



23 months until the millennium of the coronation of the first king of Poland



# POLONIA NEWS



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## Quotes about Poland and Poles:

**“The distances from Warsaw to Moscow and from Warsaw to Brussels are identical. The sign says that Poland is neither in the east nor in the west. Poland is the center of European civilization. She really contributed a lot to the formation of this civilization. It does so today in a significant way, refusing to be oppressed.” - Ronald Reagan**

American politician of the Republican Party, 40th president of the United States. In Poland, Ronald Reagan enjoys great popularity and respect. Among other things, for his decisive fight against the Soviet Union, which he himself referred to as the "Evil Empire".

## FRYDERYK CHOPIN IN MANITOBA!

The Polish Consulate General in Vancouver invited Fredric Chopin i.e. his bronze head.

Chopin was in Montreal, in Toronto. On the way to Vancouver, he stopped at Winnipeg and the Cooks Creek Heritage Museum.

Fryderyk Chopin, traveling through Canada, was welcomed in Manitoba by the Vice-President of the MBC, Paweł Pecold, and Obby Khan, the MB's Minister of Heritage, Sport and Culture.

Despite the delay of the MLA, Obby Khan waited patiently and together with Paweł Pecold welcomed our champion! Photo under the plaque in the legislature building commemorating the 200th anniversary of Polish immigration to Manitoba.





## AN INTERVIEW WITH JOLANTA GRONOWSKA FOR I.PL

**There are still over two years to the anniversary, and the Polish community in Manitoba has already decided to start preparations for the celebration of the millennium of the coronation of Bolesław the Brave as the king of Poland. Why?**

The first king of Poland. This is key. Boleslaus the Brave was the first, and Poland from a duchy became a kingdom. (not sure what the content is here?) Using today's language, we would say the upgrade of our country could only happen once. We realize that this is a special anniversary and we are lucky to be living at this time.



**Some people still remember the celebration of the great jubilee of the thousandth anniversary of the adoption of Christianity in Poland.**

Yes, it was - we can say - quite recently, but then, on the other hand, more than half a century ago. It's just, that anniversaries like these two, which completely changed the course of our country's history, elevated Poland to a different level in the family of European nations, we have two and in close succession. We will have to wait over 300 years for the next significant millennium anniversaries. We will not live to see it, nor will our great-grandchildren. This is the distance of many generations. Therefore, being aware of how important a moment in national continuity we will have to celebrate, we want to prepare for it very well.

**And that's why you've formed a special team...**

This is the committee for the celebration of the thousandth anniversary of the coronation of Bolesław the Brave as king of Poland. This team will grow as ideas for the scale and intensity of these celebrations crystallize. Just like Gniezno, which I know has been preparing for two years, being aware that it will be a great opportunity to promote the city, we realize that such an anniversary is a chance for us to promote Poland in Canada. In a multicultural society, it is more difficult to reach awareness with a historical message, but this anniversary, in my opinion, gives such an opportunity.

**What are you going to do to celebrate the anniversary and show Canadian society that Poland already has a thousand years of statehood?**

It must be remembered that Canada, quite recently, five years ago, celebrated its 150th anniversary. The state was proclaimed on July 1, 1867. This message about the thousand-year history of Poland must be strong and "with a long lead". There will certainly be a campaign in social media, which we will reach a wide community, during this year's celebrations, there will be events of Polish community organizations thematically related to the celebration of the millennium. We will also want something permanent to remain after these celebrations, some visible sign on the Canadian prairie, here in Manitoba, where Poles make a huge contribution to building Canada. But I also do not hide that we do it for ourselves, to be able to enjoy that we are Poles, that despite such a distance, we feel a deep bond with our homeland and we are proud of it.

**Gniezno first in the World. Perhaps Winnipeg is second?**

There's nothing to wait for. A second chance for such a celebration in a thousand years. Who of us will live to see it?





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## WHAT IS GOING ON IN COOKS CREEK HERITAGE MUSEUM?

The Cooks Creek Heritage Museum is closed to the public over the winter but planning and events go on!!

Our "Polski Czat" is an informal Polish language, history and culture class. It is held in the St Michael's Church Hall, adjacent to the Museum on the last Monday of the month at 7PM. Everyone is welcome!! The up-coming dates are Feb 27th, Mar 27th, April 24th May 29th.

