



# SUSK MEDIA PACKAGE 2011

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## **May 8th 2011 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Conclusion of 53rd National SUSK Congress**

SUSK is pleased to report on the successful closing of the 53rd National SUSK Congress held in Ottawa, Ontario from May 5th to 8th 2011. "Over sixty delegates from post secondary institutions from all across Canada and the United States descended on the nation's capital for informative sessions, professional development, and of course, song and dance," said Immediate Past President Danylo Korbabicz. "SUSK has experienced exponential growth since its rebirth in Winnipeg, Manitoba in 2007. We have seen attendance at our conferences double and triple. Ukrainian Canadian students are showing our community that they take their responsibilities as future leaders seriously," continued Korbabicz.

The 53rd National SUSK Congress was hosted by the local Ukrainian Student's Club at the University of Ottawa. Session speakers included Taras Zalusky (Executive Director) and Paul Grod (President) of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Borys Potapenko (Executive Director) of the League of Ukrainian Canadians, James Temerty (Chairman) of Northland Power, His Excellency Ihor Ostash Ambassador of Ukraine to Canada, and John Vellinga (President) of Multiculture Marketing. The four day Congress culminated with the election of the 2011-2012 Executive Committee of SUSK and a keynote address at the SUSK Alumni Banquet and Zabava delivered by Mr. Borys Sirskyj at the National Arts Centre. Mr. Sirskyj's speech was entitled "Ukrainian students as Community Leaders – Yesterday, Today, and in the Future – A voice to be reckoned with!" Thanks to tremendous support from the local Ukrainian community, the Banquet and Zabava serviced a near capacity crowd of over two hundred people.

The Congress also featured a private tour of Parliament Hill, a seminar on the history of Vodka which included a tasting, a pub-crawl in the Ottawa Byward Market district, and a session on personal finance. "It was nice to see a balance between professional and social activities – our club was very glad to make the trip to Ottawa and we look forward to the next Congress" stated Ann Zalucky, a delegate from the University of Calgary.



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Incoming President Olena Kit from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, looks forward to building on this legacy and is honoured to play her part in the continued growth of a revived SUSK.

“I would like to thank the outgoing SUSK executive and the immediate Past President Danylo Korbabicz for their commitment to preserving and promoting the Ukrainian Canadian Heritage. They have inspired students nationwide and offered them tremendous support” stated Kit. “A warm thank you to the University of Ottawa Ukrainian Students’ Club for your generous hospitality in our nation’s capital. The success of the 53rd National SUSK Congress would not have happened without your dedication and hard work.”

**2011 / 2012 SUSK Executive**

President: Olena Kit (McMaster University)  
Executive Vice President: Daniel Kostruba (University of Western Ontario)  
Vice President West: Mila Luchak (University of Alberta)  
Vice President Central: Deana Drozdowsky (University of Western Ontario)  
Vice President East: Tamara Caris (University of Ottawa)  
Secretary: Nadia Demko (McGill University)  
External Relations Director: Mike Hrycak (McMaster University)  
Internal Relations Director: Augustine Krawchenko (McMaster University)  
Project Director: Larissa Schieven (Carleton University)  
Media Director: Anda Hirceaga (University of Ottawa)  
Alumni Director: Roman Storoshchuk (University of Calgary)  
Immediate Past President: Danylo Korbabicz (Carleton University)

**2010 / 2011 Outgoing SUSK Executive**

President: Danylo Korbabicz (Carleton University)  
Executive Vice President: Zenon Ciz (University of Toronto)  
Vice President Finance: Andrijko Semaniuk (University of Manitoba)  
Vice President West: Maryana Zayatss (University of Manitoba)  
Vice President Central: Olena Kit (McMaster University)  
Vice President East: Marta Cybulsky (CEGEP)  
Secretary: Christina Bajus (McMaster University)  
External Relations Director: Andrew Wodoslawsky (University of Toronto)  
Internal Relations Director: Adriana Sirskyj (University of Ottawa)  
Project Director: Anda Hirceaga (University of Ottawa)  
Media Director: Adriana Luhovy (Concordia University)  
Alumni Director: Roman Storoshchuk (University of Calgary)  
Immediate Past President: Marco Jacuta (University of Alberta)



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**About SUSK**

SUSK is a national student organization comprised of Ukrainian student organizations at post-secondary institutions across Canada. It was formed in 1953 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Unfortunately, it fell inactive in 2001. During the XXII Congress of Ukrainian Canadians SUSK was revived. SUSK's mandate is to "advocate concerns relevant to Ukrainian Canadian students".



