



# Kule Folklore Centre

Peter & Doris Kule Centre for Ukrainian & Canadian Folklore

ЦЕНТР УКРАЇНСЬКОГО ТА КАНАДСЬКОГО ФОЛЬКЛОРУ ім. ПЕТРА І ДОРИС КУЛІВ



## ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



UNIVERSITY  
OF ALBERTA

Cover Images:

Woven rug (kylm), Bukovyna. UF2013.042.a001. Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives.  
Image from cover of *Lena and Thomas Gushul - Life in Front and Behind the Camera, Vol 1*, by Mariya Mayerchyk, Jelena Pogosjan, and Dmytro Yesypenko. Kule Folklore Centre, 2022. Source image credit: <http://www.crowsnestmuseum.ca>. Lena and Thomas Gushul, Blairmore, AB, ca. 1925, Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 6273 Gush Glass neg.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Peter and Doris Kule Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore (Kule Folklore Centre, KuFC) is a research unit at the Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta. It is one of the leading institutions for the study of Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian folklore and culture outside of Ukraine and has forged strong links with ethnographic institutions across Canada, Ukraine, and other parts of the world through collaborative research activities and scholarship on the part of its founders, graduate and postdoctoral researchers, endowed chairs and staff. The KuFC, which was formally recognized as a Centre in 2001, houses the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives (BMUFA, the Archives). The KuFC engages with five priorities: research, archives, awards, community engagement, and publications, as developed in our mission statement.

Nine permanent endowments gifted by several donors—Peter and Doris Kule, the Wasyl and Anna Kuryliw family, the Erast Huculak Family, Bohdan Medwidsky, Elsie and Mike Kawulich, Peter Arabchuk, and the Ukrainian Pioneers, as well as many other visionary community leaders— allow KuFC to expand its mandate while following its core mission to research Ukrainian and Canadian folklore.

2022-23 brought changes to KuFC's executive staff upon the completion of Jelena Pogosjan's term as Director, and Archivist Maryna Chernyavska's move to the position of Digital Archivist with the University of Alberta Archives. We are fortunate that each remains engaged with KuFC research projects and contributes to the life of the Centre. Current permanent staff include: Interim Director, Andie Palmer; Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, Huculak Chair in Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography; Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography/Interim Curator, BMUFA; Lynnien Pawluk, KuFC Coordinator (Administrator); and Nataliia Yesypenko, Researcher/Archivist Assistant. The executive staff is assisted by Communications Liaison, Stefka Lytwyn. 2.5 academic positions are associated with KuFC.

The Centre's full complement of personnel include several semi-permanent and casual (but integral) staff members who contribute to the successful operation of our unit. The Centre supports several MA and PhD students through research assistantships, with six students currently working on KuFC projects as they pursue their academic degrees.

The year brought a gradual return to in-person research and on-site events at the Centre, and with these, opportunities to join together in response to the intensification of the devastating war in Ukraine. The trajectories of projects undertaken by the Centre's researchers shifted in some cases, as staff and students worked to support as many Ukrainian students and institutions as they could, through financial contributions and in-kind participation.

KuFC's professors, staff and graduate researchers, and academic visitors participated in numerous conferences, symposia, exhibitions, roundtables, papers, and partnerships over the year, as well as teaching formal courses on folklore. Though their combined activities are too numerous to fully describe here, this report offers highlights of the work done at the Kule Folklore Centre and the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives as a whole.





# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

It has been an exciting time at the Kule Folklore Centre this past term, and a true delight to see so many who support the Centre reunited for in-person events between our walls, and for impromptu reunions on chance encounters in the halls of the beautiful Old Arts Building. The schedule has been chockablock with presentations, exhibitions, conferences, and special visitors. As the new Interim Director, I have been very grateful for the continued enthusiasm and sense of purpose that has carried us along at a fair clip all term, and for the warm welcome I have received here.



It has been my privilege to observe that the warmth and dedication of those who work and study at the Kule Folklore Centre extends far beyond their day-to-day business at the Centre. Even though the intensification of a terrible and unjust war remains a fact of our current existence, there is, at the Centre, a prevailing sense of compassionate connection, and a climate of mutual respect.

This extends to the volunteers and supporters of the Kule Folklore Centre who grace us with their time and interest, to our partners and patrons who have provided the impetus for joint research, and to the donors whose generosity and foresight permits us to offer financial support to community projects, and sustainable funding for student researchers throughout their programs, and in that surety, some peace of mind in troubled times. This is the heart and the strength of the Kule Folklore Centre; this is what Standing Together makes possible.

**Dr. Andie Palmer, Interim Director**

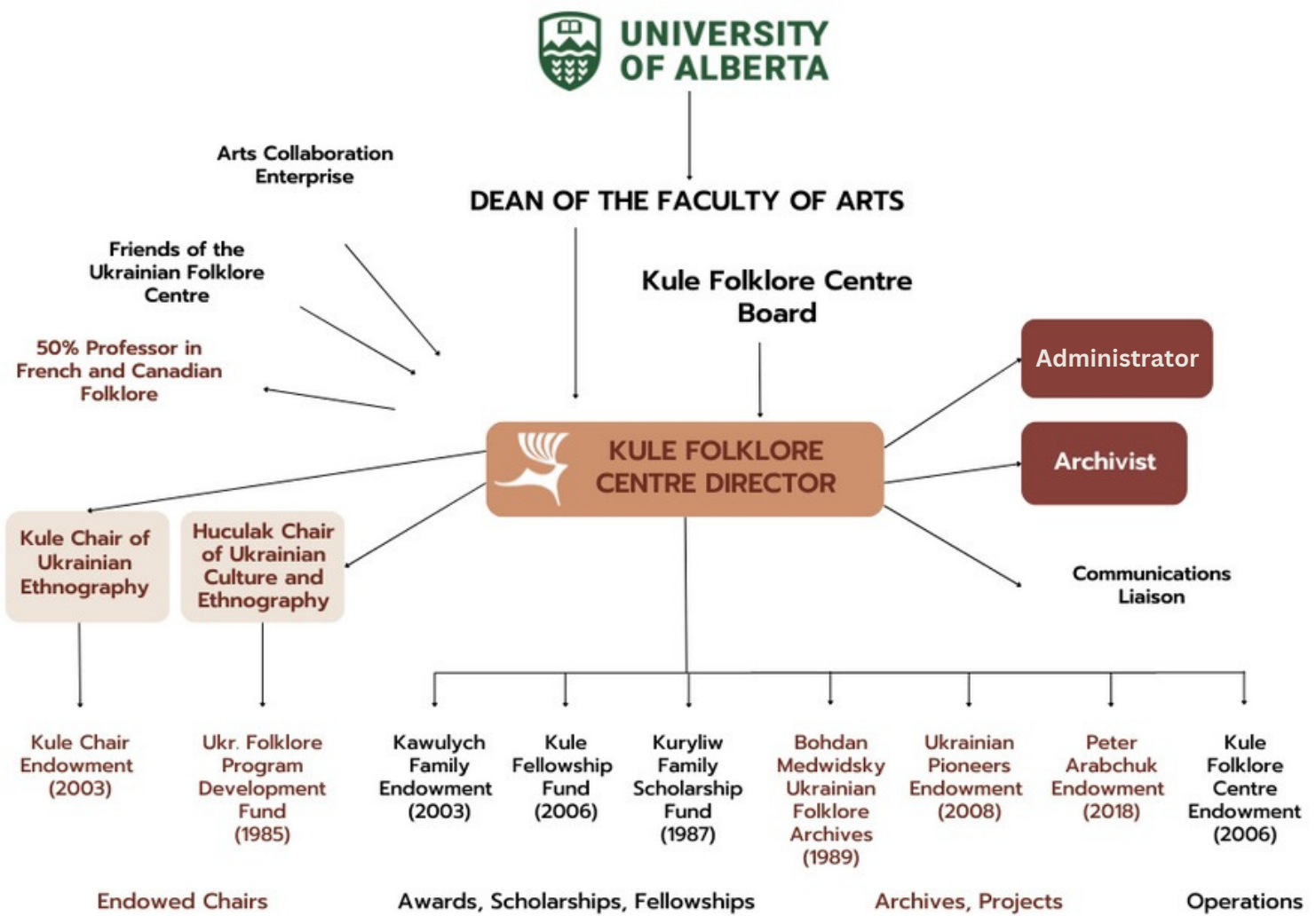


# Kule Folklore Centre

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## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART







# KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE EXECUTIVE TEAM



*From left to right: Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Lynnien Pawluk, Andie Palmer, Nataliia Yesypenko, Stefka Lytwyn. Missing: Natalia Khanenko-Friesen*

## **Andie Palmer, Interim Director**

Dr. Andie Palmer is the Interim Director of the Centre. She is an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alberta, Faculty of Arts. Dr. Palmer is a linguistic and legal anthropologist, whose collaborative research practice includes immersive ethnographic fieldwork. She documents verbal art, performance, and narratives of place, as well as the negotiation of linguistic and cultural difference in courts, tribunals, and other court-like settings, with a particular focus on the interpretation of treaties and oral history testimony. Her skillset and knowledge base are a welcome addition to the team.



# KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE EXECUTIVE TEAM

## Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, Huculak Chair of Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography



As well as being the Huculak Chair of Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography, Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen is a professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, and serves as the Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in the Faculty of Arts. Dr. Khanenko-Friesen juggles many hats and is very involved in scholarly initiatives focusing on the war in Ukraine, ethnography, anthropology, Ukrainian Canadian studies, Contemporary Ukrainian studies, and diaspora studies.

## Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography

Dr. Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn serves as the Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography at the Kule Folklore Centre. She recently completed her PhD in Media and Cultural Studies at the University of Alberta and is a well-known Ukrainian Canadian artist and illustrator. Larisa's research interests are related to visualizing cultural identity specifically through printmaking, textiles and fashion, family and community photographic documentation, as well as comics and graphic novels.





# KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE EXECUTIVE TEAM

## Lynnien Pawluk, Kule Centre Administrator



Lynnien Pawluk, Kule Centre Administrator, is the Centre's Coordinator and is currently the longest-serving team member of KuFC. She has been with the Centre since 2007 and manages the Centre's finances and human resources as well as the general office. Lynnien is particularly active in organizing special events, and in the other numerous projects of the KuFC.

## Nataliia Yesypenko, Researcher/Archivist Assistant

Nataliia Yesypenko, Researcher/Archivist Assistant, worked as a museum curator at the Sixtiers Museum in Kyiv for 13 years. She keeps the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives running smoothly by arranging and describing records, artifacts and textiles, assisting in providing public access to the museum and archival collections, and working with AtoM, Omeka and Mimsy databases.



## Stefka Lytwyn, Communications Liaison & Assistant to the Executive Team



With over ten years experience in marketing, customer service, and corporate relations, Stefka Lytwyn is a most welcome addition to the Kule Folklore Centre team, and assists the Centre with all of our social media and marketing needs. Her graphic design skills are evident in our print and social media, and her innovative ideas help to get word of events to our many stakeholders. Stefka also assists the executive team in weekly meetings.

# IN APPRECIATION: FAREWELLS



## Jelena Pogosjan

Dr. Jelena Pogosjan's six-year term as Director came to an end in December 2022. She saw the Centre through good times – impactful projects, wonderful partnerships – and difficult times – COVID, the loss of our mentor, Dr. Medwidsky, the escalating war in Ukraine, and transformations at the University of Alberta.



Dr. Pogosjan's leadership and research initiatives enriched the KuFC and the BMUFA. Her innovative projects include the Gushul research project, which culminated in the publication of *Lena and Thomas Gushul: Life in Front and Behind the Camera, Volumes I and II*, as well as a related exhibit. The "Chasing Gophers Barefoot: Prairie Children of the 1930s" exhibit included support for the book, *Anna's Dream*, and the "Love Letters" exhibit and exhibition book. She also started the research project, "Trapped in the Archives of Repression: Personal Letters in ex-KGB Archives." This three-year project is funded by a Kule Institute for Advanced Studies (KIAS) Cluster Grant, and is conducted in collaboration with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, and the State Branch Archive of the Security Service of Ukraine.

