

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS - ALBERTA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
КОНГРЕС УКРАЇНЦІВ КАНАДИ - ПРОВІНЦІЙНА РАДА АЛЬБЕРТИ

PRESENTS



*Hetman  
Leadership Awards  
2023*

*ГЕТЬМАНСЬКІ  
НАГОРОДИ  
&*

*Ukraine Crisis Humanitarian  
Aid Award*

*Saturday, December 2, 2023*

# Program



# Програма

**5:00 PM Reception & Silent auction bidding time** | Прийом та Тихий аукціон

**Prelude:** Bandura Performance by Olha Harabara

**6:00 PM Opening** | Початок

**Masters of Ceremonies:** Lydia Migus & Alex Taraiev | Ведучі: Лидія Мігус & Олександр Тараєв

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Canadian & Ukrainian National Anthems:** Verkhovyna Choir | Виконання гімну Канади та гімну України: Український хор «Верховина»

**Hymn of Defence of Ukraine:** Verkhovyna Choir | Гімн Оборони України: Український хор «Верховина»

**Moment of Silence** | Хвилина мовчання

**Welcome:** Orysia Boychuk, UCC-APC President | Вітання: Орісія Бойчук, Голова Конгресу Українців Канади - Провінційна Рада Альберти

**Opening Prayer:** Bishop David Motiuk | Молитва: Владика Давид Мотюк

**Dinner** | Вечеря

**6:45 PM Greetings from the Government of Alberta:**  
MLA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk | Вітання від уряду - Джеккі Армстронг-Гоменюк

**Greetings from the City of Edmonton:**  
Councillor | Вітання від м. Едмонтон

**Greetings from the Government of Ukraine:**  
Consul General of Ukraine in Edmonton Oleksandr Danyleiko | Вітання від уряду України  
Ген. Консул України в Едмонтоні Олександр Данилейко

**Performance:** Ruta Choir | Хор "Рута" - "Ой зйідімося роде", "Горе долом ходжу"

**7:00 PM Silent Auction Bidding Time** | Тихий аукціон

**7:10 PM Awards Presentation:** Outstanding Leadership | Вручення нагород: Гетьманські Лідери

**7:30 PM Awards Presentation:** Outstanding Youth Leaders | Вручення нагород: Молоді Лідери

**7:40 PM Awards Presentation:** Exemplary Volunteers | Вручення нагород: Надзвичайні Волонтери

**7:50 PM Performance:** Viktoriia Hrushetska - "What the land has been dreaming of", "Chervona Ruta" | Вікторія Грушецька - "Про що думала земля", "Червона Рута"

**8:00 PM Final silent auction bidding time**

**8:20 PM Awards Presentation:** Ukraine Crisis Humanitarian Aid

**9:30 PM Performance:** Dunai Ukrainian Dancers - "Нопак" | Українські танцюристи «Дунай» - танець «Гопак»

**Closing** | Закриття



Welcome to the 2023 Hetman Awards Celebration in Alberta! I am ecstatic to celebrate the leadership talent within our community this year!

Від імені Конгресу Українців Канади - Провінційної Ради Альберти, щиро вітаю вас на щорічному гала-вечорі Гетьманських Нагород. У цей непростий час нам так важливо бути єдиною, згуртованою громадою, допомагати один одному та бути вдячними людям, які вкладають свій час та зусилля для покращення життя та добробуту української громади в Альберті.

Recognizing and honouring this year's recipients is a privilege. These leaders and volunteers continue to keep the Ukrainian community strong and vibrant, contributing to the multicultural fabric of Alberta. As the Russian state persists in its war to eliminate Ukraine, we need leadership at all levels to honour our culture, history, and contributions in Alberta. These leaders and volunteers continue to demonstrate and instill pride in all of us, making us proud to claim our Ukrainian heritage.

The 2023 Hetman Awards have recipients in three of the categories: Exemplary Volunteer, Outstanding Adult Leader, Outstanding Youth Leader, as well as the newly added Ukraine Crisis Humanitarian Aid Award. The new award was created to recognize the outstanding efforts of so many that opened their hearts to assist newcomers arriving in Alberta and those left behind. It is with pleasure, on behalf of UCC-APC and the Alberta community, to congratulate and honour each of you! We are so proud and grateful for all that you do and the example you set. We recognize the dedication of time and talent you have contributed to the community through your steadfast leadership. You have made our province a better place to live and are providing a legacy that will inspire others to follow.

Ми пишаємося незламністю наших волонтерів та міцністю нашої громади, яка зростає з кожним днем. Нехай процвітає наша громада, нехай в неї буде яскраве та щасливе майбутнє, панує суспільна злагода, взаємна повага та довіра!

*O. Boyce*

Слава Україні! - Слава Канаді!





