, she is studying how the Ukrainian Canadian community has influenced Canadian federal government policy concerning Ukraine.

According to Klavdia, most of the current academic literature has been based on the American experience and use examples from politics in the United States. Perhaps the best sources for this information in Canada is the Ukrainian Canadian and the mainstream Canadian press. She began her research by establishing a

chronology of major political achievements in Canada-Ukraine relations. Her research plan covers the years 1991 to 2015.



*Klavdia Tatar presenting at our May meeting*

She mentioned the important role of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) as a main 'player' in this process. The role of the UCC in influencing federal elections, most recently in the 2015 federal election, is also an event that has to be studied. Another factor to be considered is the role of the recent waves of immigrants from Ukraine to Canada. Her presentation dealt with her 'work in progress' and her dissertation should add a new chapter to the history of Ukrainians in Canada. The presentation was concluded with a question-and-answer period.

### Forthcoming meetings:

#### *October 25, 2016 Meeting*

The story of Bill Markowsky, a Saskatchewan-born RCAF bomber pilot during the Second World War. He was shot down in July, 1943 off the Italian coast and spent the rest of the war as a Prisoner of War (POW), mostly at Stalag Luft III – the site of the Great Escape. A popular movie based on this event was later made.

November 22, 2016

Brent Bezo from Carleton University will make the presentation: The Intergenerational Impact of Genocide: How the Holodomor has impacted survivors and their descendants in Ukraine..

### **List of Ukrainian-Canadian Sources**

Ukrainian Canadian History, 1891 to Present, A List of English-language Secondary Sources (Monographs, Book Chapters, Collections, Articles) Compiled by Orest T. Martynowych, Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, University of Manitoba, Spring, 2011.

[https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/ukrainian\\_canadian\\_studies/media/Ukrainian\\_Canadian\\_History\\_biblio.pdf](https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/ukrainian_canadian_studies/media/Ukrainian_Canadian_History_biblio.pdf)

### **Ukrainian Catholic Church Cemetery, Kenora**

Information on the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church cemetery, Kenora, Ontario can be found at the link below:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~onkenora/ukrainian.htm>

### **This Is Why You Have Blue Eyes**

Article by Alice Sholl, August 18, 2016

Like our hair colour or height, our eye colour is one of the first things we learn about ourselves when we are little. And since most people in the world have brown eyes, if you have blue eyes, you probably learned that you were pretty special. And now, a study has revealed why your eyes are the colour they are. Apparently all people with blue eyes have a single common ancestor.

The study by the University of Copenhagen found a genetic mutation which happened 6,000 to 10,000 years ago and determined the eye colour of all blue-eyed people today. Professor Hans Eiberg from the study told Science Daily that originally, everyone had brown eyes, but that a genetic mutation affecting a gene in our chromosomes "turned off" the ability to produce brown eyes. This gene affects our levels of melanin, which is what determines our eye, hair and skin colour. But for some reason this mutation just ended up altering our eyes rather than the whole package. If that gene (called

OCA2) was totally turned off, for example, it would cause albinism.

The reason scientists think it all goes back to one ancestor is that blue-eyed individuals only vary a little in the amount of melanin in their eyes - while brown-eyed people's vary a lot more. "From this we can conclude that all blue-eyed individuals are linked to the same ancestor," Professor Eiberg said. "They have all inherited the same switch at exactly the same spot in their DNA."

### **Community Events**

*Wednesday Sep 28, 6-10 pm*

Appreciation Night - Capital Ukrainian Festival. Ukrainian Orthodox Hall, 1000 Byron Ave. Varenyky Dinner and entertainment by Vasyl Popadiuk, Svitank, and Kolizhanky. Free for volunteers. Everyone is welcome, \$10 for guests. Cash bar. For information contact Jane Kolbe ([kolbejane@gmail.com](mailto:kolbejane@gmail.com)) or Melania Buba ([melanie.buba@gmail.com](mailto:melanie.buba@gmail.com)) Tickets available at <http://cufvolunteerappreciation.eventbrite.ca>

*Wednesday evenings in October*

The UCWLC will hold four Ukrainian embroidery workshops in the church hall of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine, 952 Green Valley Cresc. on Wednesday evenings (Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26) from 7-9 pm. Although geared for beginners, all levels are welcome. Pre-registration required. There will be a fee for embroidery materials (TBD). Information contact: Christine Habrowych 613-731-1870

*Wednesday Nov 30*

The Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre administers an awards program for new writers, media artists, folk artists and musicians. The application deadline is November 30 of each year. Award winners are announced in the following spring. For information:

<http://www.macewan.ca/wcm/SchoolsFaculties/ArtsScience/CentresandInstitutes/UkrainianResourceandDevelopmentCentre/AwardsandBursaries/index.htm>