Incoming President Olena Kit with Outgoing President Danylo Korbabicz



SUSK Delegates participate in sessions



*© Adriana Sirskyj*  
SUSK delegates after touring Parliament Hill



Ambassador of Ukraine, Ihor Ostach addresses SUSK delegates wearing limited edition SUSK Sunglasses



Various SUSK delegates and Alumni



Members of the 2011/2012 SUSK Executive



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## SPONSORS OF THE 53<sup>rd</sup> NATIONAL SUSK CONGRESS

Thank You!

The Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union acknowledges and extends our sincere appreciation to the following organizations for their support of the 53<sup>rd</sup> National SUSK Congress.

### PLATINUM SPONSORS

Taras Shevchenko Foundation

Buduchnist Credit Union

Chair of Ukrainian Studies - uOttawa

### GOLD SPONSORS

Northland Power

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Ukrainian Canadian Congress

### SILVER SPONSORS

Multiculture Bevco.

Rosewood Estates

Rodan Power



## Executive Profiles



### **Olena Kit**

Position: President

Hometown: Hamilton, Ontario

University: McMaster University

Year and Field of Study: 4<sup>th</sup> year Arts and Science & Linguistics

Contact: [president@susk.ca](mailto:president@susk.ca)



### **Daniel Kostruba**

Position: Executive Vice President

Hometown: Mississauga, Ontario

University: University of Western Ontario

Year and Field of Study: 4<sup>th</sup> year Management & Medical Sciences

Contact: [vp@susk.ca](mailto:vp@susk.ca)



### **Stephan Bociurkiw**

Position: Vice President Finance

Hometown: Edmonton, Alberta

University: University of Alberta

Year and Field of Study: 5<sup>th</sup> year Marketing

Contact: [treasurer@susk.ca](mailto:treasurer@susk.ca)



**Mila Luchak**

Position: Vice-President West  
Hometown: Sherwood Park, Alberta  
University: University of Alberta  
Year and Field of Study: 4<sup>th</sup> year Nutrition  
Contact: vp-west@susk.ca



**Deana Drozdowsky**

Position: Vice-President Central  
Hometown: Toronto, Ontario  
University: University of Western Ontario  
Year and Field of Study: 4<sup>th</sup> year Medical Sciences  
Contact: vp-central@susk.ca



**Tamara Caris**

Position: Vice-President East  
Hometown: Ottawa, Ontario  
University: University of Ottawa  
Year and Field of Study: 3<sup>rd</sup> year Commerce & International  
Management  
Contact: vp-east@susk.ca





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**Nadia Demko**

Position: Secretary

Hometown: Winnipeg, Manitoba

University: McGill University

Year and Field of Study: 2<sup>nd</sup> year Neuroscience

Contact: [secretary@susk.ca](mailto:secretary@susk.ca)



**Mike Hrycak**

Position: External Relations Director

Hometown: Hamilton, Ontario

University: McMaster University

Year & Field of Study: 4<sup>th</sup> year Political Science

Contact: [external@susk.ca](mailto:external@susk.ca)



**Augustine Krawchenko**

Position: Internal Relations Director

Hometown: Hamilton, Ontario

University: McMaster University

Year and Field of Study: 3<sup>rd</sup> year Political Science & Eastern Religious Studies

Contact: [internal@susk.ca](mailto:internal@susk.ca)



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**Larissa Volinets Schieven**

Position: Project Director  
Hometown: Toronto, Ontario  
University: Carleton University  
Year and Field of Study: 4<sup>th</sup> year Journalism & Religion  
Contact: [projects@susk.ca](mailto:projects@susk.ca)