**Message from the  
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta**

I am pleased to offer my sincere congratulations to the 2023 Hetman Award recipients, and I would like to extend my gratitude to each of our honourees for your dedicated volunteer service and commitment to leadership. When we find ways to uplift others, the quality of life we are blessed to have, and the world we share, are strengthened exponentially.

Albertans of Ukrainian heritage have always embodied the spirit of giving back, beginning with the earliest settlers who came to this land with a hardworking, resourceful and generous approach to life. They were tough and audacious, welcoming, and their warm, innovative and self-reliant spirit has continued to bring joy to communities across our province.

As His Majesty the King's representative in Alberta, it is my great pleasure to recognize all those who work to sustain this great tradition, including the members of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council, and the wonderful volunteers who keep our province's extraordinary Ukrainian community going strong.

Thank you and enjoy this well-deserved evening of celebration!

Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani AOE, B.Sc., LLD (hon)  
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta





## A Message from Mayor Jyoti Gondek

On behalf of my City Council colleagues and all Calgarians, welcome to the Annual Hetman Awards, celebrating the significant volunteer and professional contributions of outstanding Ukrainian Albertans!

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to all the deserving award nominees and recipients. Our communities are stronger because of your innovative ideas, tireless work, and commitment to making positive change. We value your gifts of time, effort, and expertise, freely given to uphold and share your deep traditions.



Ukrainian heritage and culture continue to enrich our communities. We are grateful for the incredible and ongoing achievements of both long-time Ukrainian Albertans, and those who are newcomers to our province. Thank you to UCC-Alberta Provincial Council for your vision to encourage and recognize Ukrainian Albertans through the Hetman Awards.

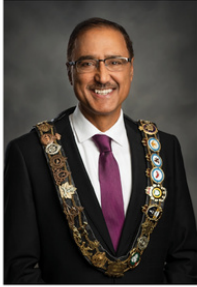
Slava Ukraini!

Sincerely,

Jyoti Gondek  
Mayor of Calgary



## *Message from His Worship Mayor Amarjeet Sohi*



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, welcome to the annual Hetman Awards Banquet.

These awards honour the contributions and achievements of volunteers who work tirelessly to enhance Alberta's Ukrainian-Canadian community. Alberta has been home to Ukrainian settlers since the late 19th century, and are proudly an integral part of our cultural fabric today.

This year's awards are all the more meaningful due to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. I'm pleased to see the introduction of the "Ukraine Crisis Humanitarian Aid Award" to recognize and appreciate the individuals who have been instrumental in helping Ukrainian newcomers settle in Alberta during this difficult time.

I thank everyone from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provincial Council for organizing this event every year. I also want to express my gratitude to this year's award recipients. Your passion and enthusiasm for volunteerism helps foster relationships between our two countries, and directly contributes to our reputation as a diverse and vibrant city.

*A. Sohi*

**Amarjeet Sohi**

**MAYOR, CITY OF EDMONTON**





December 2, 2023

Слава Ісусу Христу!

Glory be to Jesus Christ!

Dear Friends:

A warm welcome to all guests, Hetman Award recipients, and their families!

The Hetman Awards provide us with an opportunity to celebrate, with humility, but also with great pride, the enormous contribution that Ukrainians have made in building up this great nation of ours!

How beautiful is the family of our Ukrainian Canadian Community, united in faith, culture and heritage. And how wonderful it is for us a family to celebrate those in our midst who have gone beyond the call of duty in service and volunteerism. Congratulations and a special thanks to this year's Hetman Awards recipients! Truly our family is blessed!

Let us pray that God's grace and love fills the hearts of all families in their role in evangelization, and brings joy and peace to all people.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ David

Most Rev. David Motiuk  
Eparchial Bishop

# Outstanding Leadership Awards



*Oksana Tarnawsky | Оксана Тарнавська*

Oksana Tarnawsky's remarkable journey of volunteering began in the mid-1960s when she joined PLAST Pryiat, an organization supporting Ukrainian Scouts. Notably, in 1978, she assumed the crucial role of coordinating transportation for hundreds of Scouts at an international Jamboree hosted at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village. Oksana's commitment extended to her active participation in Edmonton's St. George's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, where she volunteered with Sadochok and Ridna Shkola, contributed to the choir's music

ministry, and helped organize the "Matura" Graduation of the Ivan Franko School of Ukrainian Studies in 1979. Her love for singing also led her to the Ukrainian Dnipro Ensemble, where she diligently served as the choir librarian for several years and assisted with various choir projects as a member of the Executive.

In 2013, Oksana formally became a member of the UCWLC "Marijs'ka Druzhyna" at St. George's, following many years of ad hoc assistance. That same year, she joined the Eparchial UCWLC Museum, collaborating closely with the curator to compile donated artifacts and curate museum exhibits. Oksana's enduring dedication and multifaceted volunteerism exemplify the spirit of Alberta's 2023 theme, "Volunteering Weaves Us Together." Her contributions, marked by unwavering commitment and diverse engagement, have undoubtedly enriched her community and woven a tapestry of support for various causes and fellow community members.

