

## ***WOLODYMIRA LUCZKIW***

### ***60 Years of Continuous Volunteer Work***

Wolodymyra Luczkiw greatly valued the importance of volunteerism and was a dedicated volunteer in the Canadian Ukrainian community for 60 years.

Mrs. Luczkiw was active in various women's organizations, social services, church groups, scouting, cultural institutions and school associations. She participated in initiating and organizing countless community events, commemorations, concerts and exhibits. Her participation in youth and school groups involved ongoing and consistent guidance to young people and leadership to parent committees.

Mrs. Luczkiw was the curator of the Ukrainian Heritage Museum of Canada in Casa Loma for almost 15 years. In addition to being responsible for the exhibits, Mrs. Luczkiw's work involved extensive research and travel across Canada to locate and acquire new and interesting pioneer artifacts for the museum's displays. All of these are now housed in the Canadian Museum of Civilizations in Ottawa.

In the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations, while working as both financial secretary and vice-president, Mrs. Luczkiw was very involved in all of the Federation's publications, including the initiation, editing and publication of a book about Women Prisoners in the Soviet Gulag. She also participated in international women's conferences in several countries.

Mrs. Luczkiw was head of the Ukrainian Pedagogical Committee and helped with various publications of children's literature, audio recordings of songs and stories and the organization of children's concerts and events. She was an active member of the Home and School Associations at Humbercrest Public School and Runnymede Collegiate in Toronto. She was also head of the Parent Teacher Association in Hryhorij Skovoroda Ukrainian Saturday High School and responsible for the publication of a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary memorial album.

Her work with Ukrainian Scouts spans many years, starting in 1956 and involving many facets of scouting life – from the physical set up of summer camps, organizing camp programs and activities, being a parent leader to involvement in extensive fundraising and the writing and publication of leadership training materials. Her fundraising and organizational efforts as president of the camp committee resulted in the successful installation of a large swimming pool at the Scout Camp in Grafton, Ontario.

Mrs. Luczkiw was a long time volunteer at Ivan Franko Long Term Care Home where she regularly helped with meals, organized activities and assisted senior residents with individual requirements. As a member of UCWLC, Mrs. Luczkiw visited isolated seniors in their homes and long term care facilities where she was known for her warmth and compassion.

Mrs. Luczkiw was an archive volunteer with the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Centre since 2004. She single handedly set up an extensive vertical file containing more than 500 topics relating to the history of Ukrainians in Canada, Ukraine and the Diaspora. These press articles, clippings, documents and other valuable historic materials continue to be used by students, educators and scholars.

Every organization to which Wolodymyra Luczkiw contributed throughout her life will surely hold in Eternal Memory Wolodymyra Luczkiw's dedication, consistency, compassion, diligence, friendliness and the ability and willingness to put others above herself.

*Bozhena Gembatiuk*