

**Association of United**  
Товариство Об'єднаних



**Ukrainian Canadians**  
Українських Канадців

595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2K4  
Tel: (204) 589-4397 Fax: (204) 589-3404  
Toll Free: 1-800-856-8242



E-mail: [auuckobzar@mts.net](mailto:auuckobzar@mts.net)

## 49<sup>th</sup> AUUC National Convention Pre-Convention Discussion Bulletin Number 1 June 11, 2025

**In this issue: Introduction | Youth Councils | Constitution | Call to Convention**

**Introduction:** Welcome to the first issue of the Pre-Convention Discussion Bulletin (PCDB) for the 49<sup>th</sup> AUUC National Convention. **The PCDB is a unique opportunity for all AUUC members to engage in a process of discussion and consultation leading up to Convention about issues our members think important.** As such it may stimulate the submission of resolutions, amendments to the AUUC Constitution and generally prepare delegates and members for the Convention. Convention sets the goals and orientation of the AUUC for the next three years so it is an important time in the life of the AUUC.

There is no set time table for the production of the PCDB, it will be published when sufficient contributions are available. The PCDB is produced in the National Office. Contributions are sent to [mail@auuckobzar.net](mailto:mail@auuckobzar.net) as a word document or other standard format. In the subject line of the email put: Pre-Convention Discussion Bulletin. The Office can not accept handwritten or fax submissions.

The PCDB will be sent to **all members:** (i) by email to those who have an email registered with the National Office; (ii) members who do not have email will receive the PCDB by regular mail. Sending by email will save the National AUUC postage costs of approximately \$600 per issue of PCDB, and it will provide you immediate receipt of the PCDB when issued. If you do not want to receive by email and prefer only mailed copy you must contact Olena at the National Office either by email or telephone to arrange this.

**Youth Councils:** The 49<sup>th</sup> Convention will again have youth observers. In order to stimulate discussion in preparation for the Convention we are reprinting the report given by Jeremy Abbott to the National Committee meeting in September 2023. The Edmonton Council has functioned in this period and we encourage them to contribute to PCDB on their experience. Since the 48<sup>th</sup> Convention the National AUUC has set up the Myron Shatulsky Scholarship to assist AUUC youth.

*AUUC Youth Councils and Youth Commission Proposal  
Submitted to the National Committee, September 9th-10th 2023  
Jeremy Abbott*

*There are fewer and fewer organizations that exist eager to take on the challenges that confront a new generation of young people that interact with developing the whole person; heart, body, mind, and spirit. Alienation, apathy, consumerism, and ideological drift are some of the cultural issues that*

## 49<sup>th</sup> AUUC NATIONAL CONVENTION PRE-CONVENTION DISCUSSION BULLETIN

*youth experience today, with new developments of global and local economic, ecological, and social problems that youth endure. These issues impact our local branches within the AUUC, and youth who connect with them find themselves part of a progressive Ukrainian community struggling to build on a legacy that has survived the past century, but existing nonetheless in working class communities across the country. Despite how culture and broader society changes and adapts, youth require the same needs as they always have; the need to belong, to understand the world around them, and to create and participate in being valued and recognized in a community that cares about their future and current aspirations. These are the needs that the AUUC needs to bring our attention towards in order to reach the young people of today.*

*The AUUC needs to find ways to engage and activate youth to build into the community of the AUUC through both local and national organization and ways to expand to other young people who live in the communities that surround our Ukrainian centers. The proposal of the youth council involves forming both local and national bodies that responds to the issues youth entering the AUUC have while also activating other commissions in the organization to train and develop leaders in the organization who can make the AUUC a space for this and future generations. I am proposing a seven-point program to address the need of bringing youth into the organization, developing AUUC programs to keep youth in, fostering cultural and ideological unity in the work ahead of us.*

*The areas of work that I would like the national committee to consider in implementing are as follows:*