*Sonia Brytan Iszenko | Соня Британ Ізенко*

Sonia Brytan Iszenko, a pivotal figure in the Edmonton Ukrainian community, began volunteering at 14. She devoted herself to promoting Ukrainian culture, particularly through the Verkhovyna Ukrainian Song and Dance Ensemble, which marked its 40th anniversary in September. Her strong sense of patriotism, rooted in her upbringing in the 1950s and nurtured by her father, persists through her extensive involvement with the Ukrainian Youth Association (CYM) and ongoing contributions to the CYM and Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex communities.



Beyond her involvement with CYM and the Verkhovyna Ensemble, Sonia has cherished her time on the airwaves of CKER/World FM alongside her brother, Roman Brytan. A notable highlight was her announcement of Ukraine's independence in 1991 over the radio and her participation in a celebratory event to conduct interviews on this historic occasion. Sonia is a dependable leader who embraces roles that many shy away from, executing her work with unwavering dedication and heartfelt passion. Her fervor for volunteerism has inspired her children, and she views their dedication to Ukrainian organizations and the community as the ultimate testament to her legacy.



## *Ilija Simcisin | Ілія Симцисин*

Ilija Simcisin, who left war-torn Yugoslavia almost 30 years ago, quickly became an integral part of Alberta's Ukrainian community, earning a distinguished reputation as a community leader, activist, and volunteer. He has held key positions in numerous organizations, including the League of Ukrainian Canadians, Edmonton Branch, where he has been a member for 22 years and a board member for 17. He has also served as a director for the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Edmonton Branch, for the past 20 years and for the Bishop Budka Charitable Society for two decades.

Furthermore, Ilija has been a representative of the Bishop Budka Charitable Society for 15 years and a director for 6 years on the Ukrainian Canadian Congress-Alberta Provincial Council. Four years ago, he founded the Canadian Society of Ukrainians from Former Yugoslavia and held the role of President during that time. Most recently, he and his fellow board members, in collaboration with Irena Struk, opened the Ukrainian Newcomer Furniture Warehouse to aid Ukrainians displaced by Russia's unprovoked war. They also successfully implemented the "Together: No Youth Left Behind" initiative to help younger refugees integrate into the local community, which included the launch of a youth orchestra, with its inaugural performance taking place on Mother's Day at the premises of the Orthodox Church of St. Ilia. His outgoing and hospitable personality has not only facilitated the recruitment of new members but also positioned him as a valuable resource for fellow volunteers. Ilija Simcisin's unwavering dedication, strong work ethic, and exceptional leadership skills have profoundly benefited all the organizations he has been involved with.

## *Christine Teterenko | Христина Тетеренко*

Christine Teterenko's exceptional leadership shines through her UFest journey. In 2014, she and Daria Luciw envisioned UFest as Edmonton's Ukrainian festival, recognizing a significant gap in the city's cultural offerings. Their vision led to thorough planning, incorporation, successful fundraising via GoFundMe, and the establishment of an efficient committee structure. Christine's adept collaboration skills secured over \$90K in grants, \$10K in donations, and valuable in-kind contributions while nurturing strong relationships with contractors and vendors. Her strategic foresight extended to the selection of Borden Park as UFest's venue, setting the stage for future growth.



Christine's respectful approach resonated with partners and performers, fostering unwavering commitment to the festival's success. Her relentless dedication turned UFest's inaugural year into a significant achievement, leading to increased budgets, enriched relationships with other festivals, and consecutive years of record-breaking attendance, even during the COVID-19 pandemic. Amidst the pandemic's challenges, Christine's innovative response transformed UFest into a virtual experience known as "UFest at Home," maintaining its prominence among Edmontonians. She further enhanced UFest's layout in Borden Park, collaborated with AGLC to expand the Beer Gardens, introduced full-branded fencing, and initiated the inclusion of Guest Cultures, beginning with Indigenous Culture in 2022 and Poland in 2023, all to diversify UFest's multicultural reach.



Additionally, the successful introduction of Mountain Malanka in Jasper of 2023 will return in 2024. UFest secured vital funding from Canada Heritage, partnered with Telus for a two-part documentary, and earned Foundational Level event status with the City of Edmonton. UFest now serves as a source of inspiration for other festivals and actively participates in city-wide festival discussions. Christine's leadership ensured the thriving of UFest's subcommittees, attracting over 200 dedicated volunteers for its 2023 edition, recognized and appreciated through various means of acknowledgement. Beyond UFest, Christine's commitment to charitable activities included fundraising for the Canadian Cancer Society (2002-2005) and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta (since 2005).



