



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

## Association of United Ukrainian Canadians Winnipeg Branch



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COVER PHOTO: ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING OF THE UKRAINIAN LABOUR TEMPLE, GW ARCHITECTURE

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The past year has been an exciting, eventful period for the Winnipeg Branch. It has also been a year which has challenged our viability as an organization.

In 2019, the Branch celebrated the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Ukrainian Labour Temple (ULT) with a public event that was attended by the AUUC's National President Bob Seychuk. A special plaque commemorating the anniversary was produced and will be on permanent display once renovations are complete.

The celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ULT was soon followed by the centenary celebrations of the Winnipeg General Strike (WGS). The Labour Temple opened just a few months before the WGS and played a role in that important struggle. As the only surviving building connected with labour's role in the WGS, the Labour Temple played a prominent role in the celebrations as the venue for a number of important events marking the WGS.

June 2019 marked the end of activities in the Hall as preparations began for the renovations. The project was scheduled to begin in September 2019 but permitting delays caused by the City delayed the start until early November. Since then, the challenges of working in a hundred year old building and changes to the scope of the project have pushed back the completion date.

At this time, construction is expected to be complete by the end of this November. Then, the building will have to be prepared for its grand reopening. While the length of the project has impacted the life of our Branch, the wait will be well worth it. The "new" ULT will feature restored elements such as the foyer and windows bringing light and openness to the building, refreshed paint, new bathrooms, new flooring in the basement hall, improved lighting and storage, elimination of many building problems, and of course, accessibility.

In October 2019, in the midst of a devastating early snow storm, Branch members participated in the AUUC National Convention. This was followed by a Christmas party and an event commemorating International Women's Day. Cultural programs that could continue did so but that changed with restrictions imposed to battle the Covid 19 pandemic.

The pandemic has been the story of 2020. It has affected all of society. The AUUC and our Branch has not escaped the difficulties. Council has continued to meet virtually and is actively preparing for the time things return to normal. We are optimistic that with the tremendous improvements made to the ULT by the National AUUC we will have a strong basis for moving forward.

Glenn Michalchuk

# ABOUT THE AUUC

The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians (originally the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association) was established in 1918 in support of the building of Winnipeg's Ukrainian Labour Temple. It was formed by progressive Ukrainian immigrants who wanted an organization that served their cultural, educational, artistic and social aims. To this day, the AUUC remains committed to change and progress in the interests of the people.

The AUUC is both a cultural and a social organization. We have been active in the peace movement, the women's movement, and actions of solidarity with many communities affected by injustice, both in our local communities and around the world. We also celebrate our Ukrainian heritage, through our dance groups, choirs, orchestras, festivals and concerts. We are inclusive and welcome members of any background.

The AUUC has established many sister organizations over the past 100 years, including those still in existence, which include the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research, Kobzar Publishing, the Ukrainian Canadian Herald, the Shevchenko Museum (Toronto), the Ivan Franko Museum (Winnipeg), the Ivan Franko Manor (Winnipeg), and the Lesya Ukrainka Manor (Vancouver). The People's Co-operative Dairy and Fuel Yard and the Worker's Benevolent Association, also established by the AUUC, served the community for many decades.

Winnipeg's Ukrainian Labour Temple, the birthplace of our organization, is a National Historic Site.



Workers gather to lay the cornerstone for the Ukrainian Labour Temple in 1918

# BRANCH ACTIVITIES

Despite our building being closed for most of the year due to major renovations, and our programs being suspended for a period of time due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Winnipeg Branch managed to do an awful lot this year! Below is an overview of some of our activities.

