



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



POLONIA NEWS



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Quotes from St. John Paul II:

„Future starts today, not tomorrow.”

„The beauty of this land compels me to call for its preservation for future generations. If you love this native land, let this cry not go unanswered!”

„A family strong in God becomes the strength of man and the entire nation.”

THEY VISITED THEIR MOTHER, AND MET THE HOLY FATHER!

Polish youth from Manitoba participated in World Youth Day in Lisbon. On their way to meet Pope Francis, a group that set off from the Holy Ghost Parish in Winnipeg visited Fatima.



Our Lady of Fatima! Thank you for this special time of grace. During the morning mass we prayed for the intentions entrusted to us by our relatives, friends and parishioners.



FOLKLORAMA RECAP

It's hard to believe that it's been over a month since we wrapped up another successful year of Folklorama at the Polish Pavilion. This was our second year back since the pandemic, and we were delighted with the overall success of our pavilion in terms of attendance and feedback. We welcomed thousands of Winnipeggers through our doors and were happy to share a piece of Polish culture with them.

Every year, each pavilion is proud to have representatives from the Polish community take on the ambassador role for our pavilion. At our pavilion, our ambassadors welcome special guests, VIPs and greet the crowd on stage. Throughout the first week of Folklorama, they had the opportunity to go to other pavilions and take in the various cultures throughout the city. Thank you to our adult ambassadors, Marta and Alexander Prokopetz, as well as our youth ambassadors, Kaya Pecold and Rozalia Casar, for all of your hard work throughout the two full weeks of Folklorama and the community events that led up to them!



Our pavilion once again showcased the Polish Dance Ensemble S.P.K. Iskry. We welcomed special guests from the School of Dance S.P.K. Iskry, Polish School of Dance Sokol and the Sokol Polish Dance Ensemble throughout the week. All of these groups drew in great crowds and did a great job showcasing the tradition of Polish dance. Thank you to all of these groups for sharing the stage!

Wednesday night was one of our week's highlights, with the return of our "Pierogi Eating Contest." The last time we offered this event was in 2012, and we were so excited to bring it back this year. Between the 6:45 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. show, we welcomed The Honourable Obby Khan, Minister of Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Sport; Tomek Dlugosz of Golden Hand Jewellery, Lloyd the Intern from 103.1 Virgin Radio, Chef Matty Neufeld of Prairie Kitchen Catering, and Pawel Pecold, President of S.P.K. It was quite the spectacle to watch these men go head-to-head for pierogi-eating glory, but in the end, our winner was the defending champion, Obby Khan, with an outstanding 14 pierogis in three minutes! If you've been to our pavilion, you know that our pierogi aren't small – this was quite the achievement!



Many moving parts put a pavilion together, and a lot goes on behind the scenes to make each pavilion successful. We are so grateful for the hard work of our organizing committee, sponsors, vendors, dancers, volunteers, and everyone who enters our doors. We are so proud to share and showcase our Polish culture with all of you! We look forward to returning next year and welcoming you once again!

*Janelle Malkiewicz, B. Comm (Hons)
Polish Pavilion Social Media
Chairperson*



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FOLKLORAMA RECAP - FOTO STORY





WHAT'S UP AT THE POLISH DANCE SCHOOL "SOKÓŁ"?

The Polish School of Dance "Sokol" began their classes on Sept. 18, 2023. After a very exciting and successful 50th Anniversary Concert celebration, Folklorama and Cook's Creek performances in the summer, the dancers are back to learn new dances! A warm welcome to our new students and families!

The Parent Committee would also like to welcome Alexia Czezowski and Julia Labuda as the new Sokoliki instructors. Returning to the school, Justyna Paprocki is back to share her passion of dance with Klasa 3 and Juniors, joining Michelle Mielniczek-Loboz, instructor for Klasa 1 & 2. At the Annual Parent Info meeting, members were elected for the parent committee.



The Committee welcomes Jason Loboz as Vice-President, January Luczak as Secretary and Angela Molotkin as Event Coordinator.

