

Branch Two News Update

Branch 2 AGM sets course for 2015-16

Almost 100 members and supporters packed the Ukrainian Centre on Sunday, June 14 for the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

AGM Chair Blyth Nuttall guided discussion and the election of a new executive in a lively meeting that lasted for almost 2 ½ hours.

President Peter Horon provided a report for the past year, reminding delegates that the objective for 2014-15 was to rebuild, revitalize and make our Branch strong and healthy again.

A Strategic Planning Session last July agreed that the Executive would take on a leadership roles in all Branch activities, from hall maintenance to social and cultural work. They agreed to provide assistance to each other, to members and to the cadre providing instruction and direction to our Branch. It was also decided to widen our field of engagement within the community, locally, provincially, and nationally.

Horon noted that signing authority for Alberta's Trust funds totaling approximately \$1 million has been transferred to Alberta representatives, Dwayne Chomyn, Myron Uhryn, Debbie Skrabek. However, concerns over National Office spending presented last year have not been answered, and the new executive was asked to address this situation.

Horon announced the new Performing Arts website at www.trembitadance.com, and said that the program for next year is being planned. Horon closed by recommending that the 2015-6 executive consider moving records to the Provincial Archives. As well, membership has been growing, but still needs to be increased, and activities that enhance the organization pursued. Younger people need to be encouraged to take on leadership roles.

Concerns were expressed over differences between the executive and certain groups at

the Ukrainian Centre. It was agreed that we must find common ground and set aside any differences. Horon responded that the 2014-15 executive worked well together, with few arguments, because it worked as a team.

As Treasurer Lil Osinchuk was unable to attend the meeting, a copy of the Financial Statements was circulated, and past Treasurer Bob Kisilevich answered questions. Lower income for the past year occurred because a casino (our main source of revenue) is held every second year. The next one is in October 2015.

Questions were raised about rent paid by the Nadiya Dance Group, and a suggestion made that income statements should distinguish rentals by group. (Continued on P.2)

Register now for Trembita Children Dance School

**At our Trembita Performing Arts
Website www.trembitadance.com**

The School is offered at Edmonton's Ukrainian Centre at 11018 – 97 St., Edmonton, and is conducted by highly trained and experienced instructors who have studied with some of the finest teachers in Canada and Ukraine.

The **2015-16 Dance School** will begin in early September. You are encouraged to register your children as soon as possible, however, as space is limited. For further information, or to enroll your children, call us at 780.424.2037. Or e-mail us at trembitadance@gmail.com You are also welcome to drop into our Centre

2015 AGM evaluates Branch performance of past year

(Cont'd) Higher dance school expenses were attributable to the addition of an Art and ESL class as well as an assistant teacher. In light of increased Hall costs, it was decided to increase the Maintenance/Materials budget.

In her Social Report, Judy Lederer noted that events in the past year were all successful. 240 tickets were sold for Malanka, with people being turned away. The Nadiya Dance Group and Trembita Choir performed, and the Hammertones Band provided dance music. 211 people attended the Family/Perogy Night, and the Year End Concert also was a success.

In his Report as National Representative, Blyth Nuttall emphasized the need to cut down the size of the National Committee and Executive. It was agreed that some type of National body is needed to deal with common issues

Shirley Uhryn, our representative on the board of the Shevchenko Museum in Toronto reported on the ongoing work of the Museum. She was then reaffirmed by the meeting as our AUUC representative to the Museum.

The meeting closed a point from 2014 asking the executive to report plans to preserve and promote our heritage and legacy. In closing remarks, re-elected President Horon thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve again, and reiterated his commitment to increasing Branch membership, better communication, cooperation and participation of young people.

Branch Executive 2015-16

President	Peter Horon
V-President	Andrew Thompson
Treasurer	Lil Osinchuk
Secretary	Tamara Krausher
V-Rec. Sec'ty	Leslie Bibkevich
Member-at-large	Sasha Uhryn Natalie Kovalenko Jose Mora Winston Gereluk Kristina Kyaushas Blyth Nuttall
Auditors	Vern McCann Bob Kisilevich Judy Lederer

Film gave insight into life of Venezuelan President Chavez

On Friday, June 19, the Ukrainian Centre hosted the showing of the documentary film, "Mi Amigo Hugo" (My Friend Hugo) about the life of the late Venezuelan President, Hugo Chavez. The film was produced by American filmmaker Oliver Stone to mark the one-year anniversary of the leader's death.

The film provided a human portrait of the leader of the Bolivarian Revolution shaped by the leader who was so badly vilified by the American media. The 50-minute movie featured testimonials from members of his cabinet, world leaders, family and aides who built an image of Chavez in his different facets, including the military, communicator, president, humorist, feminist and strategist.

One of these, current President Nicolas Maduro, described the untiring way in which Chavez worked. "He taught us a rhythm of dense work, commitment to the things that are being made and to the future," he said.

Jose Mujica, President of Uruguay said, "I met Che, I met Mao, but I can say this man (Chavez) is a character who broke the mold." *History will miss you* were the closing words of documentary.

This is the first in a series of film showings that will continue into the 2015-16 Year as part of AUUC Branch #2's educational program.

Branch #2 Update

is a bi-monthly publication of Branch #2 of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians. Branch #2 operates as a component of the National AUUC, which is headquartered in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Views presented in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the Association.

Contributions from members and supporters are welcomed. Send story ideas, news, promotions and letters to the Editor, *AUUC News Update* at our Ukrainian Centre, 11018 – 97 Street, Edmonton T5H 2M9. Phone us at 780-424-2037 Visit www.trembitadance.com Or send an e-mail to trembitadance@gmail.com