

СВІЙ ДО СВОГО



Ukrainian International Directory

Ukrainian Community Issues Newsletter



СВІЙ ДО СВОГО Ukrainian Community Issues 23 – 5 September 2016

Association of Ukrainians in Victoria Democracy in the coming Annual General Meeting

In Australia, despite barely 1,000 persons of Ukrainian descent actually participating in Ukrainian activities, there are some 38,000 persons of Ukrainian descent who do not get involved in Ukrainian community activities, who should be motivated to be involved in order to achieve better results for the greater good of our community as a whole.

Since our arrival on the shores of Australia circa 1950, the various Ukrainian “Hromada” State and Branch Organisations have not embraced clear Democratic principles and as a result the Ukrainian community has been decimated to such an extent that it is almost insignificant. For years now, the community has been ruled by a hand full of persons with particular interests, inevitably steering the community towards their own direction at the expense of the whole community.

Ukrainian “Hromada” State and Branch Organisations are organizations established:

- Not for just Ukrainian Catholics, Orthodox, Baptist, any other singular religious faiths or even non-believers,
- Not for just Plast, CYM, sporting club or other activity or organization,
- Not for Banderivtsi, Melnykivtsi or other specific political ideologies,
- Not for just the original settling diasporas in Australia, New immigrants from Ukraine or from elsewhere,
- Not for just Ukrainians from Eastern or Western Ukraine,
- Not for just any one, two, three or more family groups,
- Not for just any other specific interest groups or
- Not for just capable Ukrainian speaking persons in isolation of other language understood or spoken by the various Ukrainian immigrants such a Yugoslavian, Bosnian, Russian, English or any other country or for whatever reason they speak, read and write another language,

These **Ukrainian “Hromada” State and Branch Organisations**:

- Are all-encompassing organizations whose membership is not restricted to the above categories or in discrimination of any of the above categories of Ukrainians,
- Are organisations that are fair and equal to each and every person of Ukrainian descent irrespective of race, colour, creed, religion, affiliation and language spoken,
- Are organisations that unite all Ukrainians under the one umbrella to show strength and unity and to work and fight for the one common Ukrainian cause; whatever that may be at the time and
- Are organisations that accept that future generations of Ukrainians in Australia who have assimilated into the broader Australian community are not ostracized and left out in the all subsuming Australian wilderness.

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These **Ukrainian “Hromada” State and Branch Organisations**, in consideration of the above principles have to establish common ground amongst all Ukrainians in Australia. Failure to achieve this will result in a continual decline and ultimate decimation of any organisation.

- **Language in Australia.**

While maintaining our traditional Ukrainian language as best we practically can, it is absolutely essential to ensure that everyone communicates freely amongst each other. This includes the publishing of all correspondence, documentation and articles should be in Ukrainian. However, it is absolutely essential that they be translated into English, as the Universal Language for all other participants (perhaps the majority) to understand.

It is absolutely essential that we not only convey our message to the “converted” (i.e. Ukrainians who are fortunate to be able to read, write and speak Ukrainian), but that also we convey our message to every other non-Ukrainian speaking Ukrainian in Australia and across the world to understand our message.

- **Communication**

Successful organisations make it their priority to keep their “human resources” fully informed in advance of events, activities, policies and procedure that affect people’s lives. This is absolutely essential, as failure to communicate in a timely manner can only lead to functional failure, dissatisfaction and ultimate disintegration of the organisation.

- **Co-operation**

In the big wide world, businesses and communities have achieved enormous benefits by working together with other corporations, organisations, interest groups and individuals outside their own sphere.

Keeping all business and activities in-house only spells disaster as incestuous and insular practices promote stagnation and inbreeding of ideas leading to poor practices, resulting in ultimate degeneration and failure.

Businesses and organisations that have succeeded have always used the “best of breed” principles, leveraging ideas, skills and expertise from outside their sphere; at times this may mean working outside of our “comfort zones” or “control zones”.

- **Equality**

One of the most important issues for a corporation, organisation, community and even at a personal level is the issue of equality amongst any group of people. Failure to address this issue can only lead to a culture of animosity which can only result in a breakdown of relationships and must adversely affect the organisation. Where certain corporate or membership structures might have been appropriate fifty or more years ago, a sense of equality among “Community” members is essential for its future wellbeing.

- **Mateship**

In Australia we have a mateship culture which should be fostered amongst Ukrainians in Australia to improve the spirit of collaboration.