*Ivan Lypovyyk | Іван Липови́к*

Ivan is a pivotal figure in the Edmonton Ukrainian community, actively engaging in community projects since his arrival in Canada. He has held multiple roles within the UNF Edmonton Branch, including member, secretary, and vice president, ultimately becoming President in 2022. Ivan has also represented UNF at the UCC Edmonton Branch and served as a vice president for UCC-APC. Presently, he holds the position of director at UNF of Canada and chairs the UNF By-Law committee. Additionally, Ivan has been a longstanding member of the Board of Directors at the St. John's Institute in Edmonton.

With a strong background and excellent interpersonal skills, Ivan stands out as one of the community's most influential leaders. He has successfully managed significant projects, including co-organizing the airport "Welcoming Booth" for newcomers and establishing a Furniture Warehouse to assist Ukrainians in need. Ivan's approachable and pleasant personality has enabled him to engage numerous individuals, especially young ones, in various community endeavours.

In addition to his local involvement, Ivan has made a considerable impact in Ukraine, initiating and coordinating the PORA! National movement in Chernivtsi, which attracted over 200 active members in its first six months. He also co-founded the Hromadianska merezha "OPORA" in Ukraine, which has grown to become one of the country's largest and most influential NGOs. Ivan's role as PR manager for Hromadianska merezha contributed to building a positive image of Ukrainian organizations among Canadians. Ivan's leadership qualities, characterized by attentiveness, problem-solving acumen, and a solutions-driven approach, position him well to contribute to the betterment, tolerance, and progress of the Ukrainian-Canadian community, and we wholeheartedly support and assist him in these endeavours.

# Outstanding Youth Leader

## *Maria Ovcharenko | Марія Овчаренко*



Maria has made significant contributions to her community as a Scoutmaster and lead organizer for the girls' troop in Plast Ukrainian Youth Organization (Plast Edmonton). Her remarkable initiatives have had a profound impact on the Ukrainian refugee youth, helping them integrate into the Edmonton Ukrainian community, instilling Plast values, and fostering a sense of belonging. Maria's efforts in organizing a three-day mini-camp during the COVID-19 restrictions provided invaluable outdoor experiences and skills to the girls' patrol,

ensuring their readiness for future camping endeavors. Her leadership also extended to planning and coordinating the Plast Ski Trip to Jasper and co-organizing a Western Canada region summer scouting camp, bringing together youth from multiple provinces and enriching their scouting experiences.

Moreover, Maria demonstrated her dedication to nurturing future leaders by leading the girls' international leadership preparatory boot camp, and contributing to leadership and personal development for 25 girls. Her creative redesign of the troop flag and her role in organizing a community carolling fundraising initiative showcased her commitment to boosting morale and unity within the troop and engaging youth in Ukrainian traditions. Beyond Plast, Maria's involvement in emceeing community events, her logistics committee work for UFest Edmonton's Ukrainian Festival, and her participation in various other organizations underline her well-rounded leadership and community engagement. Her innovative approach to online carolling during the COVID-19 pandemic further highlights her ability to adapt and bring joy to her community, showcasing her as a dedicated and innovative leader.

## *Andrei Kisil | Андрій Кисіль*

Andrei has been a dedicated contributor to the Edmonton Ukrainian community, volunteering with UFest and actively addressing logistical and safety concerns, earning recognition from the executive committee. He also lent his voice to the Ruta vocal group and participated in the youth drama group Dzherelo, fostering Ukrainian culture and heritage. As a member of the Ukrainian Students' Society at the University of Alberta, Andrei served as the volunteer coordinator, organizing events and implementing efficient volunteer tracking systems.

His extensive involvement with Plast began as a junior councillor, and he has since taken on roles like camp director, demonstrating adaptability and innovation. Andrei's latest initiative involves introducing online project tracking for volunteers, showcasing his commitment to improving community organization and accountability. His leadership exemplifies the spirit of personal growth within the scouting movement, motivating young volunteers to be progressive contributors to the Ukrainian community.





## *Serhiy Adamyk | Сергій Адамук*

Giving back to the community was instilled in Serhiy Adamyk at a young age. As immigrants from Ukraine, his parents stressed the importance of volunteering as a way to thank the Canadian community for providing their family with so many opportunities. At the time, volunteering as a 14-year-old was the last thing Serhiy wanted to do, but it quickly became a part of his identity. His extensive list of volunteer contributions is a testament to this commitment. Now in his late 20s, Serhiy's resume is filled with long-term positions on multiple boards

(CYM Edmonton, UCC-Edmonton, Ukrainian Benevolent Society, and the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association of Edmonton), as well as numerous one-off events he has volunteered for (UFest, Heritage Day Ukraine Pavilion, Byzantine Deep Freeze Festival, among others). Of all the positions he has held, the one that has had the most impact on Serhiy is being a youth leader at CYM's Edmonton/Calgary summer camp. Facilitating lifelong friendships between kids who have never met was a genuinely special experience that hit close to home for Serhiy. Many of his own core friendships stem from CYM.

