



Attendees listen to presentations during a jubilee conference on February 3 at the Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation (KUMF) Gallery in Toronto held to kick off celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Canada.



Prof. Frank Sysyn speaks on the topic of the golden era of Ukrainian scholarship for the Shevchenko Scientific Society during a conference at the Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation (KUMF) Gallery in Toronto on February 3.

Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada kicks off 75th anniversary celebrations with jubilee conference



Dr. Ksenya Kiebuszinski addresses attendees of a conference on February 3 at the Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation (KUMF) Gallery in Toronto.



Conference attendees included (from left to right) Marta Dyczok, Tetiana Dzulynsky, Daria Darewych and Maria Lyalka-Wynnycky.



A jubilee conference on February 3 at the Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation (KUMF) Gallery in Toronto held to kick off celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Canada was chaired by Dr. Taras Koznarsky.

by **Ulana Plawuszczak Pidzamecky**

TORONTO – Seventy-five years ago, on October 17, 1949, Ukrainian scholars who had recently arrived in Canada from post-World War II Europe founded the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) of Canada. The organization kicked off its 75th-anniversary celebrations with a jubilee conference on February 3 at the Canadian Ukrainian Art Foundation (KUMF) Gallery in Toronto and simultaneously online.

The afternoon of presentations focused on the history of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, both in Canada and Ukraine, where the organization celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2023.

The Organizing Committee was chaired by Ulana Pasicznyk and included members Dr. Daria Darewych, Ulana Plawuszczak Pidzamecky, Maria Lyalka-Wynnycky, Zenon Waschuk and Dr. Maxim Tarnawsky.

Dr. Marta Dyczok, president of NTSh Canada, an associate professor in the history and political science departments at Western University, a fellow at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs, and an adjunct professor at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, opened the session.

Attending virtually from Ukraine was Dr. Roman Kushnir, president of NTSh in Ukraine and an academician of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, who delivered greetings.

Congratulations were also received from the President of NTSh in the U.S. Dr. Halyna Hryn, as well as from NTSh in Donetsk, Ukraine, whose members have had to temporarily leave the city as a result of Russia's war on Ukraine.

Gold medals commemorating the 150th anniversary of NTSh in Ukraine were presented to Dr. Daria Darewych, past president of NTSh Canada; Tetiana Dzulynsky, the organization's finance officer, and NTSh Canada President Dr. Dyczok.

Ulana Plawuszczak Pidzamecky is a member of the Board of Directors of the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada.

The awards were officially received by the Honorary Consul of Canada to Ukraine Dr. Oksana Wynnycky-Yusypovych during the Gala Academy for the 150th anniversary of NTSh in Ukraine, and transported to Canada by Maria Lyalka-Wynnycky, a member of the Board of Directors of NTSh Canada.

The conference was chaired by Dr. Taras Koznarsky, a member of NTSh Canada and an associate professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and an affiliated faculty member at the Centre for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies at the University of Toronto.

First to speak was Dr. Martin Rohde who addressed the topic "The Shevchenko Scientific Society in Lviv and the Making of a (Western) Ukrainian Knowledge Culture, 1892-1939." Dr. Rohde is a research fellow at the Leibniz-Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg, Germany. His award-winning doctoral thesis was on the Ukrainian scientific history of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The second speaker was Prof. Frank Sysyn who spoke on "The Golden Era of Ukrainian Scholarship: The Shevchenko Scientific Society, 1894-1914." Prof. Sysyn is the director of the Peter Jacyk Centre for Ukrainian Historical Research at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, a professor in the Department of History and Classics at the University of Alberta, and editor-in-chief of the Hrushevsky Translation Project. Prof. Sysyn is a full member of NTSh Canada.

The third presentation was by Dr. Ksenya Kiebuszinski who spoke on the topic of "Postwar Emigré Encyclopedic and Local History Projects, 1949-1993." Dr. Kiebuszinski is a Slavic studies librarian at the University of Toronto who holds a doctoral degree in literary studies from Brandeis University and a master's degree in information science, French and women's studies. She has worked in academic libraries, archives and museums for over 30 years. Dr. Kiebuszinski is a full member of NTSh Canada.