This month, the school will be taking a field trip to Boo at the Zoo!

If you are interested in signing up for Polish dance, please email sokopolishdancers@gmail.com for more info.

FOOTSTEPS THROUGH POLAND: THE CONCERT

SPK Iskry is excited to announce that tickets for our upcoming concert "Footsteps Through Poland" are now on sale!

Following on the success of our Footsteps Through Poland Gala in May of this year, we've been practicing diligently, shining our boots, and ironing our shirts in preparation for the November 5th, 2023 concert at the Centennial Concert Hall.

You won't want to miss the seven new dances we'll be performing, musical numbers, alumnireunion dances, and of course a special sneak peek at the Footsteps Through Poland interview documentary that aims to tell the story of the Polish diaspora in Winnipeg, the formation of SPK Iskry, and the journey the dance group has taken us on through 55 years of promoting, showcasing, and celebrating Polish culture.

If you've already sponsored the event, thank you so much! We'll be delivering your tickets soon along with details on our invitation-only VIP reception after the show.

If you're still looking for tickets, they can be purchased through the Centennial Concert Hall website by visiting: <http://Tinyurl.com/iskry55> We can't wait to see you there! Do zobaczenia!





THE POLISH STUDENTS ASSOCIATION IS BACK ON STAGE!

The Polish Students Association is back! We hope to have an exciting year this time around, and we do have some exiting events planned!

PSA is always open for new members, and NO you do not need to be polish! PSA is a group welcome for everyone interested in joining a club and meeting new peers! It is never too late to join!

Polish Students' Association Meet The Team!



President



Vice President



Treasurer



Secretary



Social Affairs

This years executive positions have been filled with some amazing people, and a short introduction of what role they are taking.

Natalia. S is this years President! She loves to dance, and is a member for Sokol Polish Dance Ensemble, and a Member of Sokol ST. Boniface. Natalia. B is this years Vice President! She loves to explore new cultures and hopes to travel to many beautiful places in her life. Alex is taking the role of Treasurer! He is the accordionist for his band, "al Rogozinski & His Polka-Men". Agata is taking the role of Secretary! She has an amazing family recipe for delicious potato cookies! Alexandra is taking the role of Manager of Social Affairs! She loves to get piercings when she has the money too!

We hope to see you soon at future meetings. If you are still interested in joining, feel free to send us a DM or an email at polishstudentsassociation@gmail.com

51 HERITAGE DAY IN COOKS CREEK





„THEY LEFT A LEGACY" - NEW EXHIBIT IN OGNIWO

On Sept. 14, 2023, we held the official launch of our newest exhibit, "They Left a Legacy," featuring stories of some of the remarkable individuals who helped build and shape the Polish community in Manitoba. The exhibit opens to the public on October 14, 2023.



Fot. Mirek Weichsel

We were honoured to host guest lecturer Dr. Michalina Petelska, Assistant Professor at the Institute of History of the University of Gdańsk, who gave a fascinating overview of her research into migration museums.

We were pleased to be joined by representatives of the Canadian Polish Congress Manitoba District, Polish Canadian Women's Federation Branch #7, Polish Combatants' Association Branch #13, the Eastern European Genealogical Society, and the University of Manitoba German and Slavic Studies Department, as well as our exhibit sponsors, the Polish Fraternal Aid Society of St. John Cantius and Holy Ghost Fraternal Aid

Society. A big thank you to our sponsors and to our Museum volunteers!

The individuals featured in our exhibit led varied lives. Each in their own way, they identified something missing and then worked to fill the void. Through time and effort, they built both figurative and literal spaces for community to exist and thrive, establishing organizations, programs, and events. They altered the built environment, leaving a physical mark of their presence. They also built a foundation, allowing those who followed – us - to find belonging.

We invite you to come check out the exhibit. Starting October 14th, we will be open to the public every Saturday between 10 am and 1 pm.

LIFE OF THE POLISH COMMUNITY IN MANITOBA



Renovation work continues at Camp Copernicus!