The core practical goal of the project is to create a database and a searchable corpus of personal letters which have been confiscated by the KGB and are currently kept in the State Branch Archive. The project is also focusing on research, education, and working closely with the Ukrainian community in Canada. Jelena's contributions will be missed at KuFC but she remains a close friend of the Centre and will continue to collaborate on several projects in the future.

## Maryna Chernyavska

Maryna Chernyavska, Archivist Extraordinaire, left the BMUFA after eleven years in her position as the Kule Archivist. Maryna's contributions to the Archives are immeasurable – she has implemented important policies and procedures in the Archives, and lifted it to a level of professionalism and recognition on par with national and international archival institutions. Maryna initiated numerous cutting-edge initiatives during her tenure, two of the biggest being the SUCH (Sustainable Ukrainian Canadian Heritage) Program and the Indigenous Ukrainian Relationship Building Initiative. The KuFC is grateful for all the dedication and work Maryna has done over the years and all of the help she has provided to staff, students and stakeholders. Maryna has moved to the University of Alberta Archives as its Digital Archivist. We wish her all the best in her new position, and appreciate that she continues to volunteer with the KuFC by sharing her expertise as a consultant.



*Maryna Chernyavska cutting cake at the farewell event held in her honour and that of Jelena Pogosjan*

# ENDOWED CHAIRS OF THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE: REPORTS

## Huculak Chair in Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography

Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen is a professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies and the Huculak Chair in Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography at KuFC. She also serves as the Director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in the Faculty of Arts.

Dr. Khanenko-Friesen maintained a busy schedule this past year; her CIUS activities were reported via Institute newsletters and updates and her Huculak Chair activities are reported via KuFC channels.

### In Response to Russia's War in Ukraine

Since the renewed invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation in February 2022, much has changed in the plans and work of the Huculak Chair Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen. In the effort to mobilize and support scholars and scholarship in the area of oral history now focusing on documenting the unfolding war, Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen's attention shifted from a number of ongoing pre-war projects to war-focused research and knowledge mobilization projects. Below there are some highlights from the work undertaken.

In July 2022, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen led the development and organization of the inaugural Witnessing the War in Ukraine: Summer Institute in Oral History and served as its organizing committee chair. The institute was initiated and organized by the Huculak Chair in collaboration with five other international partners, and was held at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow from July 16-19. 12 globally recognized key voices in oral history and 35 practicing oral historians from around the world debated and discussed research needs and fieldwork challenges of interview-based research in the context of the ongoing war on Ukraine. Financial support came from the Huculak Chair, Kule Folklore Centre, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, Faculty of Arts Research Office and a University of Alberta Conference Grant.

At the Summer Institute, Natalia led and presented in two stand-alone events. On July 16, she organized and presented in the panel *Surviving War and Researching Its Tragedy: Ethics, Responsibility and Representation in Oral History of Recent and Unfolding Trauma*. In this session, she was joined by Hasan Hasanovic, oral historian curator at Srebrenica-Potočari Memorial Center, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the author of the famous book *Voices of Srebrenica*, and Gelinada Grinchenko, president of the Ukrainian Oral History Association, V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University. On July 18, she and Dr. Marcin Jarząbek, Jagiellonian University, co-hosted a seminar: *Designing Research, Formulating Objectives, and Asking Research Questions*. Using examples of various oral history projects, this seminar focused on the methodological and conceptual framing of oral historical research projects.

The International Research and Methodology Summer Institute quickly earned global recognition and Dr. Khanenko-Friesen will head to Krakow to host its second installment. To report on the work of this institute to the KuFC community, on September 23, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen organized the online Folklore Lunch presentation in which she, along with Gelinada Grinchenko and Iuliia Skubytska, discussed the emerging trends in the field and the work and successes of the Institute.



# ENDOWED CHAIRS OF THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE: REPORTS

## Huculak Chair in Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography

As a researcher with a focus on Ukrainian diaspora, and a co-host of the influential “Historians and the War: Rethinking the Future” series (Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and German-Ukrainian Historians Commission, Germany-Ukraine), Dr. Khanenko-Friesen coordinated and hosted a round table discussion on the current global Ukrainian refugee crisis. The tenth online seminar of the series, titled “The Human Toll of a War: Comparative Perspectives on Displacement, Resettlement, and Emigration of Ukrainians in the 20th and 21st Centuries,” took place on October 27, 2022. The invited speakers were Drs. Lubomyr Luciuk, Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Oksana Mikheeva, European University Viadrina in Frankfurt, and Victoria Sereda, Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, with Dr. Khanenko-Friesen as a moderator.

Throughout the year, Natalia worked on the second installment of the international Summer Institute — Witnessing the War in Ukraine: Vectors of Reflection, Practices of Representation, to be held in Krakow, June 12-17, 2023. This year, in addition to funding coming from the University of Alberta, this Huculak Chair initiative will be supported by federal agencies in Sweden and Germany.

On February 24, 2023, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen hosted a seminar “Witnessing the Unfinished War: Current Practices of Self-Reflection and Their Impact on Ukrainian Culture,” with Gelinada Grinchenko, at the international symposium, Language, Media, Culture, Literature, and the War: Constructions, Representations, and Responses, in Hannover, Germany.

In December 2022, she developed a research proposal for the project “Making Home in Times of Peace and War: Ukrainian Displaced Persons in Canada.” In April 2023, the project received final approval from the University of Alberta Research Ethics Board. Interviewing is currently underway in Alberta. CUAET visa holders Alla Vashchenko and CIUS visiting scholar Dr. Taras Lupul joined Natalia as members of the research team. Stay tuned for more updates concerning the work of this important project. The work pursued by our team will also be a contribution to a large European project titled MaHoMe: Making it Home: An Aesthetic Methodological Contribution to the Study of Migrant Home-Making and Politics of Integration (<https://mahomeproject.com>)

Additionally, Natalia is a successful co-applicant on a SSHRC grant in support of another Ukrainian displaced persons-related project, Ukrainian Displaced Youth in Canada Post 2022: Documenting Resiliency. This project was initiated at Dalhousie University.

# ENDOWED CHAIRS OF THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE: REPORTS

## Huculak Chair in Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography

### Other Research Activities

On September 29, wearing the hat of an oral historian, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen traveled to Toronto to deliver a keynote presentation during the book launch of an oral history collection recently published by the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Centre in Toronto and the CIUS Press. The presentation and the book launch of *The Extraordinary Lives of Ukrainian-Canadian Women* (ed. Iroida Wynnyckyj. CIUS Press 2022) were held at UNF Hall with more than a hundred people in attendance.

On October 5, on the invitation of the Centre for Oral History and Tradition (COHT) at the U of Lethbridge, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen traveled to Lethbridge to deliver two invited presentations — "Oral History and Moral Responsibility: Working as a Ukrainianist Towards Truth and Reconciliation," and "What Stories Can Do: Oral History, Storytelling and Decollectivization in Ukraine." COHT is Canada's most prominent and active oral history centre, known for its projects and activities locally, nationally and internationally. Colleagues at COHT and Natalia discussed future potential collaboration in the area of oral history pedagogy.

On October 29, in Winnipeg, during the Ukrainian Canadian Triennial Congress, Dr. Khanenko-Friesen was invited to present in the workshop, The Future of Slavic Studies in the Post-War Context, where she spoke about history and past geopolitical contexts that shaped the current state of Slavic Studies on the North American continent, and offered some considerations for the future.

On November 3-5, the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, New York, hosted an international conference on Ukraine in North America: Diaspora Activism, Academic Initiatives, organized by the Ukrainian Studies Program at the Harriman Institute. Dr. Khanenko-Friesen was invited to present at this conference in the opening session with the paper, "From Ethnic Minorities to a Global Community: Re-Defining Ukrainian Diaspora in the era of Post-Globalization."

On November 10-13, Chicago hosted the annual ASEES conference. Together with Drs. Jelena Pogosjan and Alex Averbuch, Natalia was pleased to present her ongoing research findings in the panel devoted to the KuFC project, "Confiscated Letters," with the paper, "A third party to a family letter: Diaspora, Homeland and the KGB in the Ukrainian family correspondence across the Atlantic."

On December 1, Natalia presented in the round table devoted to the launch of the special issue of *Ukraina Moderna* (Vol 31 2022) Ukrainians Abroad: From Emigration to Diaspora, hosted by the Journal.

On February 9-10, 2023, Natalia served as a panel organizer and moderator for the panel, Truth and Justice at the TCUP conference, Rebuilding Ukraine, Rebuilding the World, Harvard University.

On February 27, 2023, she was invited to deliver a lecture, "Narrating Resilience: Oral History of Soviet Farming in Ukraine (1950s-1980s)," at the IOS Leibniz Institute, University of Regensburg, Germany.

# ENDOWED CHAIRS OF THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE: REPORTS

## Huculak Chair in Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography

### Other Research Activities

At the conference, Ukrainian Immigration to Canada: From Post-Independent to Post-War hosted on April 11-12, 2023 and initiated by Dr. Khanenko-Friesen at CIUS, Natalia hosted a roundtable discussion with community leaders across the province who are currently assisting with reception and settlement of arriving Ukrainian displaced persons to Alberta.

Dr. Khanenko-Friesen saw four articles, an edited journal and an oral history video to publication in the year reported. These are:

An introduction to William Noll's *Transformation of Civil Society: Oral History of Ukrainian Rural Culture of the 1920-30s*. McGill-Queen's University Press, Kingston ON, 2023. 8 pp.

"Narrative Framings of Individual Agency: Life Stories of Soviet Farming in Ukraine." *The Oral History Review*, 2022, 1-26.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00940798.2022.2101931>

"From Emigration to Diaspora: Ukrainians Abroad," special issue of *Ukraina Moderna* (Vol. 31) 2022. With Serge Cipko and Kateryna Kobchenko.

"The Power of Faith: Pavlo Nazarenko on Surviving the Holodomor." March 2022. Video Interview by Natalia Khanenko-Friesen. Produced by Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, videographer Lisa Unrau, published by CIUS with financial support from HREC.



### Long-Term Publications

- Post-1991 Immigration to Canada — (last year, three year project – completed)
- Post-2022 UDPs (2023-2026) — three year, new project (ongoing)
- KGB letters project (with KuFC) — three year project – (ongoing)
- Witnessing the War in Ukraine — Summer Institutes (ongoing)
- Post-2022 UDPs Youth Resiliency Study Dalhousie SSHRC project – co-applicant (started)

### Writing Projects

- Oral History of Decollectivization — book ms. (at KuFC)
- Crimean Tatars Oral History — book ms. – Crimean Tatars 20th century (at KuFC)
- Reconciling Multiculturalism — book ms. (at CIUS)
- KGB letters collection (with KuFC) — three year project – ongoing (at KuFC and CIUS)
- Post-1991 conference book — book ms. (at CIUS)



# ENDOWED CHAIRS OF THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE: REPORTS

## Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography

During this past year, Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, BFA, MA, PhD, was appointed as the Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography at the University of Alberta. She is a well-known Ukrainian Canadian artist and illustrator. Her research and academic interests concern visualizing cultural identity in the context of print and digital media expressions, specifically through printmaking, textiles and fashion, family and community photographic documentation, as well as comics and graphic novels. In her role as the Kule Chair, Larisa teaches four courses per year and attends to a variety of research projects, exhibit installations, and publications. She is also the interim curator of the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives. She serves as community liaison for the Kule Folklore Centre, and acts as a mentor for the graduate students funded by scholarships managed by the Kule Folklore Centre.



The Kule Chair is also dedicated to teaching folklore and media courses in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS). In 2022-23, Larisa taught three existing courses: FOLK 204 - Forms of Folklore, FOLK 205 - History of Folklore Studies, and SLAV 204 - Slavic Mythology and Folklore; and in the Fall 2022 term, Larisa created and taught SLAV 399 - Contemporary Folklore: Comics, Memes & Tattoos. An additional course, SLAV 340 – Ukrainian Canadian Culture, previously created by Larisa and adapted for online studies, will be offered again in person in the Fall 2023 term. In addition to the courses for MLCS, Larisa supervised two practicum students in the BFA printmaking program at the University of Alberta and convened a weekly meeting series for the Kule Folklore graduate research assistants in Winter Term 2023.

