



Nation Builders

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Awards Recipients for 2003

Bishop Basil Filevich
Wilfred Homenuik
Yaroslav Kotyk
Vera Nadia (Dorosh) Labach
Emelia Vera (Waschuk) Panamaroff

Dr. Zenon Stephen Pohorecky
George Skwarchuk, SVM
Lillian (Koroluk) Steranko
Mary (Matlock) Usick
Senator Paul Yuzyk

UCC-SPC hosts 9th annual Nation Builders Awards luncheon November 2, 2003 at St. Mary's Cultural Centre, Yorkton

The warm words of congratulations and respect did much to put the cold outdoors out of mind. The Ukrainian community of Saskatchewan formally acknowledged the outstanding contributions by ten of its members at what is described as a tasteful and appropriate event.

This ninth annual Nation Builders Awards luncheon was successfully hosted by the community of Yorkton and attended by over 170 well-wishers from across the province and beyond. UCC-SPC Executive Director Danylo Puderak skillfully served as master of ceremonies. Attendees were treated to the musical talents of Yorkton youth pianists Melanie Kardynal and Stephanie Ortynsky, and members of the Kalyna and Troyanda Ukrainian dance ensembles acted as honorary ushers. This year's honourees represent a wide range of personal involvement and achievements.

UCC-SPC gratefully acknowledges the strong financial support of community organizations, businesses and individuals from within our province and across Canada. This year's donations were a record high. The UCC-SPC Board of Directors extends sincere thanks to members of the Yorkton organizing committee for a job well done and to the UCC-SPC Recognitions Committee for their ongoing contributions to maintaining the NBA as the distinguished event it has become. Particular thanks go to Pearl Balych of North Battleford who has submitted her resignation from the UCC-SPC Recognitions Committee.



Recipients in 2003. Standing: Adrian Boyko (for Zenon Pohorecky), Most Rev. Bishop Basil Filevich, Vicki Karpiak (for father Sen. Paul Yuzyk), Wilfred Homenuik. Seated: Vera Labach, Lillian Steranko, Sally Skwarchuk (for husband George), Mary Kotyk (for husband Yaris), Emilia Panamaroff, Mary Usick



Senator Paul Yuzyk

b. June 24, 1913 (Pinto, SK)

d. July 9, 1986

Paul Yuzyk, born in Pinto, Saskatchewan to Martin and Katherine Yuzyk, attended elementary and high school in Saskatoon and in 1932-33 the Saskatoon Normal School (teacher training). He taught school in the Hafford area from 1933-42. He served in the Canadian Army during WW II. He received from the University of Saskatchewan a B.A. in Mathematics and Physics (1945), B.A. Honours in History (1947), an M.A. in History (1948), and an L.L.D. (1977).

In 1951 he received a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, and in 1981 a Ph.D. from the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, Germany.

Dr. Yuzyk taught history at the University of Manitoba (1951-1963) and at the University of Ottawa (1968-1978). His studies and research centred on Slavic and Ukrainian history.

Dr. Yuzyk published the following books: *The Ukrainians of Manitoba*, 1953 and 1977; *Ukrainian Canadians*, 1967; and *the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church of Canada*, 1981. He contributed to other books, and wrote numerous articles. He was a Director of the organization that published the *Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia*.

Dr. Yuzyk was instrumental in several organizations, including: founder and first President of the Ukrainian National Youth Federation (1934-36) and editor of its monthly magazine *Youth Speaks* (1948-49); founder of the Ukrainian Canadian University Students' Union (1953); National Treasurer of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee (1952-55); founder and first Secretary Treasurer of the Canadian Association of Slavists (1954-56), and founder and first President of the Progressive Conservative Club of Ukrainian Canadians (1958).

For his public involvement and support of the Ukrainian Canadian community, Dr. Yuzyk received many awards including: the keys to the City of Detroit (1964), the City of Buffalo (1966) and the City of Rochester (1976); the Canadian Centennial Medal in 1967; the Shevchenko Gold Medal in 1968; the City of Sudbury Gold Medal in 1968; the Manitoba Centennial Medal in 1970; the Toronto Ukrainian Canadian Gold Medal in 1973; the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977; the Order of Estonia in 1982; and the Knight-Commander, Order of St. Gregory the Great in 1983.

In 1963 Dr. Yuzyk was appointed to Canada's Senate by Prime Minister John Diefenbaker where he was instrumental in shaping Canada's policy on Multiculturalism.

Paul Yuzyk married Mary Bahniuk on July 12, 1941 and they were blessed with four children.