At the parish picnic "at St. Andrzej Bobola's" there were plenty of parishioners and good moods! :)





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LIFE OF THE POLISH COMMUNITY IN MANITOBA



Scouts and Cub Scouts deserve a medal!
The "Sunny Tribe" Cub Scout troop and scouts from the "Gdańsk Strain" did autumn cleaning around the "Sokół St. Boniface" building, where they have their nest! :)



On September 10, 2023, members of the Klub Gazety Polskiej in Winnipeg celebrated another month anniversary of the Smolensk disaster at Albrin Park in Winnipeg.



On September 17, the Polish Diaspora Picnic was held, organized by the Szczep Gdańsk Cub Scouts and sponsored by KPK Manitoba.

It was a family meeting of the Polish community in King's Park. The Cub Scout staff organized an orienteering run, games and art classes for everyone present.

Thank you to M&S Meat Market for the delicious food!
We would like to thank KPK and all the families who spent this sunny afternoon with us!

IT WILL HAPPEN SOON!

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

October 14 - elections to the Parliament of Poland and referendum - 7.00 - 21.00

October 14 - 60th anniversary of the Federation of Polish Women #7

October 29 - Halloween Family Coffee - Sokół St Boniface

November 12 - Independence day celebration - Holy Ghost Church 11.00

November 19 - 95th anniversary of the existence of Sokół St Boniface 11.00

November 25 - St. Andrew's Day party in Sokole St Boniface



WORLD POLICE & FIRE GAMES

The World Police & Fire Games were held from July 28 to August 6 in Winnipeg, Canada. Over 8.5 thousand athletes from all over the world took part in the entire Games.



Among the Polish medalists, a uniformed officer from the West Pomeranian Voivodeship - Przemysław Barański, who works at the Municipal Police on a daily basis State Fire Service in Szczecin. Coming from Trzebiatów firefighter at the World Police and Fire Games (world services championship uniformed personnel) in Winnipeg (Canada), won 3 bronze medals, in 400 m, 800 m and 3,000 m steeplechase runs.

Where did the idea to become a firefighter come from?

I've always wanted to help people. It was in me from a young age. It all started with taking part in firefighting knowledge competitions. This is the National Firefighting Knowledge Tournament "Youth prevents fires" by taking part and taking high places in West Pomeranian Voivodeship. I expanded my knowledge, and that I wanted to help people and I wanted to be an active person I liked it when something happened, so I decided to take part in the first round join the PSP structures.

„If we do our thing and overcome our weaknesses, no one will defeat us!”

The fire brigade is a vocation and a profession, and sport is a passion?

My dad instilled this passion in me. I have always been an active person. At first, I played floorball and ran. In floorball, in the 2006-7 season, my team won the Polish junior vice-championship. Generally, I have always taken part in a large number of sports competitions, and systematic training began when I was 12 years old. I reached a higher level in 2018, when I started specializing in stadium running. I have been using specialized training for five years and taking part in various competitions and track meetings. In 2022, I took part in an international championship competition for the first time. It was the World Firefighters Games in Lisbon.

So these three individual bronze medals are the first individual medals at the Uniformed Services Games?

That's right, at the World Police and Fire Games these are the first individual medals. Previously, they were won in a relay. I hope that my health and fitness will allow me to take part in the next championships in Birmingham-Alabama (USA) in 2025 and fight for more medals.

Four starts, three medals. Do you leave Winnipeg happy with your results?

I'm happy, I came here to fight for one medal and I'm leaving with three. My family situation has been difficult for me lately and I actually came to the championship with double baggage. My father, Bogusław Barański, died in mid-July.

What will the coach come and tell his young players in Szczecin when he returns with three medals?

I will definitely tell the players I coach that despite everything, you have to do your job and not look at other rivals. If we do our thing and overcome our weaknesses, no one will defeat us.

Who would you like to thank?