Publications in 2022-23 by Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn can be found in *Zakhidn'okanads'kyi zbirnyk* (Vol. L, 2022) on Ukrainian-Canadian visual art and photography. They are: "Life's Lessons Taught on The Streets of Winnipeg: The Didactic Art of Jacob Maydanyk" and "The Ukrainian Press Mosaic Project: Remediation as an Approach to Preservation." An Open Access version of these single-authored publications is available at <https://doi.org/10.7939/r3-nbr1-7z07>. Larisa also contributed to the first two volumes of *Lena and Thomas Gushul – Life in Front and Behind the Camera*, published in 2022 and 2023 by the Kule Folklore Centre.

In a most productive first year as Kule Chair, Larisa also presented the research paper, "Visualizing Solidarity: Wearing Propaganda," for the Canadian Association of Slavists (CAS) Annual Conference at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences (Congress 2023).

## Exhibits 2022-23

- "Lena and Thomas Gushul – Life in Front and Behind the Camera," co-curated with Jelena Pogosjan
- "Dumy Moï – My Thoughts: Taras Shevchenko, the Ukrainian Diaspora and the Ongoing War in Ukraine," co-curated with PhD student Dmytro Yesypenko
- "Is a Pysanka a Poem? Musings on an Easter Theme" in collaboration with the graduate students and staff at the Kule Folklore Centre



# ENDOWED CHAIRS OF THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE: REPORTS

## Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography

### Future Exhibits 2023-24

Larisa's current publicly-funded research creation projects under development include three exhibits, a website, and a publication. Nearing completion is "Out of the Kiln: Sharing Traditions in Clay," which has been created in collaboration with the Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts (ACUA) and funded by Canada Council for the Arts and The Alberta Arts Foundation. It features a cross-cultural exploration of techniques and symbolism shared between Indigenous Peoples and immigrant settlers in North America. It is co-curated with MLCS graduate student Victoria Kostyniuk and is scheduled to open at ACUA in November 2023.

"The Life and Times of Jacob Maydanyk" will be unveiled at Oseredok in the fall of 2024, and has its origins in Larisa's original PhD dissertation "Maydanyk's Memories: A Juxtaposition of Time and Space" — dedicated to the cartoonist Jacob Maydanyk, 1891-1984. The Maydanyk Digital Archives, as well as "Uncle's World" a hardcover book and e-book based on Larisa's PhD dissertation, will be launched in coordination with the Maydanyk exhibition. The publication will include a complete English translation of Maydanyk's comic book "Uncle's Book" (1930). This project was funded in part by the SUCH Network Program, the Kule Folklore Centre, Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre, and the Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography.

In addition to the above, the inaugural exhibit of the "Ukrainian Voice Legacy Mosaic" will tentatively be hosted by the Royal Alberta Museum in 2024. This digitally interactive public installation was created from the original printing blocks used to print the newspaper *Український голос/Ukrainian Voice* and other Ukrainian Canadian periodicals between 1910 and 2018. This project was funded in part by community grants from the Shevchenko Foundation (\$55,000), SUS Foundation (\$10,000), St. John's Legacy Foundation (\$3500) and Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre (Winnipeg) as well as the Kule Folklore Centre and the Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography.



Self Portraits  
Larisa (2022) Jacob (1926)



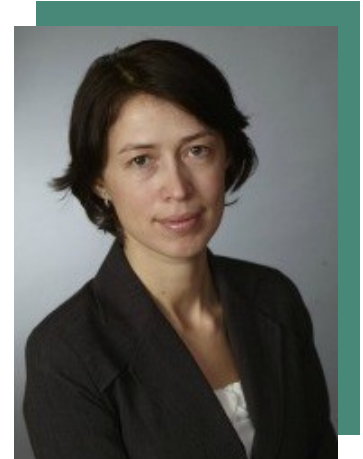
Larisa's work on the Ukrainian Voice Legacy Project



## BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES BMUFA STAFF

### Maryna Chernyavska, Archivist

Maryna Chernyavska served as the Researcher in the Kule Folklore Centre and the Archivist in the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives. With an MA in Ukrainian Folklore and a Master of Library and Information Studies degree from the University of Alberta, she is pursuing her PhD at the University of Alberta while taking up a new position as the Digital Archivist at the University of Alberta Archives. Until the end of December 2022, Maryna managed the daily operations of BMUFA and was involved in the decisions regarding which collections and fonds would be processed, and whose expertise could be best deployed. Maryna worked on research, publications, exhibits, digitization initiatives, the online accessibility of archival materials and other archival projects. Her work was integral to the establishment of the Sustainable Ukrainian Canadian Heritage (SUCH) Network.



Maryna is also a founding member of the Indigenous Ukrainian Relationship Building Initiative, which receives our continued, staunch support at the Centre as it reaches a widening audience, and works to foster a deeper engagement between those who are newly arrived from Ukraine, those of earlier generations, and those whose ancestral connections to this place stretch back to time immemorial. Maryna continues to be active in the archival community locally and internationally. Maryna continues to volunteer with KuFC by sharing her expertise as a consultant.

### Nataliia Yesypenko, Researcher/Archivist Assistant

Nataliia Yesypenko joined us as our new Researcher/Archivist Assistant in 2022, taking over the duties of Archivist Maryna Chernyavska. She graduated from Taras Shevchenko National University with an MA in Ukrainian Studies in 2009. Her studies included coursework in Ukrainian folklore and field research collecting Ukrainian songs and oral stories for the university's archives. Nataliia served as a museum curator at the Sixtiers Museum in Kyiv for 13 years. Her responsibilities were to acquire, arrange, describe, and provide access to the museum collection for researchers, and provide instructions and tasks for new staff and interns. She contributed to the creation of permanent and temporary exhibitions, prepared and implemented an English language tour, and guided groups of the museum visitors.



Before taking on her responsibilities heading the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives in 2023, Nataliia worked at the Kule Folklore Centre for eight months, arranging and describing artifacts and textiles, assisting in providing public access to the museum and archival collections, working with AtoM, Omeka and Mimsy databases, and learning from Maryna Chernyavska in order to make the transition of archival leadership as seamless as it has been. Besides being responsible for processing archival collections and providing access to the BMUF Archives and library for researchers, Nataliia assists Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn in assigning the work of those graduate students who have assistantships with the BMUFA.



## **BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES**

### **BMUFA STAFF**

#### **Eric Fincham, Archival Assistant**

Eric Fincham has served as an Archivist Assistant at the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives. He earned a BA in 2014 and a Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) degree in 2016, both from the University of Alberta. Eric began working with the Kule Folklore Centre in 2015 while he was completing his master's degree and took a break from the Centre in 2016 to complete an internship with the Smithsonian Institution Archives. Eric's tasks with the Centre vary and he works on many metadata projects. Most recently he has organized and catalogued the extensive collection of 33 1/3 rpm and 78 rpm phonograph records housed at the Archives. Eric is also actively involved in the Local Culture Project, working on indexing interviews and preparing metadata for transfer to the University of Alberta Library's audiovisual repository, Aviary.



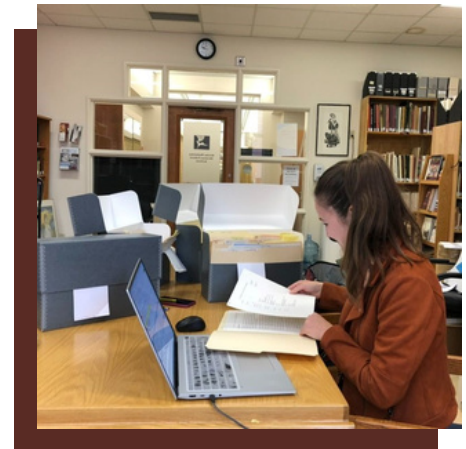
#### **Olesya Komarnytska, Archives and Library Assistant**

Olesya Komarnytska graduated in 2023 from the University of Alberta with a Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) degree. She has worked as the Archives and Library Assistant at the Kule Folklore Centre since January 2022. In her current role she is cataloging our library collection to bring our extensive catalogue of titles online. She has worked on many projects in the BMUFA including the processing of the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada (UCBC) collection, and the Ukrainian News digitization project. Olesya helped with setting up the new KuFC Marketplace site in order to make KuFC's publications easily available for purchase, and is a great asset to Nataliia Yesypenko in the Library and Archives. Olesya also provides research-reference assistance to visitors interested in using the materials in the KuFC Library and Archives.



#### **Magdalena Kaltseis, Postdoctoral Fellow, MLCS**

Dr. Magdalena Kaltseis received her doctorate from Klagenfurt University, Austria in March 2021, and subsequently took up a seven-month postdoctoral research position with the Modern Languages and Cultural Studies department at the University of Alberta. She processed a BMUFA collection, which was transferred from the Ukrainian Canadian Archives and Museum of Alberta (UCAMA). The collection concerns Ukrainian Bilingual Education in the Province of Alberta, with a special focus on Edmonton.



# IN APPRECIATION FROM THE BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES



As well as acknowledging our staff, who have worked so tirelessly in the BMUFA, we would like to say thank you to each and every one of our **graduate research assistants** who work weekly in the Archives processing collections, as well as **Sia Chernyavska** and **Alla Vashchenko**, who we are fortunate to have working with us on an occasional basis.

We would also like to thank **Iryna Vorobiova**, curator of the “Virtual Museum of Mykhailo Bilas” project for a Ukrainian Cultural Foundation in Kyiv, Ukraine in 2019, who worked with the archive’s Mykhailo Bilas letters. Much to the benefit of the BMUFA, **Ustja Stefanchuk** spent considerable time updating the metadata and incorporated care handling principles for working with the BMUFA collection of artifacts and textiles, for which we send our warm thanks. **Irene Jendzjowsky** is most deserving of recognition for processing and organizing the description for the collection of the Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre held by the BMUFA, and moreover, for working throughout the pandemic to bring this work to completion in 2023.

A special thank you goes out to **Dr. Mark Minenko** who diligently volunteered his time to work on the Heritage Saving and Trust Company collection. Dr. Minenko possesses a comprehensive knowledge of the Trust’s history and a legal historian’s sensibility; this combination considerably enhanced the descriptive materials accompanying the records.

An active volunteer supporting the BMUFA and the Kule Folklore Centre, undergraduate student **Jonathan Grossman** has been fundraising and also taking questions at the Kule Folklore festival booth. He plans to do more this summer at the Pysanka Festival, and we are happy to have him.

In April 2023, BMUFA and the University of Alberta Archives signed an agreement for the storage of some of BMUFA’s audio and video collections in proper environmental conditions for five years. This agreement was made possible due to the tireless efforts and negotiations of archivist Maryna Chernyavska. A special thanks goes out to the **City of Edmonton Archives at the Prince of Wales Armouries** for the kind assistance rendered to the BMUFA: storing the video collection in temporary space with proper conditions before the audio and video collections were transferred back to the University.



## GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHERS

The Kule Folklore Centre congratulates two of our students who convocated in June 2023 – **Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, PhD** and **Victoria Kostyniuk, MA**.

### Victoria Kostyniuk



Victoria Kostyniuk received her BA in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, focusing on Ukrainian and Slavic Studies, from the University of Alberta in 2021. She completed her MA in Transnational and Comparative Literatures in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies and convocated in June 2023. Victoria will be continuing her research in the future on Ukrainian church halls in Alberta and their role as heritage spaces for Ukrainian Canadians as she pursues her PhD at the University of Alberta. Victoria was the liaison and one of the driving organizers of the “Day of Solidarity and Vigil For Ukraine” on March 1, 2023, a collaborative event between the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton and several University of Alberta centres. In her spare time, Victoria is a Ukrainian dance instructor with St. Basil School of Dance.