Dr. Rohde spoke about Ukrainian studies as a distinct Ukrainian way of undertaking scientific study. He described the conditions in which this idea was given expression, debated and refined – conditions characterized

by specific pre-existing knowledge cultures. He explained that, when historian and philologist Mykhailo Hrushevsky came to Lviv University in 1894 to assume the position of chair, his chair was in what at the time was called Ruthenian Studies, but he purposefully taught Ukrainian history. And he did so despite the perception that this was not a precise science. But Hrushevsky's knowledge paradigm in which the study of Ukrainian history should be interdisciplinary led to a clash of knowledge cultures both within and outside the circle which was to become the Shevchenko Scientific Society. At its core were the fields and their projects close to his heart: the humanities, ethnography and the study of nationality. Hrushevsky was deeply influenced by his former professor, Volodymyr Antonovych, and his definition of nationality.

During World War I and the interwar period, diverse tendencies caused the organization to break up into various interest groups. Many members were persecuted, arrested and sent to Siberia. Others mobilized into the Hapsburg army. Still others moved to Vienna and elsewhere. Some took up propaganda work to avoid military action. The majority managed to continue their work around the justification of the Ukrainian nation. This period of mobility was an active and important one, with member publications appearing in a variety of languages.

In Lviv, society buildings were frequently used by the military, and both the structures and the documents they housed were heavily damaged by the Russian army. Local society members were deeply involved in clean-up and rescue well into the 1920s. The society became interested in and actively pursued public outreach and education. These circumstances paved the way for the organization to build up its scholarship and also establish a museum, which, in turn, led to a new view of the society and its work as a common good. This new phase in the organization's growth included an important new role as a producer of learning resources for schools.

As the period progressed, new opportunities arose that were politically funded. Among these were the celebration

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Shevchenko...

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and memorialization of important Ukrainian figures, the building of an archive, and the establishment of a museum of the Ukrainian National (Liberation) Movement (1914-1921). These activities helped to bring cohesion to the organization, including around the signature project of compiling and standardizing Ukrainian knowledge in the "Encyclopedia of Ukraine."

Prof. Sysyn spoke about the golden era of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, when Ukraine became a full-fledged member on the scientific map of the world.

Prof. Sysyn focused on a colorful letter from 1904 from Rev. Mykhailo Zubrytsky to Prof. Mykhailo Hrushevsky. Mr. Zubrytsky was a Greek Catholic priest, Ukrainian ethnographer, folklorist, historian, public figure (including in the local government of the Western Ukrainian People's Republic), publicist and a full member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society from 1904. He was the only village priest to achieve this position. Written in the authentic Galician language of the time, the letter praised Hrushevsky's persistent efforts, despite all obstacles. Mr. Zubrytsky expressed joy and gratitude for being elected a full member of the society.

The correspondence illustrates the importance of being a full member at that time, as Mr. Zubrytsky made a respectable contribution to Ukrainian scholarship, even and especially by an ordinary village priest. The letter also shows a nuanced under-

standing of identity, concern about the turbulent times for the society, an awareness of urban-rural tensions, the demands and challenges he faced owing to geographic distance, and the significance of the society's work for the European trajectory of the Ukrainian people.

Prof. Sysyn mentioned the enormous impact of the recent "resurrection" of the carol about St. Sophia Cathedral, from Mr. Zubrytsky's collection of carols, which was performed this past Christmas season in Ukraine for the first time in 400 years by Ukrainian pop singer Tina Karol. The carol exemplifies how Ukrainians were able to preserve the memory of their unity even when living under the rule of different states.

Prof. Sysyn also described his own academic experience in translating and publishing Hrushevsky's works. Focusing on Hrushevsky's fourth volume on Lithuania and Poland, he drew attention to a comment by Dr. Robert Frost of the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, who expressed surprise at the great progress of Ukrainian scholars in the golden era despite all of the attempts to hinder their work by the Polish government. During that period, it became clear that it was not university education that was vital for Ukraine and its future, but rather it was the research conducted through the Shevchenko Scientific Society that made an important impact.