## cultural groups

### FESTIVAL CHOIR

Conductor: Anna Khomenko

### WINNIPEG MANDOLIN ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Annis Kozub

### YUNIST DANCE ENSEMBLE

Instructor: Leanna Shumka

### YUNIST SCHOOL OF DANCE

Instructor: Kim Boss



Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra  
In Concert



Yunist Dance Ensemble  
1919 Strike Conference Banquet



Festival Choir  
1919 Strike Conference Banquet



## events

Pysanka Workshop  
April 13, 2019

Rededication of the Ukrainian Labour Temple  
April 25, 2019

Winnipeg Mandolin Orchestra in Concert  
May 4, 2019

Winnipeg General Strike Anniversary Tours  
April/May, 2019

Doors Open  
May 25-26, 2019

AUUC National Convention  
October 12-14, 2019



International Women's Day: Panel on  
Women & the Criminal Justice System

Holiday Party  
December 1, 2019

International Women's Day: Panel on Women  
& the Criminal Justice System  
March 8, 2020



Myron Shatulsky  
and Ember  
Kaminski cut the  
cake at the  
Rededication of  
the Ukrainian  
Labour Temple

## select community rentals

### Sisters in Solidarity: Gendered impacts of resource development

Amnesty International, York Factory  
First Nation & Manitoba Keewatinowi  
Okimakanak Inc.  
April 11, 2019

### Sorry Not Sorry: Unapologetically Working for Social Justice

Social Planning Council of Winnipeg  
April 26, 2019

### Conference Banquet & Bus Tours

1919 Winnipeg General Strike  
Centenary Conference  
May 9, 2019

### Myers LLP 1919 100th Anniversary Social

Manitoba Federation of Labour  
May 9, 2019

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1919 Strike

Winnipeg Labour Choir  
May 15, 2019

### Joe Hill Roadshow

Mayworks Festival of Labour & the Arts  
May 30, 2019

### Annual General Meeting

North End Community Renewal Corp.  
June 12, 2019

### Women Strike! 1919-2019 Winnipeg & Brandon

Manitoba Federation of Labour &  
Mayworks Festival of Labour & the Arts  
June 13, 2019

### North End Stay and Play

weekly play group for children & their  
caregivers



Sorry, not Sorry: Unapologetically Working for Social Justice



1919 Winnipeg General Strike Centenary Conference Bus Tours



100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Winnipeg General Strike  
Winnipeg Labour Choir



# UKRAINIAN LABOUR TEMPLE RENOVATION HIGHLIGHTS

The renovations began in late 2019. The start of renovations were delayed due to extended waits during the City of Winnipeg approval and permitting process.

The first phase of a renovation project is always demolition, and this uncovered new information about the ULT's opportunities. For example, demolition in the foyer showed that the second floor storage area above the foyer was not structurally necessary, and led to a revised foyer plan which includes an elevated ceiling and second floor catwalk.

Now we are deep into the construction phase and the 'new' ULT is beginning to take shape. Excitement is growing and Council is busy making plans for the building's reopening.

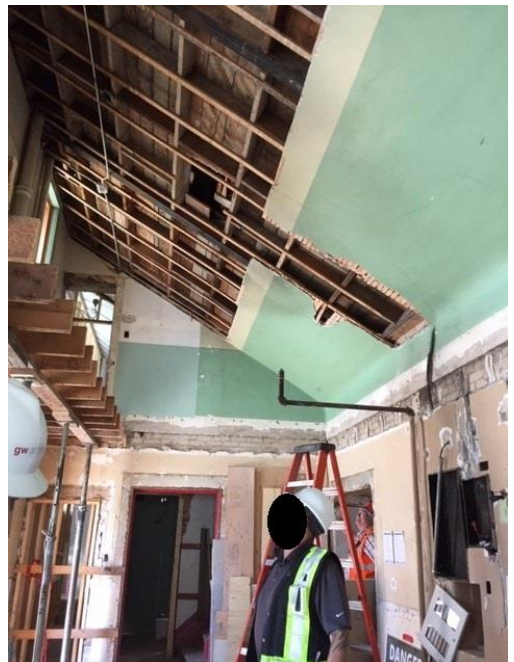
We have been successful in securing a number of grants for the project, and are actively seeking donations for the capital campaign for the building. For more information about the process, grants received, and the campaign, see page 7.



AUUC National Committee tour of renovations, November 2019



A worker shows the new storage area under the extended stage, August 2020



Elevated foyer ceiling August 2020





**THE UKRAINIAN LABOUR TEMPLE**



Donations \$125 and over will receive this limited edition commemorative print!