### Brittany Dyck

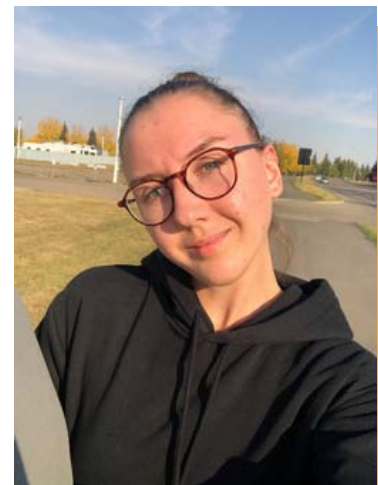
Brittany received her master’s degree from Memorial University in Newfoundland. She is currently pursuing her PhD in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies at the University of Alberta and is supported as a research assistant by the Kule Folklore Centre. She assists with the processing of archival collections in the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives.

### Anna Morozova

In 2022, Anna finished her bachelor’s degree in Cultural Studies and began a master’s program at the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. Her research concentrated on the way people perceive information and her bachelor’s thesis was on the history of communication systems, and how these investigations in a cyber and technical world influenced artistic practice and portrayals. Anna also worked at the contemporary art gallery, “The Naked Room” in Ukraine as a manager for two years, and contributed two popular articles on an exhibit. This was where theory and experience met in her research and contributed to her thesis. Her latest research demanded a high level of understanding of communicative operating systems as well as their contribution to visuality.

She worked on the archive of the artistic couple Viktor Zaretsky and Alla Horska. Some of the results of her work was published by the media group, SupportYourArt. She continued to work with archives and was also responsible for creating the curatorial archive of Maria Lanko and Lizaveta German, Ukrainian curators and researchers.

Anna is interested in Ukrainian cultural diversity and its contribution to the international scene. When her studies were disrupted by the war, she restarted her studies in a master’s program at the University of Alberta, in Media and Cultural Studies, with MLCS.





## GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHERS

### Anna Olenenko



Anna Olenenko serves as a research assistant at the KuFC and is a PhD student in Media and Cultural Studies, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, University of Alberta. During winter term 2023 Anna was a research assistant for Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen on the “365 Days of Oral History of the War” project, and focused on gathering information for ongoing, interview-based research on the war in Ukraine. Having monitored research initiatives, together with Dr. Khanenko-Friesen, Anna prepared the oral history interview-based project database, which includes announced and pursued projects implemented by various teams between February 2022 and February 2023.

Anna also worked as a coordinator for the Summer Institute — Witnessing the War in Ukraine: Vectors of Reflection, Practices of Documentation (June 12-16, 2023, Krakow, Poland). Anna received her previous degrees at Zaporizhzhia National University, Ukraine. Her research interests include the environmental history of the steppes. She has a book chapter in *New Ecological Order: Development and the Transformation of Nature in Eastern Europe* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022) in co-authorship with Stefan Dorondel, and other publications.

### Devon Sereda Goldie (she/they)

Devon Sereda Goldie serves as a research assistant at the Kule Folklore Centre. She is pursuing her PhD in Media and Cultural Studies through the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies. She holds a BFA double major in Applied Theatre and Environmental Studies and an MA in Applied Theatre with a focus on Ukrainian Studies from the University of Victoria, BC. Her MA thesis is titled “Пам’ять/Пам’ят (Memory): Theatre as a Vehicle for Healing Intergenerational Trauma within the Ukrainian Canadian Experience.”

She is a scholar\* activist, and community organizer with a deep passion for Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian culture and history, the arts, feminism, LGBTQ2S+, Ukrainian/Indigenous relations, and social activism. In June 2022, she became one of the youngest Canadians to be sanctioned by and banned from the Russian Federation for her activism in support of Ukraine.

Devon is a fourth generation Ukrainian Canadian who is actively involved in the Ukrainian community. She served as Past President of the Ukrainian Canadian Cultural Society of Vancouver Island and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Victoria Branch, which she led concurrently from 2020-2022. Serving in these roles in early 2022, she co-founded Help Ukraine Vancouver Island (HUVI), which has since gone on to become an independent NGO. She also led the establishment of Ukrainian Village Assistive Housing in Victoria, BC, a residential facility that provides transitional housing to Ukrainian refugees. She currently serves as a Director at Large for Shumka Ukrainian Dancers. Professionally, she has worked for the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (Holodomor Education, Awareness, and Archives Assistant) and the Ukrainian World Congress (Social Media, Communications, and Administrative Assistant).

Devon has received the Ukrainian Canadian Congress National Youth Leadership Award (2018) for “outstanding leadership which significantly contributed to the broader Ukrainian community and the betterment of Canada” and was shortlisted for the Ukrainian World Congress 30 Under 30 Award (2021) “for emerging Ukrainian diaspora youth leaders under 30.” In March 2023, she was included in UDonation and Ukraine to NATO magazine’s “Top 50 Canadian Supporters of Ukraine.”

\*Devon offers credit for her own use of the term to the scholar\* Dr. Lana Whiskeyjack (she/her). The term scholar\* has been established in performance studies and research through its adoption by the scholarly journal, *PARTake: The Journal of Performance as Research*.





## GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHERS



### Dmytro Yesypenko

Dmytro Yesypenko continued his work at the Kule Folklore Centre as a research assistant. The ongoing war in Ukraine determined many of his academic and non-academic activities during 2022 and 2023. Under the curatorial leadership of Dr. Larisa Sembaliuk-Cheladyn, Dmytro prepared materials for the Taras Shevchenko exhibition, and gave a curator's talk, titled, "Dumy Moi - My Thoughts: Taras Shevchenko's Story of Empathy and Resistance Amid the Ongoing War in Ukraine." During April–December of 2022, he focused on the completion of the Gushul book project under the leadership of Dr. Jelena Pogosjan. *Lena and Thomas Gushul: Life in Front and Behind the Camera* was officially launched at an event organized by the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada on April 15, 2023.

Dmytro completed his part of digitizing the materials by Mykhailo Bilas, for the Chester and Luba Kuc collection, now available on the BMUFA's website, and organized the archival materials of Yar Slavutych, acquired from UCAMA.

Dmytro assisted the Centre's staff in holding important events and improving relations with different academic and extra-academic communities in Edmonton and beyond. He gave several media interviews, and initiated the screening of the Ukrainian film "Shchedryk" in Edmonton, and the Kule Folklore Lunch talk on the extraordinary history of Ludwig Schaaf, a Canadian of German origin who was born in Southern Ukraine before World War II.

Dmytro's presentations at conferences and other academic events included many related to his PhD research, which concerns epidemics as evidenced in Polish and Ukrainian literatures and folklore:

- "European Landscapes, Ukrainian Female Leaders and Struggle Against 'The Superiority of the Russian Brothers' in Olena Pchilka's Story 'Tovaryshky' [Friends]." Institute of Slovak Literature, April 28, 2022
- "Voiceless Subaltern, Vampires and 'Religious Plague' in Ivan Franko's 'Epidemic Narratives'" for the conference, "Pandemics in Local and Historical Cosmologies: From the Earliest Documents to COVID-19," University of Tartu, May 20, 2022
- "Life During the Never-Ending Epidemics: Ukrainian and 'Foreign' Authors on the Plagues of the Past," for Borys Hrinchenko Kyiv University, May 24, 2022
- "'Large Woman, All White, With Disheveled Hair...': Personifications of Epidemics in the Ukrainian and Polish Vernacular Narratives," at the ASEES Congress, October 2022
- "Ukrainian Postcoloniality in Texts and Contexts" presentation on the book of the same name by Dmytro Yesypenko and Karol Kowacki, eds., for Borys Hrinchenko Kyiv University, October 24, 2022 and for Poznań Adam Mickiewicz University, February 28, 2023
- "The Plague of War: A Re-Imagined History in the Voices of Contemporary Ukrainian Writers," at the symposium "Language, Media, Culture, Literature, and the War: Constructions, Representations, and Responses," Xplanatorium Herrenhausen, Hannover, February 23, and for Borys Hrinchenko Kyiv University, April 7, 2023
- "Ivan Franko and His Vampires: 'Others' and Subaltern in the Writer's Epidemic Fiction," at the symposium "Epidemics and Contagion in Slavic and East European Studies," Hamilton College, New York, March 3, 2023
- "Sick of War: Epidemic Narratives in Contemporary Ukrainian Literature," at the BASEES Annual Conference, Glasgow University, March 31, 2023
- "The 'Big' Literatures and 'A Thorn in the Side': Distant Reading as an Opportunity to Reconsider the Paradigm of Literary Center and Periphery," at the MLCS Graduate Conference, University of Alberta, April 13, 2023
- A roundtable presentation for "Across the Waves—Ukrainian Canadians on Identity and Community Belonging" at the conference "Ukrainian Immigration to Canada: From Post Independence to Post War," University of Alberta, April 22, 2023

Dmytro is sincerely grateful to the team of the Kule Folklore Centre and especially to Dr. Andie Palmer, Dr. Sembaliuk Cheladyn and Lynnien Pawluk for their friendly attitude and support of all his initiatives as well as to all the generous contributors thanks to whom students from Ukraine can pursue their graduate studies at the University of Alberta.



# BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES

## BRINGING ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS INTO PUBLIC VIEW: THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS

The Archivist and archival staff, consisting of research assistants and casual employees, completed the complex work of processing of several archival collections housed at BMUFA in 2022-2023. Here are some of the physical collections and databases now available for research:

A highlight of the year was making the **BMUFA database for the textiles collection** completely accessible to the public. The metadata was cleaned and organized over the course of the year by Nataliia Yesypenko, and this collection was subsequently uploaded to the BMUFA database by Maryna Chernyavska, at: <https://collections.ukrfolk.ca/collections/show/23>. The textiles collection is comprised of the contributions of many donors and staff over the course of decades. The collection includes more than 790 items and encompasses a range of textiles—hand-embroidered and printed clothing; shirts (sorochky) from the 1900s and modern souvenir t-shirts; wedding dresses and dance costumes. Andriy Nahachewsky, as the main donor of the artifacts, wrote a detailed description, which can also be found online. Formulating proper descriptions and preservation procedures took considerable time and effort. This work could not have been undertaken without the support of the University of Alberta Museums. Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn and Ustja Stefanchuk created the metadata and incorporated care handling principles for working with the collection. The textiles collection is an extremely valuable part of BMUFA holdings and the KuFC is proud to promote the results of our teamwork.

The **“Local Culture and Diversity on the Prairies Project”** archival collection comprises approximately 800 hours of audio interviews, 20 videos, and 850 photos of fieldwork materials documenting the everyday lives of ordinary Canadians of English, French, German, and Ukrainian ancestry living on the Prairies prior to 1939. 300 audio files of interviews have been made available to researchers and the general public on the University of Alberta Library’s media streaming platform, Aviary. Maryna Chernyavska led the project to the end of 2022 and achieved great results. Her wonderful team, including all graduate student researchers affiliated with the Centre, created indexes for hundreds of interviews and made them accessible for researchers at: <https://ualberta.aviaryplatform.com/collections/1776>. In the future, photographs in the collection will be added to the platform.

**The Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada (UCBC) collection** is an archives of the organization that was founded in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in December, 1932. Since its inception, the UCBC has played an active and vital part in the life of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian people in Canada. The UCBC collection consists of founding documents, correspondence, meeting agendas and minutes, bulletins, congress and convention programs, reports, directories, promotional material and publications. Following on previous work on this collection by Ashley Halko-Addley in 2020-21, the processing of this collection for public access on the BMUFA archival database was accomplished thanks to the efforts of Olesya Komarnytska. More at: <https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/index.php/ukrainian-catholic-brotherhood-of-canada-collection>.

# BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES

## BRINGING BMUFA COLLECTIONS INTO PUBLIC VIEW: THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS

**The Ukrainian Bilingual Education in Alberta collection** includes information about the establishment of the Ukrainian Bilingual Program (UBP) in the Edmonton Catholic and Public School systems. The collection contains documents concerning the Alberta Parents for Ukrainian Education Society (APUE), an umbrella organization for the existing parental groups founded to coordinate support, promotion, and expansion of Ukrainian language education in Alberta schools, covering their events and activities from 1984 to 1994. In the past year, all of the APUE documents in the collection have been made publicly available on our database at: <https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/index.php/ukrainian-bilingual-education-in-alberta-collection>.

**The “Virtual Museum of Mykhailo Bilas” project for the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation in Kyiv, Ukraine** was curated by Iryna Vorobiova in 2019. Iryna helped process M. Bilas' materials in the Chester and Luba Kuc archival collection at BMUFA (transferred from UCAMA). Her archival descriptions and content pertaining to the correspondence of Mykhailo Bilas were digitized by graduate researcher Dmytro Yesypenko this year. Bilas' correspondence with Edmontonians Luba and Chester (Myroslav) Kuc is highly valued as a contribution to the history of Ukrainian art. Bilas' correspondence (1984-2004) with the Kucs over 20 years provides new insights into Bilas' biography and artwork. Iryna was especially fascinated by the letters in which Bilas reveals the secrets of his creative workshop, as well as techniques for working with tapestries, appliqués, and embroideries. More at: <https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/mykhailo-bilas>.



*Tapestry by Mykhailo Bilas, courtesy of Iryna Vorobiova*

# BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES

## BRINGING BMUFA COLLECTIONS INTO PUBLIC VIEW: THE YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS

BMUFA Archivist Assistant Nataliia Yesypenko and staff finished editing and processing the **Joan Margel collection** to make it publicly available at: <https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/index.php/joan-margel-archive>.

Dr. Maryna Hrymych, a visiting Ukrainian scholar at the Kule Folklore Centre, contributed to the Margel collection's arrangement, and wrote a biography of this respected Alberta folklore collector and interviewer.

**The Heritage Saving and Trust Company collection**, which was transferred to the BMUFA from UCAMA, is now publicly available on the BMUFA's archival database, thanks in large part to the assistance of Dr. Marko Minenko in processing the collection: <https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/heritage-savings-and-trust-company-2>.

Putting the **Kule Folklore Centre Library catalogue** online is a major, multi-year endeavour that will make our extensive and specialized library holdings far more accessible to the public. Catalogue record creation now stands at approximately 80% for our main library materials; periodicals and publications in our Special Collections will be our next additions to the online catalogue. Olesya Komarnytska is working to make all of our library materials discoverable online.

A **collection of Ukrainian music on records** is now available to search and browse online. 78 rpm records in the collection are available here: <https://collections.ukrfolk.ca/items/browse?collection=25>, while 33 rpm records can be browsed here: <https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/index.php/ukrainian-music-on-record-collection>. This collection was made accessible by KuFC's Archival Assistant, Eric Fincham, who also worked to make the **BMUFA poster collection** perusable online, here: <https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/poster-collection>.

**The Ukrainian News digitization project**, a collaborative project of the KuFC and the University of Alberta Library, commenced in the summer of 2022. Olesya Komarnytska created metadata for issues supplied by the long-time editor of the paper, Marco Levytsky, dating from 1989 to 2017, including single issues and yearbooks. The University of Alberta Library is working with its partner, the Internet Archive, to digitize the newspapers at the Research and Collections Resource Facility (RCRF) on the university's South Campus. The Internet Archive equipment and digitization team facilitate a very efficient digitization workflow. Digitized issues are now available online on the Internet Archive platform: [https://archive.org/details/ukrainian\\_news?tab=collection](https://archive.org/details/ukrainian_news?tab=collection). Users can now search full-text within these newspapers. This is an exceptionally valuable feature of digitization available through the Internet Archive as it will allow researchers to search for specific names and places without having to go through each issue page by page.

The digitization of the **fine art collection of Wadym Dobrolige**, a prominent Ukrainian Canadian artist, is currently under way. Dobrolige immigrated to Canada after World War II, and found work as a decorator for the Hudson's Bay Company, designing their storefront display windows. He was soon making a lasting impact as an artist through his paintings, painted icons and his designs of iconostases (walls of icons), for churches across the Prairie provinces and in Quebec. The BMUFA has acquired more than 300 sketches of his extraordinary artwork. In April 2021, a digital initiative led by Maryna Chernyavska successfully united the KuFC and Internet Archive Community Webs, bringing to fruition their shared wish to preserve and showcase Dobrolige's artistic legacy in high-quality images. Nataliia Yesypenko prepared metadata and ensured the materials' safe packaging for the transfer to the digitization centre.



# BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES

## EVENTS

In June 2022, Maryna Chernyavska attended the Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) annual meeting at the University of British Columbia (UBC). The conference theme, "UnSettled: Redefining Archival Power," challenged attendees to question and reflect on the power held by archival institutions, in archival records, and to rethink the archivists' role in order to create a more inclusive and just archival practice. The conference gathered not only professional archivists and archival scholars, but also many others working in archives or with archival records. Representatives from the Musqueam People welcomed conference attendees to their ancestral, unceded territory, which includes the grounds of UBC's main campus, and generously shared their knowledge about Indigenous memory keeping traditions. As Maryna is researching traditional knowledge in archives and unorthodox archival practices, what they shared made her think deeply about how traditional expressions are documented in folklore archives, about their provenance as they are informally passed down from generation to generation, about collective ownership of folk knowledge and traditions, and more. The conference helped attendees envision a transformation of archives and archival practice to accommodate the many voices that have often been silenced in archives—those of women, children, people of colour, and tradition bearers, whose ideas of how to live one's life may not fit with prior conventions in archival documentation.

The ACA held an auction to raise funds to support Ukrainian archives. The Kule Folklore Centre and its Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives contributed photographs from our collections. We also purchased an archival-themed mug with a photo collage featuring three Ukrainian archival images. One of them was a photo of the O&O Drive-In sign in Saskatoon, circa 1968—this was a restaurant managed by the Nahachewsky family, and the photo was provided by the Saskatoon Public Library. Over \$5,000 was raised and passed on to the State Archival Service of Ukraine for distribution out to the smaller archives across Ukraine to help rebuild their damaged structures and collections once the war ends.

Nataliia Yesyenko provided reference services to the University of Alberta's professors, postdoctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students, and to external researchers seeking information from the BMUFA holdings. The most requested subjects included embroidery, pottery, Cossacks, and cuisine. To raise awareness and promote the archival collections, Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn and Nataliia Yesyenko organized an archival workshop, held at the BMUFA in March 2023. 16 students from a post-secondary education program, "Humanities 101," participated in the workshop, where they learned the basic principles of organizing personal and family archives at home.

BMUFA hosted a seminar for graduate and undergraduate students at the end of March. The lecturer, Alex Averbuch, invited the students from his course to the KuFC to participate in a class at the Archives. This was a valuable experience for many students, as they worked with physical records, particularly postcards from the late 1940s.

# BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE ARCHIVES



This multifaceted research and education program of the KuFC is supported by the Peter Arabchuk endowment fund, and helps Ukrainian Canadian communities to preserve and share their cultural heritage. Its goal is to assist and empower Ukrainian Canadian archives and other community organizations housing archival collections to preserve their documentary heritage and make it accessible today and into the future.

We continued to develop an online platform that allows Ukrainian community archives to make their holdings available online and easily discoverable. We have supported two community archive projects by providing assistance to the **Basilian Fathers Museum in Mundare**, to process the Father Malowany collection of music materials; and to the **Crowsnest Pass Museum and Archives**, to digitize their film collection. Descriptions of both collections will be made available on the SUCH Network. We continue to share information about new archival projects and initiatives, as well as educational and funding opportunities for community archives on the SUCH-network listserv, at: <https://suchnetwork.ca/>.

## INDIGENOUS UKRAINIAN RELATIONSHIP BUILDING INITIATIVE

The Indigenous Ukrainian Relationship Building Initiative is a joint initiative between the Kule Folklore Centre and the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre, MacEwan University (URDC). Its main goal is to advance knowledge about, explore, and reflect on our Ukrainian Canadian history and our shared Indigenous-Ukrainian pasts, in order to build a better future together for the well-being of all. A roundtable discussion, “Storying Indigenous-Ukrainian-Canadian Relationships,” co-organized by the Initiative and Punctuate! Theatre, was held on May 7, 2023 after the theatrical performance of “First Métis Man of Odesa” at the Citadel Theatre. The roundtable participants were Myrna Kostash (one of the founders of the Initiative as well as a writer), the educator and poet Naomi McIlwraith, and the joint playwrights and performers Mathew McKenzie and Mariya Khomutova. Discussion was facilitated by the director of the play, Lianna Makuch.



*Indigenous Ukrainian Relationship Building Initiative,  
logo design by Sharon Rose Kootenay*



The Kule Folklore Centre's endowed chairs make a substantial contribution to the teaching of courses in the Folklore (FOLK) and Slavics (SLAV) series taught through MLCS. In so doing, a knowledgeable cohort of students is built, sharing a common interest in Ukrainian folklore and culture, simultaneously contributing to the overall viability of the MLCS program and associated student life. This year, attractive, QR-coded postcards have been designed and distributed to advertise an evolving roster of courses, and amplifying promotions, which are also being promoted at local events. Students demonstrating excellence in the available folklore coursework are eligible for a number of awards originating with the KuFC's endowments and elsewhere, administered by MLCS, the Shevchenko Foundation, and the Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre.

## Fall 2022:

**FOLK 204** – Forms of Folklore: This course acquainted students with forms of folklore and encouraged them to examine artistic expressions in everyday life. Taught by Dr. Sembaliuk Cheladyn.

**SLAV 399** – Comics, Memes and Tattoos – These are forms of folklore that are common to many cultures around the world, both in the past and in current 21st century lifestyles. Taught by Dr. Sembaliuk Cheladyn.

**SLAV 320** – Culture of Ukrainian immigrants in Canada during the late 19th and 20th centuries with the main focus on oral, material and popular culture of the Canadian Prairies. Taught by Dr. Natalia Khanenko-Friesen.

## Winter 2023:

**FOLK 205** – History of Folklore: This course surveyed the history of folklore studies, with particular emphasis on how folklore has been collected, written, transmitted, and studied from the 17th century to the present. Taught by Dr. Sembaliuk Cheladyn.

**SLAV 204** – Slavic Folklore and Mythology: This was an introductory course covering pre-Christian deities and neo-paganism, legends and lower mythology, folktales and folk songs, and the use of folklore in literature, film, and music. Dr. Sembaliuk Cheladyn.

# ANNIVERSARY OF RUSSIA'S ESCALATED WAR IN UKRAINE



Russia's devastating war on Ukraine has been met with disbelief, anger and anguish by the staff and students of the Kule Folklore Centre. KuFC is committed to doing what it can to support Ukrainians. On February 24, 2023 The Kule Folklore Centre issued the following statement on the continuation of the war against Ukraine:

The Kule Folklore Centre continues to stand with Ukraine. On this anniversary, we reaffirm our condemnation of the unjust war and we recommit to our mission of support for Ukrainian researchers, students, and friends old and new.

We stand in support of their scholarship—their freedom to speak out, to freely inquire into the nature of the conflict, to create a record of events, and to safeguard their documentation and findings against suppression and destruction, through the continuation of the Disrupted Ukrainian Scholars and Students (DUSS) initiative, and the free and secure storage of electronic data for scholars, archives and other institutions via the Ukraine-Archives RescueTeam (U-ART).

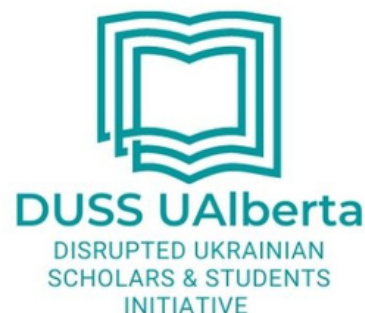
## U-ART: UKRAINE - ARCHIVES RESCUE TEAM

Maryna Chernyavska led KuFC's participation in this Canadian emergency response initiative, which was coordinated at the University of Alberta by the Kule Folklore Centre, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, and Kule Institute for Advanced Study, with support from a number of national institutions. U-ART provides data backups for Ukrainian archival institutions, research institutions, and individual scholars in all disciplines; it offers secure digital storage to Ukrainian scholars and institutions under threat.