As much as volunteering is about giving back to the community, Serhiy now realizes how much he also gains from it: fulfillment, personal growth, networking, and the opportunity to build relationships with people from diverse backgrounds whom he would not have otherwise met.

## *Exemplary Volunteer Awards*

### *Alexandra Cybulsky | Олександра Цубульська*

Alexandra Cybulsky possesses a remarkable ability to identify community needs and a commitment to taking action, leading to a lifetime of dedicated volunteer work. Currently, she devotes her time to various community organizations in the Edmonton Region, where her volunteer efforts have consistently made a significant impact on the lives of many. Alexandra embodies the true spirit of volunteerism and exemplifies what it means to be a genuine leader. When Alexandra immigrated to Canada she quickly integrated into the Edmonton Ukrainian community and becoming an active member of the Ukrainian Women's Organization of Canada – Edmonton, where she served as President from 1992 to 1997.



During her presidency, Alexandra achieved significant milestones, including increasing membership, revitalizing the organization's finances, and establishing the Children's Dramatic Studio Dzherelo, which has nurtured Ukrainian culture and language while developing children's communication and presentation skills. Alexandra's dedication extends beyond her role in the Ukrainian Women's Organization; she has volunteered for various other organizations, held audit and control positions, and remained deeply involved in cultural and community events. Today, she continues her commitment to helping Ukrainian small businesses and new immigrants through her accounting firm, showcasing her enduring dedication to community service.



## *Larissa Bombak | Апарка Бомбак*

Larissa Lyznyk, now known as Larissa Bombak, has been an integral part of the Vegreville Cultural Association since 1982. She has chaired the Youth Talent Competitions, inspiring generations of students to showcase their Ukrainian cultural talents. Additionally, Larissa has managed the Craft Corner, where Ukrainian-themed crafts are taught and created. Her dedication extends to chairing the Ukrainian Dance Competitions since 1986 and serving on the Board of Directors for over three decades. She received the prestigious Life Membership Award in 2015 for her outstanding volunteer service.

Beyond the cultural realm, Larissa has assumed leadership roles in various other organizations, including her presidency at the Wendy Brook Music Festival Association since 2017. Her commitment to maintaining a strong Ukrainian presence in the festival has been unwavering. Furthermore, in the wake of Ukrainian refugees arriving in Vegreville due to the Russian invasion, Larissa has been a pillar of support through her involvement in the Vegreville and Area Stands with Ukraine Committee, aiding newcomers with a multitude of needs. In her professional life, she taught in the Ukrainian Bilingual Program for 35 years, leaving an indelible mark on her students. Even after retiring, Larissa continued to contribute, volunteering, substitute teaching, and mentoring in the Ukrainian program in Vegreville. In essence, Larissa's passion for her Ukrainian heritage, combined with her boundless energy, resourcefulness, dedication, and teamwork, make her an exceptional asset to our community.

## *Mary Ann Phillips | Мелі Енн Пілліпс*

Mary Ann Phillips, a retired schoolteacher with 41 years of experience, is a woman of unwavering faith, extraordinary generosity, and graceful presence. Her teaching career spanned from junior high to gifted student programs, culminating in an Alberta Excellence in Teaching Award. Beyond her profession, Mary Ann's dedication shines through her deep passion for her Catholic faith, Ukrainian heritage, and culture. In 2005, she took on the role of Parish Council Chair at St. Paraskevia Ukrainian Catholic Church in Smoky Lake Farms, spearheading its restoration despite limited resources and a small congregation.



Her leadership attracted new members, breathing life into the church. Additionally, Mary Ann's involvement in Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Parish and the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada (UCWLC) saw her assume leadership roles, fostering unity among branches and undertaking various initiatives to preserve Ukrainian Catholic heritage.

Today, in 2023, Mary Ann remains actively engaged as the Eparchial UCWLC Past-President, Chair of the Holy Eucharist Parish Council, and a contributor to community projects, demonstrating her unwavering commitment, organizational skills, and ability to motivate others. Her profound impact on her community reflects a woman who consistently steps up and gets things done.



### *Steven P. Eleniak | Єтїбен П. Єленяк*

Steve has been an integral part of The Friends of the Ukrainian Village Society (FOUVS) for several decades and brings a wealth of invaluable skills honed through his experiences with groups such as the Rotary Club of Edmonton, the Norwood (Ukrainian-Canadian) Legion, and his professional journey with Nordraft. His skill set encompasses reprographics, design, fundraising, project management, and a remarkable ability to collaborate effectively within groups. His greatest strength lies in his unwavering commitment to the greater good and the preservation of his ancestral heritage.