- 1. Setting up a youth commission of young people under 35 in the organization to participate in in a national capacity to meet on a monthly or quarterly basis (depending on capacity of members). Planning of national youth events and seminars (with special speakers or discussions across Canada on important social and cultural issues) should be discussed here while coordinating larger projects such as creating promotional materials, leadership training workshops, developing and sharing ideas on curriculum and onboarding planning when connecting with new youth attendees/ applicants to the AUUC.*
- 2. Wherever possible start up youth councils where branches exist with youth under 35 to participate in planning local events and programs, teaching and developing curriculum, developing leadership skills relevant to the local branch.*
- 3. Reactivating the AUUC newspaper (Ukrainian Canadian Herald) with a youth section, setting up an editorial board with youth representation to re-activate.*
- 4. Coordination with the CSULR on getting materials that could be used in creating a curriculum for youth in the organization.*
- 5. Planning recreational activities within the branches that connect youth to cultural and leisure activities (organizing sports days/ field trips to local heritage sites). Involving the Ukrainian center spaces is an important part of this work, making sure there are rec activities youth can do while at any one of our branches.*
- 6. Youth involvement in developing cultural programs within local branches, representation on national boards such as the National Performing Arts Committee or collaboration with archival work.*

## 49<sup>th</sup> AUUC NATIONAL CONVENTION PRE-CONVENTION DISCUSSION BULLETIN

*7. Partnerships with university and high school campuses: Keeping outreach focused on where the largest concentration of youth congregates. This will keep the organization in touch with core youth issues, and likewise bridge cultural and social ideas from the present day and past together. Considerations should be made where capacity exists to start up campus clubs. Curriculum, cultural programs, and rec activities will be essential to already be well developed to make transitions of work at community centers and campuses work smoothly.*

**Constitution:** Convention can consider changes to the Constitution and one thing we should think about is if the Preamble needs to be updated to better reflect the AUUC in this period of its history and development; and broader developments in Canadian society such as reconciliation with First Nations. Also, it does not take into account the influx of new immigrants from Ukraine due to the war.

Overall, the Preamble is a very good statement so the suggestion is not a total rewrite, which would take considerable discussion and time, but through additions and some changes to the existing text which would improve it.

Below is the Preamble as it currently reads:

*'The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians is a progressive organization with strong and durable roots in the people and history of Canada. The Association and its community, from the turn of the century, constitute the progressive wing of the Ukrainian ethnic group in the population. They are the offspring and heir to those beginnings that grew out of the early formative years of community development and the struggle to survive.*

*What began as an organization and community of immigrant labour, typical of its time, is an Association today with a broad popular base and contemporary democratic goals in a changing social culture and lifestyle. The Association and its predecessors have always been committed to change and progress in the interests of the people. This commitment remains as a trust and a duty.*

*The Association embodied the dream that brought countless thousands to this country with the future in their eyes. They came here as builders, to the frontiers of nation building and they helped to transform this land and their own lives in the process. The Association has a vested interest in peace on that road to the future.*

*Generations of those born to the pioneers and their children found "a home away from home" in the network of halls across the land. These were places to grow, learn and to acquire and enjoy the precious heritage of their birth right. The new generations deserve no less.*

*The Association and its predecessors always sought to establish and maintain creative contacts and living ties with the ancestral homeland and the mother root of Ukrainian culture. The Association has always promoted tourism and cultural exchange as a means of strengthening ties and building bridges of friendship and peace between peoples of one historic family. The future of a new and expanding culture depends upon continued nourishment from the mother root.*

## **49<sup>th</sup> AUUC NATIONAL CONVENTION PRE-CONVENTION DISCUSSION BULLETIN**

*The Association has evolved through a number of organizational stages due to conditions and climate of the time. It came on the scene as the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association (1918-1924); followed by the Ukrainian Labour- Farmer Temple Association (1925-1946); the Ukrainian Association to Aid the Fatherland (1941-1942); the Association of Ukrainian Canadians (1942-1946); and finally, the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians (1946).*

*The name of the organization shall be "Association of United Ukrainian Canadians", hereinafter referred to as the "Association".'*

### **Call to the 49<sup>th</sup> AUUC National Convention**

**October 11, 12 and 13, 2025**

**Winnipeg, Manitoba**

*At its meeting of February 1 and 2, 2025 the National Committee approved the issuing of this Call to the 49<sup>th</sup> AUUC National Convention.*

On October 11, 12 and 13, 2025 the 49th National Convention will be held in Winnipeg at the Ukrainian Labour Temple -- a National Historic Site and home of the Winnipeg Branch of the AUUC.

The National Convention is the highest representative body of the AUUC, and for its members and Branches at which they have the right to bring forward and express themselves of all matters properly before the convention.

The Convention carries out many duties of an administrative and governance nature such as the election of National Officers, the National Executive and National Committee, constitutional amendments, reports of committees and other bodies on their work. These will all be addressed in sessions of the Convention.