## DUSS - DISRUPTED UKRAINIAN STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS INITIATIVE

Several University of Alberta Faculty of Arts centres, institutes, and departments—the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), Kule Institute for Advanced Study, Kule Folklore Centre, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, Department of History, Classics and Religion, and the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies—came together to launch a funding initiative in support of Ukrainian scholars and students whose work and lives had been disrupted by the war against Ukraine.



*Dr. Maryna Hrymych*

As a member of the DUSS initiative, KuFC provided funds for two Ukrainian graduate students—one MA and one PhD. The KuFC will continue to support these students by providing two graduate research assistantships in each academic year, through to the completion of their programs, with assistance in part from the Society of Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre. The KuFC also contributed funds for senior scholars to contribute to research, including four displaced academics on a casual hiring basis, and funds in support of presentations by five speakers. Transportation costs were also provided as part of the joint financial support organized through DUSS for Dr. Maryna Hrymych, a Ukrainian scholar named as a Stuart Ramsay Tompkins Visiting Scholar in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies for the 2022 fall term at the University of Alberta. Dr. Hrymych continued her research on the anthropology of war—the war against Ukraine being the case study—and made contributions to several projects at the KuFC.



## DAY OF SOLIDARITY AND VIGIL FOR UKRAINE

On Wednesday, March 1, a Day of Solidarity and Vigil for Ukraine was hosted by the Edmonton Eparchy, Kule Folklore Centre, and other organizations at St. Joseph's College on the University of Alberta campus to commemorate the first anniversary of the escalated invasion of Ukraine.

The day included a morning prayer service for Ukraine peace, lectures, discussions, testimonials, a shared meal and a Panakhida for Ukraine's victims of the war. It also included the moving exhibit "Unissued Diplomas," which honours the memory of Ukrainian students who will never graduate, because their lives were taken by the Russian invasion. This was organised by the Ukrainian Students' Society - USS.



*Edmonton Eparchy*



*"Unissued Diplomas" Exhibit*

## "WRITINGS FROM THE WAR': ARCHIVING AND DISSEMINATING TESTIMONIALS OF UKRAINIANS"

The Kule Folklore Centre was proud to present Alex Averbuch, PhD, Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow, MCLS as one of the lecturers at the Day of Solidarity and Vigil for Ukraine. His presentation, "'Writings from the War': Archiving and Disseminating Testimonials of Ukrainians" introduced the project (Writings from the War / Я пишу з війни (<https://uawitness.com>), which is aimed at collecting, preserving, and disseminating testimonials of Ukrainians about their experience of the Russian-Ukrainian war, so as to provide a documentary source for researchers, academics, students, journalists, artists, and the public in general. For this project, Dr. Averbuch received the Bohdan Medwidsky Grant— an annual grant from the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies in support of research undertaken at the Kule Folklore Centre. His project was initiated in February 2022 in collaboration with the Kule Folklore Centre, where the testimonials are archived in both in the language of the original and in English translation. Dr. Alex Averbuch's presentation engaged with the importance of witnessing, as well as methodological approaches and some considerations as to the analytical potential of available databases of such testimonials. The event was facilitated in part by the liaison work of Kule Folklore graduate researcher Victoria Kostyniuk, in consultation with Deacon Cyril Kennedy.

# KULE FOLKLORE LUNCHES



Our Kule Folklore Lunches in 2022-2023 were held on site when possible, and on Zoom when presenters lectured remotely. To ensure wide dissemination, opportunities for our patrons who cannot attend in person, and to create an enduring record of these events, full presentations are made available on KuFC's YouTube channel, at <https://www.youtube.com/user/kulefolklorecentre>, as listed here.

Presentation	Speaker(s)	Date
"Oral History in Times of War: Reflections on Witnessing the War Summer Institute, Krakow, Poland."	Drs. Gelinada Grinchenko, Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, and Iuliia Skubytska	September 23, 2022
"Stephania's Song Collection."	Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky	September 27, 2022
"The Autobiographical Survival Account of Ludwig Schaaf and his Journey to Canada."	Ludwig Schaaf and family	October 21, 2022
"Grief and Mourning Narrative in Ukrainian Social Media. Case Study: Russia-Ukraine War."	Dr. Maryna Hrymych	November 25, 2022
"Ukrainian Kylym as a Source of Inspiration in Contemporary Design."	Dr. Lada Tsymbala	December 9, 2022
"Introduction to Slavic Mythology." (Livestreamed courtesy of the University of Florida)	Dr. Michal Luczynski	January 23, 2023
"Rooster: A Symbol of Resilience in Ukraine."	Victoria Kostyniuk	February 17, 2023
"Writings from the War": Archiving and Disseminating Testimonials of Ukrainians."	Dr. Alex Averbuch	March 1, 2023
"Dumy moi - My Thoughts: Taras Shevchenko's Story of Empathy and Resistance Amid the Ongoing War in Ukraine."	Dmytro Yesypenko	March 10, 2023
"The Spirits Never Die: Ukrainian Native Faith as Spatial, Historical and Political Construct."	Adrien Nonjon	March 31, 2023
"Coloniality of Indecent: Ukrainian Bawdy Folklore in the Modern Design of Sexuality."	Dr. Mariya Mayerchyk	April 19, 2023

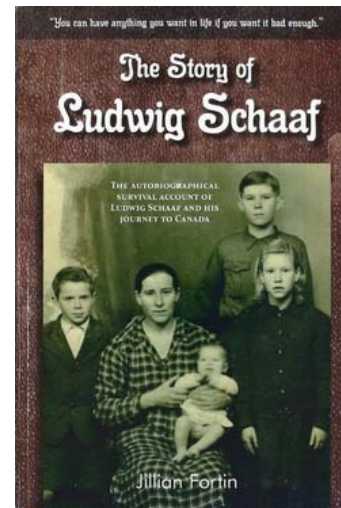
# KULE FOLKLORE LUNCHES



WWSI 2022 participants from war-torn Ukraine discuss ethical challenges to their interview-based research on war experiences. "Oral History in Times of War: Reflections on Witnessing the War Summer Institute, Krakow, Poland."



"Stephania's Song Collection."



"You can have everything you want in life if you want it badly enough."  
"The Autobiographical Survival Account of Ludwig Schaaf and his Journey to Canada."



Woman working by her son's grave  
"Grief and Mourning Narrative in Ukrainian Social Media. Case Study: Russia-Ukraine War."



Woven rug (kylym), Bukovyna.  
UF2013.042.a001. Bohdan Medwidzky  
Ukrainian Folklore Archives.  
"Ukrainian Kylym as a Source of  
Inspiration in Contemporary Design."



Victoria Kostyniuk, "Rooster: A Symbol of Resilience in Ukraine."



Dr. Alex Averbuch, "Writings from the War": Archiving and Disseminating Testimonials of Ukrainians."



Dmytro Yesypenko presenting Curator's Talk on "Dumy Moi" - My Thoughts."



Adrién Nonjon, "The Spirits Never Die: Ukrainian Native Faith as Spatial, Historical and Political Construct."



Dr. Mariya Mayerchuk, "Coloniality of Indecent: Ukrainian Bawdy Folklore in the Modern Design of Sexuality."



# 2023 ANNUAL BOHDAN MEDWIDSKY MEMORIAL LECTURE

Kule Folklore Centre in partnership with Alberta Society for the Advancement of Ukrainian Studies hosted the 2023 Annual Bohdan Medwidsky Memorial Lecture on April 14, 2023. Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky, Huculak Chair Emeritus, delivered a presentation titled “Ukrainian Canadian Identity on the Move.” Dr. Nahachewsky spoke about ethnic Identity – often expressed with the metaphor “roots” – as being attractive for many because it conveys an impression of permanence and stability in a too-rapidly changing world. Yet, he finds that changes in content, symbolism, and intensity have been powerful facilitators of the continuing relevance and vitality of the Canadian Ukrainian community.



The Kule Folklore Centre was pleased to have close family members of the late Dr. Bohdan Medwidsky in attendance for this second Annual Bohdan Medwidsky Memorial Lecture. Sister-in-law and niece to Dr. Bohdan Medwidsky, Switlana and Tamara Medwidsky joined guests for Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky’s lecture.

*Left to Right: Lynnien Pawluk, Maryna Chernyavska, Switlana Medwidsky, Tamara Medwidsky*



Dr. Andriy Nahachewsky had a chance to sit down with the staff and students of the Kule Folklore Centre to discuss the Centre’s projects and student research.

On April 20, 2023, a memorial services for Dr. Bohdan Mewidsky was held at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Edmonton and was attended by many of Dr. Medwidsky’s friends and colleagues.



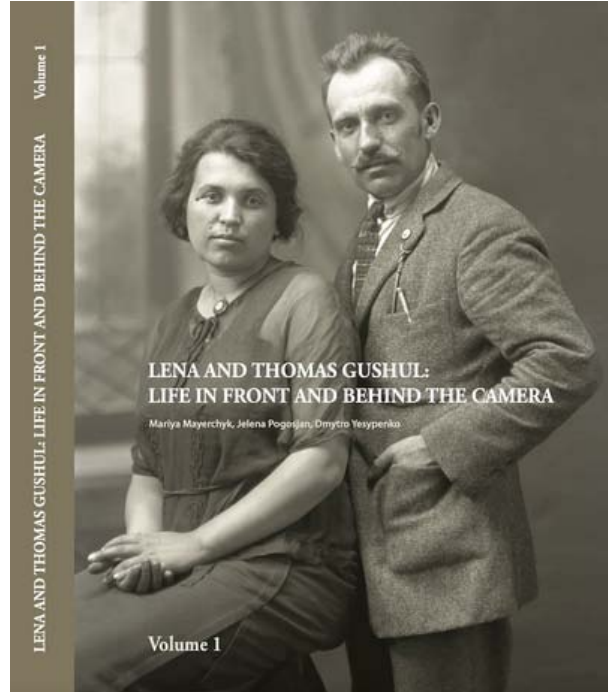
# EXHIBITS AND PUBLICATIONS

## "Lena and Thomas Gushul - Life in Front and Behind the Camera" Exhibit and Book Launch

Lena and Thomas Gushul immigrated to Canada in the beginning of the 20th century, married, and opened their first photography studio in Coleman, Alberta sometime in 1917 or 1918. These Ukrainian Canadian photographers left a wonderful legacy: in addition to a rich collection of photographs and negatives, they also saved hundreds of letters written by their relatives, friends, as well as Gushul Studio patrons from the early 20th century in Alberta's Crowsnest Pass. These letters give insight to the everyday lives of the people living in the Crowsnest Pass during that time period.

Following the extensive research on the Gushul materials conducted by Jelena Pogosjan and her team over several summers in the Crowsnest Museum and Archives in Coleman, Alberta, she and Mariya Mayerchyk and Dmytro Yesypenko co-authored an extensively illustrated two-volume set, *Lena and Thomas Gushul: Life in Front and Behind the Camera*, Vols 1 & 2. The first volume is dedicated to the history of the Gushul Photo Studio and its production. The second volume contains a selection of personal correspondence from the Gushul archives housed at the Crowsnest Museum and Archives. These volumes, published in December 2022, are for sale in hardcover through the University of Alberta Marketplace, with ebook versions to follow soon.

The book launch was paired with the exhibit opening under the same name as the books, and was co-curated by Jelena Pogosjan and Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn. The event took place on November 25, 2022, in the Rutherford Library Foyer of the University of Alberta, and the exhibit remained on display through January 20, 2023.



On Friday, November 25, 2022, KuFC launched the long-awaited exhibit and book on Lena and Thomas Gushul in the Foyer of Rutherford South.



