



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group

## National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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### **May 31<sup>st</sup> UGG-NCR Webinar**

*The Neighbourhood of Rosemont, Montreal:  
Construction of its Ukrainian Identity*

Kim Pawliw made a presentation to the Ukrainian Genealogy Group entitled “*The Neighbourhood of Rosemont, Montreal: Construction of its Ukrainian Identity*”. Kim is a PhD student and lecturer in the Department of Geography at Laval University.



*Kim Pawliw - our May speaker*

Her presentation was based on her academic research and included some preliminary results. Kim selected the Ukrainian community in Montreal as the subject for her research because this is the largest concentration of Ukrainians in Quebec. Her main focus in this presentation was the establishment and development of an ethnocultural identity as a Ukrainian community in a neighbourhood and the influence of the local municipal authorities in this process. This presentation is an important contribution to the study of the Ukrainian community in Montreal for researchers interested in their Ukrainian family history.

Kim began her presentation by describing her methodology, that is, the sources of her information based on interviews with Ukrainian community leaders and members, use of archives from community organizations, newspapers articles, social media and also information from representatives from the Montreal municipal government. She also spoke about the use of fire insurance maps to research community and private buildings. She described the process how the Rosemont area became known as a Ukrainian neighbourhood including by the Ukrainians who came to view Rosemont as ‘their’ neighbourhood. She also mentioned the roles of the Montreal municipal government and the Ukrainian community itself in this process.

In her presentation, Kim outlined the four waves of Ukrainian immigration to Canada and their settlement in the various neighbourhoods of Montreal. It was the third wave of immigration in the post-Second World War years that developed the Rosemont area as a Ukrainian neighbourhood. She mentioned the building of an institutional landscape composed of Ukrainian churches, credit union and commercial buildings, ‘corner stores’, seniors’ retirement homes, community organizations’ buildings, and also Ukrainian Saturday schools and facilities for cultural events such as concerts and more recently, the Montreal Ukrainian Festival. The municipal authorities confirmed the Ukrainian identity by the official names Parc de l’Ukraine and La rue de l’Ukraine. The municipal authorities supported this process to demonstrate to the rest of Canada that Montreal was an inclusive city and had a diverse population.

As in many other Ukrainian communities, the younger generations tend to follow the Canadian pattern of moving to the suburbs. However, there are institutions and events that continue to draw community members back to the neighbourhood on a regular basis such as church services, political and cultural meetings and events, Saturday schools, and also for sentimental and historical reasons. Suggested topics for further research are other affiliated 'locations' for community gatherings such as religious events including weddings, funerals at funeral homes and cemeteries, political demonstrations and parades, dance rehearsals and concerts, summer camps, cottage communities, sport activities that reinforce the Ukrainian identity of the community based in Rosemont. Kim concluded her presentation with a 'question-and-answer' session.

### **Ukrainian language books at the Ottawa Public Library**

You can place holds on the books you'd like to read from this list:

<https://tinyurl.com/UABooksOttawa>

### **New Library and Archives Canada website**

On August 30, the Library and Archives Canada launched their new website <https://library-archives.canada.ca>. One can search through both library and archival holdings at once.

There is a simple search only, but once you type in your search word, you can filter the results by 'Archive,' 'Genealogy,' 'Library,' and 'Images.' You can also select the time period, and resources that are available online. For example, searching for 'Ukrainian' results in 24,268 hits: 14,651 of them archival, 9 genealogy, and 9,608 - library materials. Almost 10% of them are available online.

LAC says the website is a work in progress, but it is definitely much more user-friendly than the old one. It looks very accessible and is a great step toward making Canadian documentary history more discoverable.

Happy archiving!

### **Maidan Market - Closing**

Throughout the war, the Maidan Market, has been a community hub and free store for Ukrainian newcomers in Ottawa.

The following announcement was made regarding the closing of the Maidan Market and future plans:

*Effective October 1, 2022, the Maidan Market located at Westgate Mall will no longer be distributing basic necessities (clothing, toiletries, baby items). The store will be closed, as we redefine the future services to be provided. Watch for further updates on our website <https://www.maidanmarket.ca/>*

### **Café Ukraine**

Café Ukraine, 911 Carling Ave. is a new volunteer-operated community café aimed at helping newcomers from Ukraine meet other members of the community and share information and resources on settling into their new home.

Hours:

Tuesday @ 6:00 - 9:00pm

Friday @ 6:00 - 9:00pm

Saturday @ 2:00 - 9:00pm.

Café Ukraine is a joint project of the League of Ukrainian Canadians and the Ukrainian Youth Association of Canada.