The Convention also deliberates on policy matters to orient the AUUCs intervention into the broader Canadian context. The 49th Convention is being held at time when the world faces profound social, political, economic and environmental changes unlike any since the end of the Second World War. The Convention will turn its attention to these matters through resolutions submitted from its Branches and National leadership.

The 49<sup>th</sup> Convention comes at a time when Ukraine faces the human, economic, social, cultural and environmental devastation caused by three years of war with Russia. The Convention must pay special attention to this situation. Throughout its history, the AUUC has had ties to Ukraine and its people. The twists and turns of Ukraine's internal political development have affected the strength of those times. Nonetheless, the AUUC continues to be involved in Ukraine. During the course of these three long years of war the AUUC has worked to provide humanitarian relief for the people of Ukraine. A session of the Convention will be devoted to the situation in Ukraine.

The AUUC comes to the 49<sup>th</sup> Convention having improved its work in various areas. It has consolidated its National Office as the centre of its support for the AUUC membership, AUUC committees, archives work and general contact with the public. It has improved its online presence as the means to promote itself and extend its role in the wider world. It continues to

## **49<sup>th</sup> AUUC NATIONAL CONVENTION PRE-CONVENTION DISCUSSION BULLETIN**

advance and improve its work in the cultural sphere. While there has been success in these areas more can be done and the Convention will address these matters as well.

We call on all Branches to organize discussions among their members of the issues which they consider important for the Convention to discuss. All members and Branches, as well as the National Committee and the National Executive Committee, have the right to refer reports, resolutions, questions or business to the National Convention for it to consider.

### **Status of National Committee**

Pursuant to Article 16.8(a) and (b) of the AUUC Constitution, the Convention may affirm voice and vote for National Committee members

### **Pre-Convention Discussion Bulletin**

To encourage the exchange of opinions regarding matters of concern to members a preconvention discussion bulletin shall be published from time to time as sufficient amounts of material for publication are received. Submissions may be sent by email to [mail@auuckobzar.net](mailto:mail@auuckobzar.net) or mail to Preconvention Bulletin, 595 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2W 2K4.

### **Branch Meeting**

Upon receipt of the 49<sup>th</sup> National Convention Call the Branch Treasurer will convene, at suitable time and place, a general meeting of the Branch to elect delegates to the Convention and to consider any matter to be brought before the Convention. Such meeting is to be no later than the time set out in Article 16.4 (c) of the AUUC Constitution and follow the provisions of 16.4 (d) (e) and 16.5

### **Delegates**

Members in good standing and Branches are to be represented at the convention through their delegates, to be elected as specified in the Constitution of the AUUC (Article 16.5 (a)(b)(c)). The number of delegates each Branch may elect will be based on the number of members in good standing as of **March 31, 2025**, as recorded at the AUUC National Office. For this, it is the responsibility of each Branch, in consultation with the staff of the AUUC National Office, to ensure that the membership records at the National Office are complete and correct.

The National Executive Committee will prepare and distribute the necessary forms for the registration of delegates and delegate credentials. The NEC will determine the deadlines for the return of these forms.

The cost of the Convention (including delegates approved travel expenses, hotel and provision of a per diem) is responsibility of the National AUUC.

### **Alternate Delegates**

Branches may elect alternates for their delegates, but the cost of participation by such alternate delegates will be borne by the Branch and/or the alternate delegate. On adequate notice of requirements, the NEC will endeavor to arrange lodgings for alternate delegates and try to meet their other needs as though they were delegates. Alternate delegates may attend Convention sessions on the same conditions as apply to other observers. Prior to Convention, alternate delegates may replace elected delegates if notice of the change is sent by the Branch President or

## **49<sup>th</sup> AUUC NATIONAL CONVENTION PRE-CONVENTION DISCUSSION BULLETIN**

the Branch Treasurer to reach the NEC no later than the day before the start of Convention. The Convention must approve by motion for an alternate to be seated in place of the elected delegate.

### **Observers**

Observers may attend the Convention, at their own expense and by their own arrangements, except for sessions which the Convention may declare to be closed.

### **Youth Observers**

Each Branch may send 2 youth observers to attend Convention. They will have voice but no vote. Their expenses to attend will be paid on the same basis as that of delegates

### **Resolutions**

Matters to be raised at convention by any member or Branch are to be presented in the form of a resolution outlining the issue and proposed action. Resolutions may encompass any matter or issue relating to the work of the AUUC, its organization (constitution) or its engagement with the broader Canadian and International context. The NEC will provide resolutions forms through the National Office.