Part of the Gushul Exhibit



# EXHIBITS AND PUBLICATIONS

## Local Culture Project - "Chasing Gophers Barefoot: Prairie Children of the 1930s" Exhibit

The travelling exhibit, "Chasing Gophers Barefoot," though much delayed by COVID restrictions, made its debut at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village in the summer of 2022. The exhibit was also displayed at the University of Alberta's Rutherford Library Galleria from September 12 to October 28, 2022. This exhibit is based on the recorded interviews of participants in the Local Culture and Diversity on the Prairies Project collection, housed in the BMUFA. The collection documents everyday life, ethnic identity and regional variation among people of Ukrainian, French, German, English immigrants who settled on the Canadian prairies up to 1939.



*Karen Johnsrud, David Makowsky, Maryna Chernyavska, Oleksandr Pankieiev and Becky Dahl cut the ribbon at the exhibit launch at UCHV*



*Maryna Chernyavska, Oleksandr Pankieiev, Lynnien Pawluk and David Makowsky In front of exhibit in Hilliard Pool Hall*

## "Dumy Moï – My Thoughts: Taras Shevchenko, the Ukrainian Diaspora and the Ongoing War in Ukraine" Exhibit

A multi-media exhibit by then-PhD candidate Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography and Dmytro Yesypenko, PhD Student, MLCS, was displayed in the Rutherford Library Galleria of the University of Alberta from March 6 to 31, 2023. Taras Shevchenko was one of the most prominent and influential figures in Ukrainian culture and history. During his lifetime, he was recognized as a painter, and author of literary classics, notably, the iconic poetry collection Kobzar – (Minstrel, published in 1840). This exhibit draws its name from Shevchenko's famous poem "Dumy moi" (My Thoughts), aimed to present the



*Poster for Dumy Moï*



timeless significance of the poet's messages and the artistic imagery of this true national Kulturträger. Some of the exhibit's panels draw on the representations of Shevchenko and reflections on his works by contemporary Ukrainian artists, with some of their own creations produced during the ongoing war.

*Dumy Moï Exhibit – Left to Right: Nataliaia Yesypenko, Dmytro Yesypenko, Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Andie Palmer*



# EXHIBITS AND PUBLICATIONS

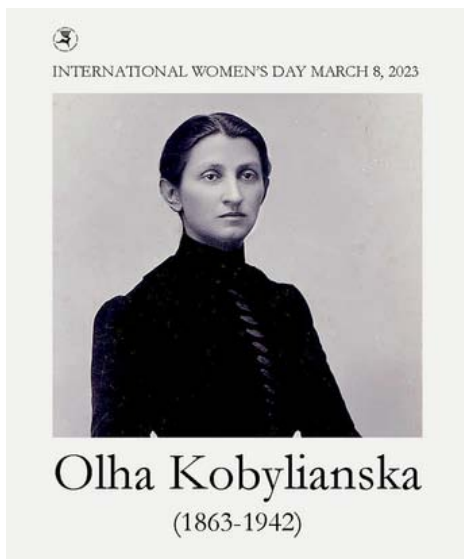
## POP-UP EXHIBITS

Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Kule Chair and Interim Curator, worked with graduate students to prepare pop-up exhibits related to the Centre's holdings and mission. Graduate student researchers supported by the Centre have the opportunity to design, create and display these exhibits in a space at the entrance to the KuFC. Two pop-up exhibits have been produced in 2023.



### Is a Pysanka a Poem? / Musings on an Easter Theme

Compiled by the Kule Chair, students, and staff at the KuFC, this pop-up exhibit invites a visual contemplation of Poem and Pysanka. "Poem" (from the Greek, *poiēma*, meaning a "thing made,") such that a poet is defined in ancient terms as "a maker of things." Drawing in part on an essay by Mark Yakich, the exhibitors consider: "if a poem is a thing made, what kind of thing is it?" "Pysanka" (from the Ukrainian word *pysaty*, meaning, "to write,") and *pysar* or *pysarka* "a writer" leads them to ask, "if a thing made is written on an egg, is not a pysanka then a poem?" Reflections on the physical exhibit are shared by its creators, here: <https://sites.google.com/ualberta.ca/is-a-pysanka-a-poem?usp=sharing>.



### Olha Kobylianska Pop-Up

In celebration of International Women's Day, Devon Sereda Goldie, PhD student, created a pop-up display commemorating Ukrainian Feminist activist, Olha Kobylianska, for the month of March, 2023.

This pop-up exhibit invited exploration of Kobylianska's contributions as an author, a lover, a feminist, and an activist. Drawing comparisons to Mary Wollstonecraft's 1792 treatise, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, the exhibit considers the impact Kobylianska's Western-influenced take on feminism had on the Ukrainian feminist movement and perceptions of women in Ukraine. Included in the exhibit were original editions of Kobylianska's novels, and a series of linocut illustrations from her renowned novel, *Земля (Earth)* - 1902. The exhibit also featured a 1932 memorial article published by Kobylianska in the periodical, *Нова Хата (New House)*. Kobylianska dedicated this work to Ukrainian poet Khrystia Alchevska.

Reflections by the exhibit curator are shared online here: <https://sites.google.com/ualberta.ca/olhakobylianska/>

# SYMPOSIA AND EVENTS

## "Carol of the Bells/Shchedryk" Screening



Screening at UNF Hall, Edmonton

On February 5, 2023, the Ukrainian National Federation of Canada, Edmonton branch, with support from the KuFC, hosted a screening of newly-released Ukrainian film, Carol of the Bells (2022, Original title Shchedryk) at the Ukrainian National Federation Hall in Edmonton. Released during Russia's war in Ukraine, this film, set in WWII, is a reflection on the resilience of the human spirit and took on a new meaning with the current situation in Ukraine. This presentation was well attended and widely received. The fundraising brought a donation of about \$3,000 for the needs of Ukraine.

## World Book Day - KuFC Marketplace Launch - April 24, 2023

In celebration of World Book Day 2023, the KuFC has created an online showcase space for books that have been published or otherwise supported by the Kule Folklore Centre, the Huculak Chair of Ukrainian Culture and Ethnography, the Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography, as well as publications by our faculty and graduate students. Our new, online Marketplace has also been launched, making our publications through the Centre readily accessible for purchase online, and providing an opportunity to browse and consider.

<https://www.ualberta.ca/kule-folklore-centre/news/2023/april/world-book-day.html>



## Ukrainian Scholars Visit

On a very cold February day, three scholars from Lviv's Centre for Cultural and Art Initiatives, Dr. Oleh Bolyuk, doctoral student Andriy Sendetsky and Serhiy Havrylovych came to discuss their research and the potential for collaboration with members of the Centre. They are shown here on the U of A's mosaic with Stefka Lytwyn and Nataliia Yesypenko.





# SYMPOSIA AND EVENTS

## Symposium: "Censorship, Surveillance, Resistance: Twentieth-Century Ukraine and Letter Writing"

Scholars of epistolary culture from Canada, Ukraine, and the United States examined international letter writing, censorship and surveillance, epistolary conventions and legislation, anxieties and personhood under totalitarianism, and related topics during the international symposium "Censorship, Surveillance, Resistance: Twentieth-Century Ukraine and Letter Writing" on 15-16 May 2023, at the University of Alberta. This event was co-organized by the Kule Folklore Centre, Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies and Kule Institute for Advanced Study.



## UFest Edmonton

Staff, students and volunteers including Andie Palmer, Stefka Lytwyn, Lynnien Pawluk, Victoria Kostyniuk and Jonathan Grossman hosted the Kule Folklore Centre's half of a tent shared with our friends and colleagues from the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at UFest—the Edmonton Ukrainian Festival held in Edmonton's Borden Park on May 26-27, 2023. The Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre generously provided t-shirts for staff and volunteers to wear during UFest.



Stefka Lytwyn and Victoria Kostyniuk staffing the Kule Folklore Centre booth at UFest



Bookmarks designed by Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn



# Kule Folklore Centre

Peter & Doris Kule Centre for Ukrainian & Canadian Folklore  
ЦЕНТР УКРАЇНСЬКОГО ТА КАНАДСЬКОГО ФОЛЬКЛОРУ ім. ПЕТРА І ДОРИС КУЛІВ

## WITH DEEPEST THANKS TO OUR DONORS

The Kule Folklore Centre is indebted to our many donors who have contributed to our Centre, Archive, and Mission. The permanent endowments provided by the following donors (listed in alphabetical order, below), permit us to carry out the continued operations of the Centre, the BMUFA, and provide support to our students and scholars:

**Peter Arabchuk**

**Erast Huculak & Family**

**Mike and Elsie Kawulych**

**Peter and Doris Kule**

**Wasyl and Anna Kuryliw**

**Bohdan Medwidsky**

**Ukrainian Pioneers Endowment**

# IN MEMORIAM

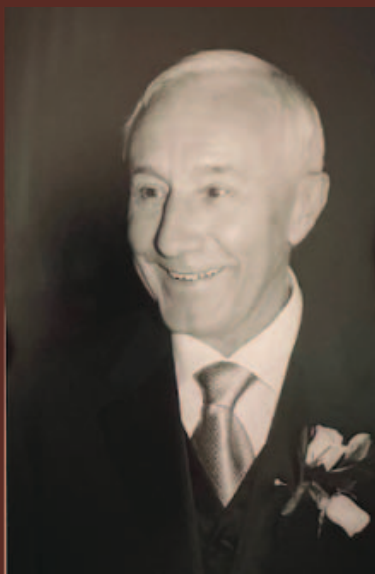


## PETER ARABCHUK



On Monday, May 29, 2023, Peter Arabchuk passed away at the age of 82 years. Peter Arabchuk's thoughtfulness and regard for those around him is evident in the aims of the Peter Arabchuk Endowment Fund for the Advancement of Ukrainian Canadian Cultural Heritage Preservation. His generosity through this fund allowed for the creation of the Sustainable Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Network, or SUCH. This multifaceted research and education program of the KuFC aims to assist Ukrainian Canadian communities to preserve and share their cultural heritage, in part through the awarding of Community Archives Grants to community organizations. Thanks to Peter Arabchuk's foresight and generous support, the Kule Folklore Centre and Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives can continue to increase the accessibility of archival resources featuring Ukrainian history and culture. Through these endeavours, Peter Arabchuk's legacy will live on.

## IHOR KURYLIW



On June 4, 2022, the Kule Folklore Centre lost a strong supporter of our Centre. Son of Wasyl and Anna Kuryliw who established the Kuryliw Family Ivan Franko Scholarship that supports students studying Ukrainian Folklore, Ihor is missed by the staff and students of the Centre.

Links to fond recollections of Ihor Kuryliw and an interview with him may be found via: <https://www.ualberta.ca/kule-folklore-centre/news/2022/june/ihor-kuryliw.html>

May he rest in peace.  
Вічна пам'ять.



# FRIENDS OF THE UKRAINIAN FOLKLORE CENTRE

The Society of Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre is a non-profit society that was established to support the work of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre at the University of Alberta. The Friends actively publicize the activities of the Centre, increase community awareness and raise funds for future projects.

The Friends' mission is to:

"Morally and financially support the Ukrainian Folklore Programme at the University of Alberta and to increase its capacity to study and communicate the complexities of the Ukrainian experience in the world.

To facilitate the growth of Ukrainian ethnology, which is the discovery of knowledge about Ukrainian culture and identify through the study of arts, customs, beliefs, songs, crafts and other traditions, as well as the people who partake in them, by providing support to the Ukrainian Folklore Programme in public relations, communications, fundraising, administration, and special projects."

The Friends Society has also contributed financially for student research scholarships, archival projects, infrastructure and publications. In addition, the Friends Society has successfully received grants from Canada's Digital Collections Initiative grant through Industry Canada (the Ukrainian Folklore Photo Archives and the Ukrainian Wedding Web Exhibit), federal and provincial government grants for Local Culture and Diversity on the Prairies Research Project (Department of Multiculturalism and Community Initiatives Program).