Steve's dedication extends across various roles within the FOUVS whether serving as a Board Director, committee member, or regular member. He has exhibited his dedication by faithfully attending all member meetings, even in the midst of snowstorms. Steve's co-organization of the initial Friends' Annual Golf Tournaments, still ongoing today, highlights his contributions to the ongoing success of the organization. Alongside his wife Annie, he published a cookbook for the FOUVS. Steve was also the creative mind behind the first FOUVS volunteer pins and the driving force behind the establishment of a Donor Board for the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village. Notably, his pinnacle achievement lies in the design, creation, and coordination of a time capsule for the Friends, set to be unveiled on the occasion of our 40th anniversary in 2024.

### *Gordon Ostapchuk | Топгор Осташук*

Gordon Ostapchuk has dedicated much of his life to preserving and enhancing the Canadian-Ukrainian community's spiritual, cultural, and heritage aspects. His extensive volunteer work spans local, provincial, and national organizations, where he has held leadership roles such as president, vice-president, chairperson, director, and founding member. Gordon's commitment to the greater good is evident in his service to St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor Parish, where he has been a member since 1968, serving as president in 1995 and past president in 1996 and 1997. He has dedicated 54 years of service as a Palamar (Church Elder) and continues in that role.

Gordon has also served as the Parish's CYMK advisor for 19 years, a Sunday Church School teacher for 10 years, and a Ukrainian Dance Instructor for one year. Additionally, he has been an active member of the Cultural Committee for 20 years, serving as its chair.

In the Ukrainian Dance community, Gordon has been an active member for 40 years, contributing to organizations such as the Alberta Ukrainian Dance Association, Edmonton Folk Art Council, Alberta Folk Art Council, and the Ukrainian Shumka Dance Association. He offered his expertise to the Edmonton Folk Art Council, representing Canada at the Festival International Des Arts Populaires in Tunisia. Gordon also served as a technical producer, director, and founding member of KONTAKT, a Ukrainian talk show, providing training for volunteers and contributing to community cable television. Currently, he serves as the membership chair and treasurer for the St. Andrew, Edmonton Chapter.








# *New Award Category*

## UKRAINE CRISIS HUMANITARIAN AID AWARD



The Ukraine Crisis Humanitarian Aid Award recognizes extraordinary Albertans whose volunteer efforts have contributed to the well-being of supporting displaced Ukrainians in Alberta or coordinated and endorsed much needed aid for Ukrainians in Ukraine.

This is a special award due to the extraordinary crisis because of the Russian war on Ukraine.



**Bohdan Pivovarchuk**  
**Богдан Пивоварчук**

Bohdan, president of the Zustreech Ukrainian Society, organized a 3-ton medical supply shipment and facilitated medical observerships for Ukrainian physicians to learn from Alberta.



**International  
Brotherhood of  
Boilermakers Lodge  
146**

The Boilermakers Lodge 146 provided warehouse space in Edmonton for donated furniture to aid Ukrainian Newcomers. They have helped serve 80 families/week for the past 20-month helping distribute over \$6.4 million dollars worth of furniture.



**Bryan Walton**  
**Браян Волтон**  
*and Rotary Club of  
Calgary at Stampede  
Park (RCC)*

The RCC has made significant financial contributions (\$228,000) in support of Ukrainian evacuee settlement services in Calgary. These funds supported Survival English Classes as well as food and bedding supplies.



**Cherilyn Michaels**  
**Шерілін Майклс**

Cherilyn is a founder of Edmonton Hosts Ukrainians (EHU), a Facebook Group with over 24,000 members, making it the largest platform for connecting Ukrainian newcomers with local hosts in Canada.



**Christina Csernyanski**  
**Христина Чернянська**

Christina helped organize clothing drives with her parish. She also founded the Ukrainian Clothing Drive YEG Facebook page where she was able to continue collecting donations.



## **Church of Jesus Christ and Latter-day Saints**

The Church of Jesus Christ and Latter-day Saints has significantly contributed to the Ukrainian Newcomer community by offering steadfast support, volunteers, humanitarian aid, and hosting Survival English classes.



## **Daniel Laskavenko Данило Ласкавенко**

Daniel has delivered essential aid, including drones and medical supplies worth over \$100,000 to Ukraine. He is also the founder of "UCan," a platform dedicated to raising awareness and sharing information to support other charitable organizations.



## **David Benjestorf Девід Бенджесторф**

David has personally relocated 50 Ukrainian newcomer families. He has helped them with transportation to Canada, housing, furniture and jobs.



## **David Bryenton Девід Браєнтон**

David has collected 221 bags of aid supplies, including drones. He has travelled to Ukraine 19 times to volunteer during the war.



## **Dennis Scraba Денніс Скраба**

Dennis organized the donation and shipment of 14 generators and other items to aid civilians. As a director of the Amigo Relief Missions, he has also supported the Free Store for Ukrainian Newcomers.



## **Dmytro Honcharuk Дмитро Гончарук**

Dmytro has volunteered with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of St. Volodymyr and has distributed food, clothes, household items, provided informational assistance, helped with transport, and shelter.



