СВІЙ ДО СВОГО



Ukrainian International Directory



Ukrainian Community Issues Newsletter

СВІЙ ДО СВОГО Ukrainian Community Issues 24 – 18 October 2016

Association of Ukrainians in Victoria (AUV) Membership

On several occasions, in this series of Newsletters, I have stated categorically that in Australia, despite barely 1,000 persons of Ukrainian descent are actually participating in Ukrainian activities, there are some 38,000 persons of Ukrainian descent who do not get involved in Ukrainian community activities, who could and should be motivated to be involved in order to achieve better results for the greater good of our community as a whole. By definition, the AUV should seek to represent the whole community in Victoria.

One would naturally conclude that policies, processes and activities would have been put in place to enhance the Ukrainian profile in Australia. BUT NO, I now believe the absolute opposite is the case; there is absolutely NO attempt to strive to have a cohesive broad representative Ukrainian Community at either State or National level.

After years of observing the activities of certain sectors of our Community, I am now of the firm belief that there are elements within the Ukrainian Community that deliberately set out to decimate the Community until there is a last group of "core faithful" standing, to do as they absolutely wish.

It is the membership of an organisation that make the organisation successful and NOT the individual supported by a group of "blindly faithful". More people, means more ideas, means more hands on deck to work on projects and more goals can be achieved.

What would normally be expected of AUV

One would normally expect from any organisation or association, the first priority would be to maximise their membership number enabling it to achieve greatness through the management of their people resources by:

- 1. having an active Membership Director on the Board and
- 2. the Membership Director should have an active Membership Committee consisting of:
 - a. representatives of the various religious and youth groups and
 - b. a recruiter for the new arrivals from Ukraine.

and have an effecting membership marketing strategy in place.

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One would also normally expect that:

- 1. a person applying for membership could reasonably expect a response at least one week after the next Board meeting and
- 2. existing members would reasonably expect that immediately at the end of a financial year to receive membership renewal notification for the following financial year.

Sadly, as I personally have witnessed, at least over the last 40 years, that this has not happened and still today it is not happening.

As previously reported in these newsletters, I have personally heard senior members of the AUV Board state categorically, when referring the new arrivals from Ukraine, "they know where we are and if the want us they know where to find us". What is a sad attitude.

Absolute Failure concerning AUV Membership

I have had many disgruntled members of the Ukrainian Community complain to me regarding their membership applications, despite the fact that they had applied for membership approaching six months ago.

I personally, a member of AUV, had not received my membership renewal until I actively complained and pursued it recently. Finally, mid September, I received by email, the membership renewal back dated to 1 July 2016. Their claim was that the renewal notice was posted months ago. Let me assure you, that to the best of my knowledge, I have never had any Australia Post mail, which I was expecting, not delivered; other may have had different experiences. Furthermore, of all the years I have been a member of AUV, I have never received a membership renewal notice; I have resorted to paying my fees at the AGM.

I have also been informed that:

- 2 letters of "membership acceptance" had been posted to another members address.
 A simple administrative process went wrong.
- 6 people had NOT received their membership renewal notices. How many more members have not received their notices?
- during the writing of this Newsletter I received a call advisng that this person received their membership renewal at the same time as I received mine.

In this day and age of computers, spreadsheets, databases and electronic mail, this version of what happened beggars belief. It is more likely in my view, that these legitimate membership applications and renewals were held up while a response approach was determined to the new applications that I had encouraged in my newsletters as a membership drive rather than the board.

Non Membership Renewal Consequences

Failure to advise of new membership acceptance and not renewing of membership, clearly means that the AUV Board does not need to send out the appropriate AUV AGM formal notices and accompaying statutory documentation as these people are not officially members, as they have not paid their membership.

There is probably method in their madness; as fewer members attending the AGM, the greater chance that there will be fewer members asking pertinent questions and the greater chance of the mindless "blind faithful" out voting anyone on any issue. Very comfortable.

Other members of the Ukrainian Community have made (unprintable) sarcastic and derogatory comments as to why there has been a lack of interest in enhancing the Ukrainian Community's membership by its leaders.

I ask - is this a deliberate ploy by the certain sectors of the AUV Board. If it is, then they are deliberately contravening members democratic rights.

This level of competence is not acceptable.

As described in several previous newsletters, the rot has set into our Ukrainian Community well and truly by the actions and or lack of actions by previous and present AUV leaders and Boards.

It is clear, from the comments from various sectors of our community, that the leadership of Ukrainian Community in Victoria are losing credibility.

As in all cases, the buck stops with the Chief Executive Officer, in AUV's case it is the President of AUV.

As the evidence mounts proving that the AUV, as an organisation, is failing its members and potential members, it is incumbent on me to once again call on Michael Moravski, President of the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria (AUV) to stand aside as President immediately and to relinquish all committee positions.

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

Membership Application Form Attached

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

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

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