Prof. Sysyn noted that science did not develop equally in eastern and western Ukraine. A new generation of scholars played a decisive role in the importance of scientific activity in Lviv. For example, Hrushevsky's fundamental work, "History

of Ukraine-Rus," was published. This was because Ruthenians, although they had their own institutions, did not develop their language and did not create relevant scholarship. The society clearly understood that the organization should be a scientific so that it could someday become an academic institution with teaching and publishing in the Ukrainian language.

Dr. Kiebuszinski explained that, as a librarian at Harvard University at the time of Ukraine's declaration of independence in 1991, she was responsible for inquiries from around the globe. People sought biographical information about Ukrainian writers, composers and artists; demographic information about Ukraine; geographic and historical information about cities and regions; interpretation of Ukrainian-language documents; location of articles, books and websites; citation checking; information about Ukrainian history; translations of Ukrainian-language materials; and assistance in resolving legal issues.

At that time, the only reliable and accessible resources were encyclopedic editions published by NTSh: "Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Studies 1"; "Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Studies 2"; "Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia," volumes one and two; and the "Encyclopedia of Ukraine," volumes one and two. English-language materials on Ukraine were scarce, as there were only roughly 1,500 books in 1991. There was a lack of authoritative material on Ukraine's ethnic groups, as well as literary studies. Fundamental NTSh publications authored by Dr. Volodymyr Kubijovyč, Dr. George Luckyj, and others came to her aid.

As early as 1948, the idea of publishing

an encyclopedia in other languages, including English, was voiced, and work on this was carried out in tandem with the original Ukrainian-language version. In 1963, the first of two volumes of the English-language version - "Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia" - was published, with the second coming out in 1971. This edition was in great demand and highly praised by international scholars. In 1976, the editorial board entered into a partnership with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in Edmonton, which took on the responsibility of funding and editing the work. The new English-language "Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Studies" was published in a total of five volumes, with the last coming out in 2001.

Dr. Kiebuszinski observed that Ukrainians in the diaspora have managed to produce four encyclopedias in the last 40 years. Work on "The Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora" and "The Encyclopedia of Modern Ukraine" continues, as does work on "The Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine" led by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

During the discussion, attention was drawn to NTSh's ongoing publications, the "Encyclopedia of the Shevchenko Scientific Society," as well as the "Notes of the Shevchenko Scientific Society," published from 1892 until the 1930s in Lviv with more than 50 subsequent volumes in the U.S. Publication was resumed in Ukraine in 1990.

A link to the conference video and information about other NTSh Canada anniversary events can be found online at <https://ntsh.ca/>.

Demographic...

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these counties significantly increases the relative percentages in all counties. For example, the 0.5 percent for Ukrainians in Berkshire County rises to 7.0 percent when Polish voters are added; similarly, the 0.8 percent for Ukrainians in Middlesex County goes up to 7.9 percent.

Similar data for counties in Illinois and Michigan can be found on the center's website (The center can be contacted if data is wanted from other states).

How can these data be used? First, it is important to remember that these are aggregated, not individual data. Due to legal confidentiality requirements, it is forbidden to present individual data. Second, these are official Bureau of the Census data, and one cannot claim that community leaders may have inflated them. Third, ACS data are representative samples of the total U.S. population, and these are fairly accurate estimates of all persons of Ukrainian ancestry in a state, metropolitan area or county who satisfy the requirements for presidential elec-

tions. Fourth, these numbers are maximum estimates of potential Ukrainian voters. In most cases, the number of persons with some contact with the local organized Ukrainian community is much smaller.

With these caveats, the center offers three possible applications of these data:

First, Ukraine's supporters should inform other members of their community about the number of potential voters and use it to motivate people to register and vote. They can also implement an outreach campaign to reach persons without connections to the local organized community.