## Capital Campaign for Winnipeg's Historic Ukrainian Labour Temple

Construction is well underway to make the Ukrainian Labour Temple an accessible space. Major upgrades to the building will also see new windows installed, a grand foyer added, and upgrades to the stage including enhanced sound and lighting capabilities. This is the most significant renovation of this historic site since it was built!

Built in 1919 by the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association (today the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians), the Ukrainian Labour Temple is a National, Provincial and Municipal historic site based on its role as a centre of progressive social movements and its architectural significance. The Labour Temple was one of many buildings that was central to the labour movement during the Winnipeg General Strike. It continues to serve as a centre of cultural and political activity.

Built at a time before building codes required accessibility the Labour Temple was exempt from these requirements as attitudes and building codes moved to require accommodation. It has long been a dream to make the Labour Temple an accessible space, better suited to use by the community and to share its history through tours and events. Accessibility will be achieved through the installation of an interior lift that will provide access to the main and lower levels and the construction of accessible washrooms on both levels. New windows will restore the building exterior to its original appearance in 1919, and the foyer which has often seemed so inadequate an entrance to the grand main hall is being redesigned entirely. This is significant work that will transform the Ukrainian Labour Temple and ensure it will serve for generations to come.

**Architects for the project:** GW Architecture

**Total project cost:** \$1.3 million of which \$701,660 directly related to accessibility

**Grants received to date:** \$75,000 - Building Sustainable Communities, Province of Manitoba (accessibility)

\$37,500 - Gail Parvin Hammerquist Fund, City of Winnipeg (window restoration)

\$22,500 - Heritage Resources Conservation, Province of Manitoba (window restoration)

\$15,000 - Winnipeg General Strike Centennary Celebrations Committee (accessibility)

\$5,000 - Community Incentives Grant Program, Mynarski Ward, Ross Eadie (accessibility)

**Other contributors:** Ukrainian Labour Temple Foundation (amount to be determined)

Association of United Ukrainian Canadians which has guaranteed completion of the project

**Donations can be mailed to AUUC Winnipeg, c/o our national office at 595 Pritchard Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2W 2K4. Contact [auucwinnipeg@gmail.com](mailto:auucwinnipeg@gmail.com) for other payment options.**

# WINNIPEG COUNCIL

Glenn Michalchuk, president  
Emily Halldorson, vice-president  
Justin McGillivray, secretary  
Gloria Gordienko, treasurer  
Victor Dobchuk  
Annis Kozub  
Koren Kaminski  
Walter Mirosh  
Mykola Hedrich  
Tim Gordienko  
Tusia Kozub  
Eugene Semanowich  
Kim Boss

# COMMITTEES

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

Glenn Michalchuk, chair  
Victor Dobchuk  
Eugene Semanowich  
Gloria Gordienko  
Tim Gordienko

## REOPENING COMMITTEE

Tim Gordienko, chair  
Tusia Kozub  
Emily Halldorson  
Walter Mirosh  
Gloria Gordienko  
Glenn Michalchuk  
Justin McGillivray  
Victor Dobchuk  
Annis Kozub  
Koren Kaminski  
Mykola Hedrich  
Eugene Semanowich  
Kim Boss

## RENTALS & STAFFING COMMITTEE

Emily Halldorson, chair  
Glenn Michalchuk  
Gloria Gordienko  
Mykola Hedrich

## CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Kim Boss, chair  
Annis Kozub  
Leanne Shumka  
Walter Mirosh  
Tim Gordienko

## DONORS & FUNDERS

Thank you to all our members and those who made personal contributions to our organization this year. Your support is integral to ensuring the AUUC Winnipeg branch continues to serve the community for decades to come!

Thank you to those who have supported the Ukrainian Labour Temple capital campaign so far. For a list of major grants and supporters, please see page 7.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of the following additional grants received in 2019/2020:

- Ethnocultural Community Support Program - \$7,000 for our cultural programs
- AUUC National Internal Grants Program - \$6,000 for the creation of a play celebrating the history of the AUUC and the Ukrainian Labour Temple.



Yunist School of Dance  
AUUC Holiday Party