The Friends continue to be an integral partner to KuFC and provide support for the Centre's projects and activities. This year, in the context of the ongoing war, we are particularly thankful for funding that increased our capacity to effect change through the Disrupted Ukrainian Scholars and Students (DUSS) program, via a graduate student's research assistantship. Our continued gratitude to the Friends, for their dedication, community spirit, as well as tireless and innovative efforts on our behalf!

In 2023, the Board Members are:

**Jason Golinowski, President**

**Garrett Gregoraschuk**

**Oleksandr Pankieiev, Vice President**

**Andrea Kopylech**

**Michael Kornylo, Treasurer**

**Lydia Migus**

**Maryna Chernyavska, Secretary**

**Greg Nakonechny**

**Natalia Toroshenko, Past President**

**Andie Palmer, Interim Director  
of the Kule Folklore Centre (ex officio)**

**Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn**

# GRANTS RECEIVED BY THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE 2022-2023

Grant	Purpose	Amount
Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre	Support for a Ukrainian Student's Graduate Research Assistantship	\$ 10,000.00
Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre	Special Collections Project Processing	\$ 4,839.00
Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre	Gushul Book Production	\$ 8,646.00
Young Canada Works	Young Canada Works at Building Careers in Heritage (Career Focus) program, a youth employment initiative launched by the Department of Canadian Heritage as part of the Government of Canada's Youth Employment and Skills Strategy supported two archival interns	\$ 4,840.00
Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies	Annual donation from the Bohdan Medwidsky Fund to support scholarly activities regarding the study of Ukrainian culture. Dr. Alex Averbuch was the recipient for his "Writings from the War" project.	\$ 1,086.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ 29,411.00</b>



## UNIT REVIEW RESULTS

In keeping with the University of Alberta's policy of periodic review of all centres and institutes, the Kule Folklore Centre's strategic and operational review was carried out in Fall Term 2022, with very positive results.

The Unit Review Committee's Executive Summary is worth quoting at length:

“Overall, the committee found that the Kule Folklore Centre continues to be a unique and essential hub of research and teaching in the area of Ukrainian Studies, as well as an important community resource. The KuFC enjoys an international reputation as a research centre and archive, continues to pursue long-term projects (including SUCH, the Sustainable Ukrainian-Canadian Heritage program), actively seeks grant funding, continues to make responsible use of its endowments, provides essential training to graduate students (as research assistants and teaching assistants), and engages with the Ukrainian community through a variety of initiatives (for example: the Love Letter project). The committee heard from stakeholders that the KuFC is “small but mighty,” that it “punches above its weight” and has the potential to grow. Students involved with the KuFC describe the centre very positively as a “community,” with good personnel and good academic resources, and observed that it helps to prepare graduate students for future careers as researchers, providing them with core archival skills.”

Writing from the perspective of Fall term 2022, the committee additionally identified ways that the KuFC could be supported in the immediate future in its aspirations to grow. These included an increase in staffing, the appointment of a new Director, and hiring of a Kule Chair on a long-term basis. A stabilization of endowment funds to enhance the Centre's well-noted “responsible use its endowments,” would be welcome, and these recommendations are addressed in the following section, Planning for 2023-24.

We offer our thanks to KuFC Review Committee for their insights, time, and effort, and a most helpful review in support of the Kule Folklore Centre's endeavours.

**Chair: Dr. Marie Carrière, Associate Dean (Research)**

**Dr. Olenka Bilash, Professor of Secondary Education**

**Dr. Victoria Ruetalo, Chair, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies**

**Dr. Alexander Carpenter, Director, Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies**



# Kule Folklore Centre

Peter & Doris Kule Centre for Ukrainian & Canadian Folklore

ЦЕНТР УКРАЇНСЬКОГО ТА КАНАДСЬКОГО ФОЛЬКЛОРУ ім. ПЕТРА І ДОРИС КУЛІВ



## PLANNING FOR 2023-2024

### FACULTY AND STAFF STUDENT POSITIONS AT THE CENTRE

#### BMUFA Positions

The departure of the Archivist and the end of 2022 has made evident the considerable workload that has been taken up by the Archivist over eleven years of service, in the areas of research and the development of new initiatives, grant writing, innovation in archival management and partnerships, and the library of the archive. To ensure an appropriate workload and opportunities to fully develop the BMUFA as an accessible resource for researchers and the public, we propose:

- **Establishing our Library Assistant as a continuing, part-time contract position**

This may be carried out in coordination with the University Library's Research and Collections Resource Facility recognition of the library assistant's achievement of the MLIS degree in June 2023.

- **Continued funding and support for the training of our full-time Researcher/Archivist Assistant, as the Archivist, pursuant to the specific needs of the BMUFA**

This could include funding for attendance at conferences, special training, workshops, summer programs.

#### KuFC Positions

The Kule Folklore Centre has the distinction of holding the first two endowed chairships at the University of Alberta, including the Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography. According to the terms of the Peter and Doris Kule Endowment, "The Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography in the Ukrainian Folklore Centre will be a **permanent professorial position** in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, and will be occupied by a leading scholar in the field. He or she will be an expert in fieldwork research methods and have in depth knowledge of specific Ukrainian traditions in their cultural contexts. The Kule professor's responsibilities will include teaching, research and making contributions to Ukrainian Folklore Centre projects" (Terms of Reference, emphasis added). We propose that:

- **A committee be formed for the hiring of a Kule Chair as a tenure-track academic faculty position, for hiring effective July 1, 2024**

The Peter Arabchuk Fund is due for review by the Director in 2023, according to the terms of the endowment. A review of the projects funded or proposed to ensure that the terms and conditions align with the endowment's stated objectives, to ensure that resources to be made available under this agreement may in fact be expended for this purpose is required. We propose that this review may consider:

- **Funding of a long-term contract position for the community liaison and/or archivist assistant researcher**

As the Interim Director commences a postponed one-year sabbatical on January 1, 2024:

- **A search for a Director, for January 2024 is required**



# Kule Folklore Centre

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## PLANNING FOR 2023-2024

### Graduate Student Researcher (GRA) Positions

The Kule Folklore Centre hires GRAs for two terms per year. As these are graduate student positions, active recruitment efforts in Fall 2023 for a Fall 2024 intake will be enhanced to attract high calibre applicants to the Faculty of Arts, with interests in research aligned with the Centre's holdings and expertise. Student applicants will be encouraged through recruitment efforts to identify the KuFC and the BMUFA in their research proposals. Plans by the university to require a base funding amount for admitted graduate students will be taken into account in coordination with proposed home departments for the students. These recruitment efforts do not rule out the Intake of displaced students off cycle, at winter term, in coordination with departments in the Faculty of Arts and DUSS.

### COURSES FOR 2023-2024

Courses in folklore, ethnography, and oral history by the Kule Chair, the Huculak Chair, and the Interim Director will be going ahead in the coming year, and are being promoted by the Centre at a number of summer events in 2023, including UFest, the Pysanka Festival, and Ukrainian Day.

### BMUFA PLANS

#### Promotion of the BMUF-Archives to newly-arrived young Ukrainians and other newcomers

The Archivist Assistant proposes an awareness campaign based on interactions with younger social media bloggers in Canada and Ukraine. As each new audience arrives, such outreach is helpful for connection to the new arrivals. Engagement through the production of short videos based on their impressions and encounters, are proposed. Open house workshops to show new students on campus how primary source documents can be incorporated in their research will build on the success of such workshops held with MLCS classes in 2023.

#### Bringing more collections online

The BMUFA receives donations in both physical and digital formats, including paper documents, photographs, audiovisual materials, and digitally-born files. Recent archival acquisitions include **Markian Kowaluk's video collection**, the **Sophie Sakousky family archives**, the **Radomski-Hanchar family archives**, and the **Testimony from Borodyanka**— collections which exclusively document the impressions of war survivors in Ukraine, and the **Writings from the War project holdings**. These collections will be processed and made publicly available through our archival database:

<https://archives.ukrfolk.ca/>





## PLANNING FOR 2023-2024

### EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS PLANNED

The Gushul exhibition, "Lena and Thomas Gushul – Life in Front and Behind the Camera", co-curated by Jelena Pogosjan and Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, is on display in part at the Alberta Council for Ukrainian Arts (ACUA) in Edmonton in June 2023. Jelena Pogosjan will give a talk on her recent publication on the photographs and letters of the Gushuls.

A preview mini-exhibition of works associated with the forthcoming exhibits, "Ukrainian Voice Legacy Mosaic" and "The Life and Times of Jacob Maydanyk" and a talk by the curator, Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, about her recent publications on these exhibitions will take place in June 2023.

The "Dumy Moï - My Thoughts" multimedia exhibition by co-curators Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn and Dmytro Yesyenko will be on display at the Pysanka Festival in July 2022, along with a Kule Folklore Centre Information booth.

The Indigenous Ukrainian Relationship Building Initiative, will conduct a collaborative relationship building exercise over two days and one night for a group of twenty-five participants in August 2023. Events are scheduled to take place at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village (UCHV), at Métis Crossing, and during travel in between these two key sites. This project involves collaboration between several institutions: KuFC, URDC, UCHV, Métis Crossing Cultural Heritage Centre and kihêw waciston Indigenous Centre at MacEwan University. Since taking up the KuFC Interim Directorship, Andie Palmer has been engaged in the planning of this event with the original team, which includes leads Maryna Chernyavska, and Larisa Hayduk of MacEwan University.

A mainstay of the KuFC, the series of popular community and academic presentations known as the Folklore Lunches will continue in 2023-24. Plans are underway by the Centre's Executive for the formulation of the 2023-24 season, to commence in September 2023, on one Friday noon per month from September through April.

A 50th Anniversary Celebration of the first Malanka held at the Faculty Club is planned for 13 January, 2024, with involvement of the Ukrainian Canadian community.

The third annual Bohdan Medwidsky Memorial Lecture is to be held at the University of Alberta late in winter term, 2024. A memorial service will be held close to the date.

The debuts of three major exhibitions are planned by Kule Chair Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn for the coming year: "Out of the Kiln: Sharing Traditions in Clay," (with PhD student Victoria Kostyniuk); the "Ukrainian Voice Legacy Mosaic," and "The Life and Times of Jacob Maydanyk."



# Kule Folklore Centre

Peter & Doris Kule Centre for Ukrainian & Canadian Folklore

ЦЕНТР УКРАЇНСЬКОГО ТА КАНАДСЬКОГО ФОЛЬКЛОРУ ім. ПЕТРА І ДОРИС КУЛІВ



## PLANNING BEYOND 2024

2026 will mark the 30th Anniversary of the Centre, and the 5th year Memorial for Dr. Bohdan Medwidsky's passing. The leadup to these milestones provides the impetus for a major conference retrospective on the contributions of Kule Folklore Centre researchers and alumni, and a publication on the history of the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives.

Upgrading the storage conditions for the Archives' collections, and finding permanent storage to accommodate the records, which were considerably expanded in 2020 with the acquisition of the archival collections of the former Ukrainian Archives and Museum of Alberta (UCAMA), will improve the stability and accessibility for collections.



*Peter and Doris Kule*



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## THE KULE FOLKLORE CENTRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2022-2023:

Robert Wood, Dean of Arts - Chair

Andie Palmer, Interim Director of the Kule Folklore Centre

Natalia Khanenko-Friesen, Director, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies  
(CIUS)

Jelena Pogosjan, MLCS Faculty Representative (Past Director of the Kule  
Folklore Centre)

Victoria Ruetalo, Chair of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies

Jason Golinowski, President of the Friends of the Ukrainian Folklore Centre

Larisa Sembaliuk Cheladyn, Community Representative

The Kule Folklore Centre Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors is  
scheduled for: June 27, 2023

### Invited Guests:

Gordon Gordey, First Vice-President, Shevchenko Foundation (Attending)

Oleksandr Pankieiev, Alberta Society for the Advancement of Ukrainian  
Studies (ASAUS) and as the CIUS designate for Dr. Khanenko-Friesen in her  
absence (Attending)

Andrea Hayes, Manager, Arts Collaboration Enterprise, Faculty of Arts - ACE



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