Easter is coming and we will be hosting a "Pisanki Workshop" on Saturday April 1st. There are 2 sessions and pre-registration is required. Join us from 10AM to noon or 1PM to 3 PM, all supplies and instruction will be supplied. Cost is \$10 per person. The workshop will be held in the St Michael's Church Hall. Registration details will soon be on our website [cchm.ca](http://cchm.ca). Our Museum Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 10th at 7PM in the St Michael's Church Hall.

For more information contact Liz @ 204-801-0829 or [board@cchm.ca](mailto:board@cchm.ca)

## CHOPIN VISITED COOKS CREEK



## SPK ISKRY - POLISH BLOOD



We wanted to do something to give back to the Winnipeg community that has been so supportive of us.

With one of our dancers, @ju\_justyna facing some health issues,

we felt that now was the time to give blood!

**Stay strong Justyna!**



Thank you so much to everyone that came out to save lives today! Lots of good being done, and lots of first time donors coming in. Love to see how we can all come together for a cause



## WAFER MEETINGS IN OUR PARISHES

There was Polonia, there was a carol and... there were priests. This was the wafer meeting at our Parishes in Winnipeg.

Tradition is always a testimony of belonging to a nation.

A true confession of faith.

Confirmation of Polishness.

This allowed us to survive in history the times of occupation, partitions, deportations, forced emigration.

Today it has a different dimension, but no less important.

Today, tradition is the foundation of building together.

It unites us and inspires us to make efforts for the benefit of the Polish community abroad. This community is a priceless gift worth caring for so that future generations will look at our deeds with the same admiration as we look at the deeds of those who came here before us and with their commitment, dedication and hard work built lasting structures of Polishness in Manitoba, of which we have become depositaries today.

*"Tradition is an oak that has grown up for a thousand years.*

*Let no one compare a small sprout to an oak!*

*The tradition of our history is a fortified wall.*

*This is the carol, the Christmas supper, this is the singing of the people, this is the father's speech, this is our history, which will not change.."*

*(quote from the film "Teddy bear" by Stanisław Bareja)*



*Parish of St Andrew Bobola*



*Holy Ghost Parish*





## LIFE OF THE POLISH COMMUNITY IN MANITOBA



Concert of carols by the Polish Sokol Folk Ensemble was held at Holy Ghost Church. This year there was an addition of a Children's choir. Both choirs were conducted by Maestro Tadeusz Biernacki.



### Women for women

Polish Canadian Women's Federation Branch #7 invites all women to **Pretty in Pink Ladies Lunch Party** combined with fun and at the same time supporting research to fight breast cancer. **Come and join us**

Fantastic fun day of all Altar Servers at Holy Ghost Parish.



*Pretty in Pink* 

*ladies lunch party*

celebration of International Women's Day  
in support of Breast Cancer

**Sunday, March 5, 2023**  
**Sokół St. Boniface**  
**523 Doucet St.**  
**tickets: \$30**  
**Doors open at 12:30pm**

contact:  
Maria: 2045527993  
Wioletta: 2042948248

Music, Poetry, Activities, Pink Hat contest

Polish Saturday School from parish of pw. st. Andrzeja Boboli in Winnipeg organized a fundraising social. The social was organized by the parents of the students and was a huge success. The proceeds will be used for the needs of the school.



## IT WILL HAPPEN SOON

### FEBRUARY

*19 - snow tubing in Sokół St Boniface (15.00)*

*23 - the next upcoming CPC meeting is open to the general Polonia public for observation, all are welcome! (19.00) - Sokół St Boniface*

*24 - paint night in Sokół St Boniface (19.00)*

### MARCH

*5 - Pretty in Pink Women's Federation in Canada #7 in Sokol St Boniface (12:30)*

*5 - sleigh ride - Polish School of Dance Sokół*

*12 - sleigh ride Sokół St Boniface*

Dear Polonia,

The new year started very dynamically. A lot of changes within Polonia. As part of the congress, I appointed two committees: for preparations for the celebration of the millennium of the coronation of the first king of Poland (2025) and for organizing the general convention of the Canadian Polish Congress (2024). The significance these events for us, do not need to be explained. They will be the leitmotiv for the near future.

We have completely changed our immigration policy. We have come out with our offer as part of the MPNP program. I gave an interview to the i.pl portal, which is part of the largest media group in Poland. As a result, this interview will be published in over 20 regional newspaper portals in Poland. As part of this material, a message to Poles by Minister Jon Reyes was also published. As part of the new approach to immigration, we immediately engage newcomers in the activities of the Polish community.

The Polish community in Manitoba has great potential and even greater opportunities. I am responsible for its development, not its duration, so there will be more changes.

Jolanta Gronowska  
President of the CPC MD

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