**DUSS UAlberta -  
Disrupted Ukrainian  
Scholars & Students  
Initiative**  
Ініціатива українських  
науковців та студентів

During the onset of the war in Ukraine, the University of Alberta initiated the DUSS Initiative. With financial backing from UAlberta partners and the community, this initiative aids Ukrainian students and scholars who have been displaced by the war and have arrived in Edmonton.



**Fort McMurray Stands  
With Ukraine**  
Форт Мак-Муррей  
підтримує Україну

Fort McMurray Stands with Ukraine is a Committee that has supported over 230 displaced Ukrainians in Fort McMurray.



**Free Store for  
Ukrainian Newcomers**  
Безкоштовний  
магазин для  
новоприбулих  
українців

Since April 2022, the Free Store for Ukrainian Newcomers in Edmonton has been providing free clothing and household goods to 400 Ukrainian newcomer families each week.



**Hosting Ukrainians  
in Fort Saskatchewan  
(HUFS)**  
Форт Саскачеван  
приймає українців

HUFS has assisted over 80 Ukrainian newcomers and supported host families who opened their homes. They have provided settlement support to Ukrainian Newcomers and have given over \$50,000 of financial aid in the past 21 months.



**Inna Ivchenko**  
Інна Івченко

Inna is one of the organizers behind the Stand with Ukraine rallies which consistently updates social media to spread awareness about the war.



**Irena Struk**  
Ірина Струк

Irena created the RAZOM program to help connect Ukrainian newcomer children with Canadian born children to form friendships and mentorships.



**Iryna  
Kravets-Kuzmich  
Ірина  
Кравець-Кужміч**

Iryna was one of the organizers of the airport booth that welcomed Ukrainian newcomers to Edmonton.



**Ivan Franko School  
of Ukrainian Studies  
Курси  
Українознавства ім.  
Івана Франка**

Students have raised \$6000 for the Ukrainian Army and have wrote thousands of letters to Ukrainian soldiers to show their support and admiration.



**St. Basil's Aid for  
Ukrainian Newcomers  
Committee  
Комітет підтримки  
новоприбулих  
українців у церкві Св.  
Василія**

Kathy has led English classes for Ukrainian newcomers at St. Basil's Ukrainian Catholic Church. She has also spearheaded "Operation Winter Clothes for Kids" in Edmonton, where she and the committee collected \$5,000 in donations.



**Firefighter Aid Ukraine  
Допомога  
Пожежникам України**

Firefighter Aid Ukraine (FFAU) was established in 2014. Since then, FFAU has delivered over 215 tons of high-value rescue equipment, medical supplies, and training to Ukraine.



**League of Ukrainian  
Canadians - Edmonton  
Branch  
Ліга Українок Канади  
- Відділ Едмонтон**

Organized a bottle drive that raised \$80,000 which was used to purchase 2 pick-up trucks and organized other fundraiser events which raised \$150,000 for Ukraine.



**Lev Rinhel  
Лев Рінгел**

From the very first days of war Lev has been helping Ukrainian Newcomers. He was one of the first people to help organize the Ukrainian Newcomer Furniture Warehouse and his business Kozak Auto has raised \$65,000 for Ukraine.





**Lilia Pantelyuk**  
**Sokha**  
**Лілія Пантелюк**  
**Соха**

Lilia is a dedicated and passionate volunteer supporting Ukraine and newcomers. In addition to fundraising, she has organized and attended many events, loaded a plane with medical supplies, and sent laptops to support drones for Ukraine.



**Luba Tsisar**  
**Люба Цісар**

Luba donated hundreds of parcels to be sent to Ukrainian Soldiers and civilians in Ukraine. She often covered the shipping costs.



**Marijan Semenjuk**  
**Мар'ян Семенюк**

Marijan has directly impacted over 400 Ukrainian newcomers, providing transportation and essential help. He has always been there ready to help.



**Michael Semenjuk**  
**Михайло Семенюк**

Michael has distributed and set up over 250 computers for Ukrainian newcomers, and he has also raised funds to assist in covering the costs of Microsoft Office.



**Mill Creek Christian Assembly**

Mill Creek Christian Assembly is deeply connected to the Ukrainian community, and swiftly responded to Russia's invasion in February 2022. The Help Centre mobilized to supply essentials like clothing, food, and toys. Additionally, they assisted newcomers in finding housing and employment.



**Mykhaylo Beley**  
**Михайло Белей**

Mykhaylo has raised money to purchase various equipment for Ukrainian soldiers and has helped send out hundreds of letters from students to support soldiers.



**Orest and Colleen Illkiw**  
**Орест і Коллін Ільків**

Over 35 evacuees from Ukraine have passed through the doors of their home. With the help of other organizations they have provided free food, housing, furnishings and documentation assistance to those fleeing the war.



**Olga Matsula**  
**Ольга Мацула**

Olga aided in establishing the Ukrainian Humanitarian Aid Committee (UHAC) in Calgary. UHAC's website served as a resource and at the centre, evacuees received essential items.



