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UKRAINIAN CANADIAN FOUNDATION OF TARAS SHEVCHENKO HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN OTTAWA

July 8, 2011, Winnipeg, MB

The Annual Meeting of the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko (Shevchenko Foundation) was held on June 24-26, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario to coincide with the June 26th unveiling of the Shevchenko Memorial in our country's capital.

In attendance were Andriy Hladyshevsky Q.C. of Edmonton who was re-appointed as President and Chair of the Shevchenko Foundation as well as newly appointed Vice-Chair Boris Balan of Toronto; re-appointed Treasurer Bohdan Halkewycz of Winnipeg; members Sophia Kachor of Winnipeg; Chrystyna Bidiak of Toronto; Ernest Paluck of Regina; and the board's newest member Eugene Roman of Mississauga. Also in attendance were Wallace Shoemay of Burnaby BC, Chair of the Shevchenko Foundation's Investment Committee; Dr Christina Turkewych, Program Director of the Kobzar Literary Awards and Executive Director Lesia Szwaluk.

In keeping with the Shevchenko Foundation mission of "preserving and promoting Ukrainian Canadian cultural heritage and the advancement of a flourishing Ukrainian community for the enrichment of Canada" the board reviewed 40 grant applications and approved a total of \$99,560 in grant monies for distribution among these applications which included film and research projects, cultural centres, dance and drama groups, and publications to name a few. The Board also reviewed and approved the 2010-2011 financial statements of the foundation which were prepared and presented by PKBW Group Chartered Accountants.

On the evening of June 25th, The Board members enjoyed the opportunity to attend Ottawa's Professional and Business Club's "Pre-Shevchenko" social evening marking the unveiling of the monument and to meet with members of Ottawa's Ukrainian-Canadian community.

The highlight of the weekend was the official unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko Monument on the grounds of St John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine in Ottawa on the afternoon of Sunday, June 26th. Hundreds of people were in attendance, coming from all across Canada and from far away as Ukraine. All members and staff of the Shevchenko Foundation were proudly in attendance and President Andriy Hladyshevsky, brought official greetings to those gathered on behalf of the Foundation. For highlights of the unveiling, to hear an excerpt Andriy Hladyshevsky's speech, and to learn more about the Shevchenko Foundation and the valuable work it does, please refer to our website www.shevchenkofoundation.ca.

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