Second, individuals can contact candidates from both political parties, show them the data on potential Ukrainian voters or, even better, Ukrainian and Polish potential voters, and condition the support of these voters on their position regarding Ukraine.

And, third, individuals can contact local Polish leaders, show them the data for Ukrainians and Poles, and suggest a common strategy to get people from both communities to vote for the candidates who will support Ukraine.

Remembering...

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Mr. Korownyk was a wordsmith extraordinaire. His passion for words, language and expression are the hallmarks of his many poems. He could have written on any theme but chose to write about his faith and heritage.

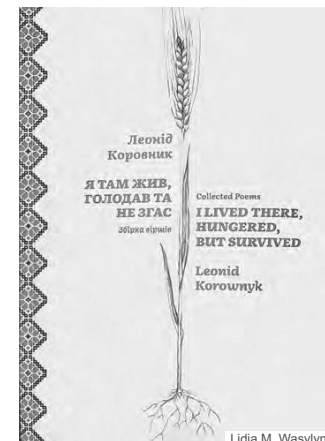
His expressive poetry also deals with Ukraine and its historic struggle for independence. He also celebrated the genius and impact of Taras Shevchenko on Ukrainian identity.

However, the subject of the Holodomor in Mr. Korownyk's poetry is both ubiquitous and dominant. He wrote about the Holodomor to honor the memory of those who suffered unspeakably and did not survive. He was committed to recording his testimony and preserving the truth about this genocide that the Kremlin worked so hard to erase from memory and history.

A bilingual collection of his poetry was published in 2022 by the Edmonton Branch of the League of Ukrainian Canadians. That work, titled "I Lived There, Hungered, but Survived" ("Я Там Жив, Голодав Та Не Зрач"), honors the memory of countless Holodomor victims.

For many years, Mr. Korownyk read one of his powerful poems at the annual Edmonton commemoration of the Holodomor. His words affirm that the Holodomor is not just a historical fact or a statistic, but is a human calamity of unimaginable proportions, a demonic crime against humanity the consequences of which cannot be erased. It is sad and significant that, even though many of his poems were written years ago, they mirror the tragic events happening now in Ukraine.

Anne Korownyk, Mr. Korownyk's wife of 66 years, shared four important words that describe her husband. The first is faith, and this is beautifully expressed in his poem "Contemplation" ("Роздуми"). The second



Lidia M. Wasylchyn

A photo shows the cover of Leonid Korownyk's book of poems "I Lived There, Hungered, but Survived" ("Я Там Жив, Голодав Та Не Зрач").

is dedication to his family, his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The third is appreciation for his adopted country, Canada. The fourth is lasting respect for his homeland, Ukraine. He thrived on Ukraine's history and language and was inspired by the Ukrainian nation and its people.

With the passing of Mr. Korownyk, a Holodomor survivor, the genocide of 1932-1933 is one step closer to being entirely a matter for history books. The life story that Mr. Korownyk shared so unreservedly and generously with his family, friends, colleagues and school children was first-hand evidence of the genocide of the Ukrainian nation. Despite being a witness to these horrors, his faith in God was unquestionable and his commitment to preserving the truth about the Holodomor was unwavering. He accomplished a great deal with the life that God granted him. May he rest in peace.

5. Number of Potential Ukrainian and Polish Voters in Massachusetts by County*, 2022

County	Ukrainians	Percent of U.S. Total	Poles	Sum	Percent of U.S. Total
Berkshire	533	0.5	7,297	7,830	7.0
Bristol	459	0.1	15,881	16,340	3.7
Essex	2,608	0.5	21,120	23,728	3.7
Hampden	2,863	0.8	27,424	30,287	7.9
Middlesex	8,605	0.8	43,898	52,503	3.8
Norfolk	4,118	0.8	16,870	20,988	3.2
Plymouth	842	0.2	10,380	11,222	2.6
Suffolk	2,602	0.5	12,943	15,545	2.4
Worcester	1,224	0.2	31,511	32,735	4.9

* Counties in the ACS 2022 sample.