**Canadian Polish Congress Alberta Society**  
**Конгрес Поляків Канади**

The Canadian Polish Congress Alberta Society along with various Polish organizations under its umbrella have offered moral and financial support to the Ukrainian community in Edmonton. Numerous fundraising events have been held to raise funds.



**Polish Canadian Humanitarian Society**  
**Гуманітарна спілка Поляків в Канаді**

The Polish Canadian Humanitarian Society has held numerous fundraisers to help Ukrainians including the fundraiser "IN SOLIDARITY", which allowed them to make a \$50,000 donation to the UCC-APC.



**Roman Yosyfv**  
**Роман Йосифів**

Roman has ensured that the logistical delivery of medical and humanitarian support is provided as quickly as possible and to the right recipients in Ukraine.



**Ruslana Yuristovska**  
**Руслана Юристовська**

Ruslana organized the first collection of humanitarian aid for Ukraine in Edmonton at the UNO hall and co-founded humanitarian organization YEG4UKRAINE.



**Sasha Simicin**  
**Саша Симишин**

Sasha is a Ukrainian-speaking psychologist in Alberta who has been helping newcomers on a pro bono basis, since the inception of the war.



**Tetiana Minkovska**  
**Тетяна Мінковська**

Tetiana has helped raise \$300,000 CAD through various fundraising activities as the vice president of Ukrainians of Calgary Association.



**Thomas Lukaszuk**  
**Томас Лукасик;**  
**Ed Stelmach**  
**Ед Стельмах;**  
**Helena Facsko**  
**Галина Фаско**

Within the first few month of the brutal Russian invasion this team organized the "United For Ukraine" donation drive where they filled a Boeing 787 plane with approximately 20 million dollars in value of donated items.



**Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Bow Valley**  
**Конгрес Українців Канади - Боу Валлей**

Organization that is dedicated to promoting Ukrainian culture and supporting Ukrainian newcomers in Bow Valley.



**Ukrainian Displaced  
Persons Planning  
Committee**  
**Український Комітет  
Переміщених Осіб**

Established in March of 2022 they have helped 790 Ukrainian Newcomers settle in Red Deer and surrounding Central Alberta with humanitarian, food, shelter, clothing and more.



**Volodymyr Sheremeta**  
**Володимир Шеремета**

Volodymyr has raised money to purchase various equipment for Ukrainian soldiers and has helped send out hundreds of letters from students to soldiers.



**Vykrutas Ukrainian  
Dance Society**  
**Танцювальна  
спільнота Вйкрутас**

They have raised \$20,000 worth of humanitarian aid and offered free dance classes and summer camps to children.



**Yuriy Zarapin**  
**Юрій Зарапін**

Yuriy has been a key figure in humanitarian work in Ukraine since 2015, notably with the "With Heart in Hands" project. He focuses on post-war psychological rehabilitation and continues to deliver aid, assist Ukrainian defenders, and contribute to impactful community projects.



**Yuliya Gorbach**  
**Юлія Горбач**

Under Yuliya's leadership, she helped establish, fundraise for, staff, and organize the Ukrainian Humanitarian Aid Committee at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Sobor, benefiting over 12,000 Ukrainian newcomers in Calgary.





# Hetman Awards

The Hetman Awards were established by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provincial Council in 1998 to recognize significant volunteer achievements of outstanding Ukrainian Albertans. The Annual Hetman Awards are dedicated to the celebration of all volunteers who have chosen to give their time, effort and expertise in order to keep our Ukrainian Canadian community in Alberta strong, vibrant and active.

Each recipient is recognized symbolically in the name of Ukraine's Hetmans, who were outstanding leaders that fought for generations for their country's independence and cultural preservation.

У 1998 році Конгрес Українців Канади – Провінційна Рада Альберти ініціював щорічні премії Гетьмана з метою визнання важливих досягнень волонтерської діяльності видатних українців Альберти. Щорічні Гетьманські Нагороди присвячені вшануванню всіх волонтерів, які обрали віддати свій час, зусилля та експертність для збереження сили, жвавості та активності нашої української канадської спільноти в Альберті.

Кожен лауреат, символічно відзначений іменем гетьмана України чи видатного лідера, що боровся за незалежність і культуру своєї країни.

Thank you! Дякуємо!

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following individuals for their support:

## Hetman Banquet Committee:

Orysia Boychuk	Solomiya Geleta	Lilia Pantelyuk Sokha
Cynthia Fedor	Khrystyna Halchuk	Deb van Haaften
Marian Gauk	Nadiia Hunko	Oksana Vasurchak
	Lydia Migus	

MC: Lydia Migus and Alex Taraiev

All Generous Silent Auction Donors

**Saturday, December 2, 2023**

**St. John's Cultural Centre**

**10611 110 Avenue, Edmonton, AB**