First of all, my loved ones, my mother Dorota, family for their huge support, friends and acquaintances for supporting and keeping their fingers crossed, and the wonderful Polish community from Winnipeg in Canada for their very warm welcome and support during the competition!



WORLD POLICE & FIRE GAMES

So what is a firefighter called to do?

A firefighter is called to help and serve other people, as well as to act preventively. First of all, a firefighter is perceived as a rescuer, as a person who helps in emergencies.

Now the role of a firefighter has been slightly redefined, because there are more and more threats on Poland's eastern border.

Proportionally, it can be said that fires themselves, with which firefighters were previously associated, constitute approximately 30 percent of our activities, and the remaining 70 percent are completely different activities, including: technical, chemical, height and water rescue, and recently activities related to the Covid-19 pandemic and now the war in Ukraine. In addition to doing my job as a firefighter and helping others, just like every firefighter is obliged to do, I take care of my physical fitness, which helps in rescue activities. This is also a way to relax from all our rescue and firefighting activities. Running became mine. At the beginning, I started running recreationally, once a week, and then I increased the number of training sessions. The results kept getting better and I got into running.

When did this breakthrough, i.e. the transition from amateurism, occur treatment of running, i.e. taking care of one's fitness through sport mental and physical health, including which results in participation in international competitions?



That was eight years ago. There was a series of runs organized by Commander-in-Chief of the State Fire Service, where firefighters in over several races from February to autumn, they could meet at the 1st competition there, year by year, I achieved higher places, until the first century open category. This is how I got into the national team Fire Department in races where we could go out together international competitions organized by the Headquarters, including: to Italy or France. At some point we created na Podkarpacie with a few firefighter friends, a group where we went to World Championship of Policemen and Firefighters. We started with Los Angeles, later South Korea. Spain, China, Portugal. Now The World Police and Fire Championships took place in Winnipeg Canada and represented the Rzeszów "Jasionka" Airport, where I have been working as a firefighter in the Airport Rescue and Firefighting Service for 2.5 years.

Not without success...

I took part in 3 competitions. In the public half marathon I took third place in the open category, I was second among uniformed services, and I won in my age category. I also won gold in my category in the cross-country race and in the stadium race over a distance of 5,000 m. This success would certainly not have been possible without the support of my family, coach and many companies that have been helping me for many years until now.

What was the reception like in Winnipeg?

We received a huge surprise from the Polish community in Manitoba. Cheering, meetings at home, help in getting to competitions, trips together, sightseeing... We were invited to dinners, breakfasts and to celebrate successes.

And what about the city itself, which hosted the Police and Firefighters Games?

There are a lot of positive things. The organization is at a good high level. A large number of volunteers. The organizers provided free transportation within the city of Winnipeg during the championship. If we wanted to do some sightseeing, we could get around the city using free public transport. A very quiet city, although we were surprised by the large number of homeless people on the streets in the city center since the morning.



Dear Polonia,



I am sure that you noticed this while browsing this issue of the newsletter. Colors, scale, intensity. Polishness in amazing versions. In dance, music, word, image, reflection, prayer, and even sports competition. The Polish community in Manitoba, despite the holiday season, gathered around the attributes of Polishness in various guises. Listening to the lecture at the museum, laughing while watching the dumpling-eating competition, lost in thought at the monument dedicated to the memory of those flying to pay tribute to those who bravely served Poland. In the folk atmosphere of Cooks Creek, concentrated in scout orienteering, proud with the white and red flag in Winnipeg's stadiums, and finally following the young people, from Fatima to Lisbon. We were there this summer.

Not everyone could be everywhere. Not everyone could take part in everything. But each of us could keep up to date with what was happening in the Polish community in Manitoba by following the KPK Manitoba profile on Facebook. Admire, enjoy, connect spiritually, feel proud.

Yes, we can be proud of Polonia when looking at all these photos. Frames frozen in time that write our history. It is, after all, a living story about how we change "our environment, leaving a physical trace of our presence." If only we could make sure someone would tell it someday.

Jolanta Gronowska
President CPC MB

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