In conclusion, through failure to implement the above broad principles, large corporations such as Coca-Cola, would surely be either taken over or die an inevitable death. The same goes for our Community, failure to implement the above broad principles and to refresh leadership and ideas, our product “the Community organisation” will stagnate, be taken over by “assimilation” or die an inevitable death.

Look at the countries that have had the same leadership unchanged for years – Bylorus, Uzbekistan, Russia and North Korea – and we have had some leaders in place in our Community organisations for longer than any of those.

As such the leadership of our community are clearly responsible. The ultimate question is: are they the “losers” or the “winners” – will they sustain themselves in their beloved leadership positions at the cost of the community’s optimal future or will they rise to the occasion and make room for new members, new leaders and new ideas, in the spirit of succession planning.

DEMOCRACY AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY IS ESSENTIAL

In the main, the Annual General Meeting of the **Association of Ukrainians in Victoria** is usually held during November. The 2016 AGM is approaching rapidly.

What can we reasonably expect of the AGM

Initial Notification

1. Notice of Annual General Meeting shall be posted to each member and is to include and not limited to:
 - a. A list of the retiring Directors and the President, stating if they have the right to re-nominate,
 - b. Nomination Forms are to be included with an appropriate closing date,
 - c. The Chairman's report,
 - d. The Agenda,
 - e. Minutes of previous AGM,
 - Detailing list of achievement during the previous year and
 - Detailing list of issues not addressed during the previous year.
 - f. Any other relevant document,
 - g. Full financial statement,
 - Full accountability of AUV affairs
 - Full and detailed accountability of the Russell Street development including showing financial benefits to the community in detail.
 - h. Statement from the Board as to the proposed usage of funds acquired from the Russell Street development.
 - i. Statement from the Board detailing the future of the Ukrainian Centre in Victoria
 - j. Progress of the proposed new AUV Constitution.

Elections

2. Nominees for each of the Director and President's positions shall be listed on ballot paper in alphabetical order.
3. The only proxy voting permitted should be limited to that of a member's spouse.
4. Voting shall be by "Secret Ballot".
5. The organisations Public Officer shall be the Electoral Officer.
6. Each nominee has the right to appoint one scrutineer to scrutinise the vote count.

Issues for discussion at AGM

7. Financial statement of the AUV affairs
8. Financial statement addressing the Russell Street development's financial benefits to the community
9. Proposed new constitution and an explanation why the Constitution Committee:
 - i. Has not held any meetings,
 - ii. No community consultation has been implemented.

10. Membership

Despite several persons having applied for membership several months ago, no one that I know of, has been notified if their membership has been accepted. This is totally unprofessional and unacceptable.

As the current AUV Constitution fails Democratic principles in every aspect, full Democratic principles shall apply at all future AGM's.

**Have your say and make your vote count at the next
ASSOCIATION OF UKRAINIANS IN VICTORIA – CENTRAL
Annual General Meeting
Membership Application Form Attached**

Michael Karaszekwycz

Member of AUV Central, Member Sunshine Hromada, Member St. Albans Hromada
Editor, Ukrainian International Directory

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УКРАЇНСЬКА ГРОМАДА ВІКТОРІЇ
ASSOCIATION OF UKRAINIANS IN VICTORIA (A.U.V.)

ЗАЯВА В ЧЛЕНИ УГВ
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF AUV

Я,
I Професія - Occupation
Народжений/на//
Born Країна - Country

Адреса:
Address: Телефон:
..... Telephone:.....
..... Релігія / Religion:.....

Електронна Адреса / Email :

Родинний стан Чоловік/дружина Ім'я
Marital Status..... Spouse Name

Ім'я і вік дітей:
Names & age of children

Бажаю стати членом Української Громади Вікторії і даю згоду повинуватися приписам Статуту УГВ.

I hereby apply to become a member of the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria and I agree to be bound by the rules of the AUV and regulation.

Дата:/...../.....
Date:

Підпис апліканта:
Signature of Applicant

Філія - Branch: ESSENDON - AUV CENTRAL

РУЧИТЕЛІ: Ми члени УГВ особисто знаємо апліканта і рекомендуємо його апликацію

Підпис:
1-ший Ручитель
Підпис:
2-гий Ручитель

РІШЕННЯ УПРАВИ УГВ

Дня місяця 20..... Управа УГВ рішила вищезгаданого апліканта
прийняти / не прийняти в члени УГВ

.....
Голова

.....
Секретар