**Anda Hirceaga**

Position: Media Director  
Hometown: Windsor, Ontario  
University: University of Ottawa  
Year and Field of Study: 4<sup>th</sup> year Communication & Business  
Contact: [media@susk.ca](mailto:media@susk.ca)



**Roman Storoshchuk**

Position: Alumni Director  
Hometown: Calgary, Alberta  
University: University of Calgary  
Year and Field of Study: 4th year Political Science  
Contact: [alumni@susk.ca](mailto:alumni@susk.ca)





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**Danylo Korbabicz**

Position: Past President

Hometown: Toronto, Ontario

University: Carleton University

Year and Field of Study: B.A. Political Science (Honours)

Contact: [dkorbabi@connect.carleton.ca](mailto:dkorbabi@connect.carleton.ca)



## **Resolutions**

### **RESOLUTION 1 - Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important to maintaining the long term continuity of SUSK
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive continue using the UCC National address as a central mailing address and have any SUSK mail/correspondence forwarded to the concerned individual;

### **RESOLUTION 2 - Carried**

- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive maintain as a priority communication between representatives of Ukrainian Student Organizations and facilitate outside SUSK Executive Meetings;
  1. Regional Conferences
  2. Open meetings with USO Representatives

### **RESOLUTION 3 - Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important in preserving tangible Ukrainian Canadian Culture is important to the further development of a Ukrainian Canadian consciousness and identity;
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important of documenting and archiving an integral part of Ukrainian Canadian History, as well as Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union history that is until now not well archived, researched or collected;
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important of instituting a standard and practice for archiving future publications of "Student";
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important to preserve materials that were published and were substantial to the success of "Student";
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important of promoting a contextual and historical understanding of Ukrainian Canadian Students;
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive continue with the SUSK's "Student" digitization project, which seeks to document a comprehensive collection of "Student" publications and create a searchable digital archive of the publications;
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive actively seek funding for the SUSK "Student" digitization project.

### **RESOLUTION 4 – Carried**

- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive hold the 54<sup>th</sup> National SUSK Congress in the months from May-October, 2012.



**RESOLUTION 5 – Carried**

- BE IT RESOLVED that the 53rd National SUSK Congress acknowledge the hard work of the 53rd SUSK National Congress committee, and its host the Ukrainian Students' Club at the University of Ottawa.

**RESOLUTION 6 – Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees SUSK as a constituted federation, and shall remain so;
- AND WHEREAS SUSK recognizes the identification of all Ukrainian Student Organizations with the objectives of the SUSK constitution, and;
- AND WHEREAS SUSK endeavours to promote a sense of unity and solidarity between local Ukrainian Student Organizations across Canada.
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive recommend to all Member Organization USO's within SUSK to adopt the name "SUSK" in conjunction with their local name as the official name of their Ukrainian Student Organization (Club, Society, Association, Union)

**RESOLUTION 7 – Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it importance of Ukrainian Courses at post-secondary institutions across Canada.
- AND WHEREAS Ukrainian courses/departments are in a situation of dropping enrolment and potential threat of funding cuts
- BE IT RESOLVED that the SUSK National Executive encourage each Member Organization to distribute information regarding available courses in Ukrainian Studies by outlining the benefits of these courses to students
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SUSK National Executive encourages each Member Organization to petition their concerned post-secondary institution to increase Ukrainian courses available to students
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive encourage each Member Organization USO to distribute information regarding available courses in Ukrainian Studies to support and promote Ukrainian Studies by outlining the benefits of these courses to students
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in those post-secondary institutions where no Ukrainian courses exist, that the SUSK National Executive encourages Member Organization USO's to undertake to promote interest in Ukrainian studies through the organization of seminars, lectures, panels, and by other means available to them.

**RESOLUTION 8 - Carried**

- WHEREAS local USO activity is enhanced by delegate participation in SUSK conferences and the SUSK Congress, and;



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- AND WHEREAS smaller USO's may not always be able to afford the costs associated with travel in sending delegates to distant cities, and; AND WHEREAS inter-city travel costs are high enough on a students' budget
- BE IT RESOLVED that the SUSK National Executive make travel subsidies available for certain official SUSK Delegates for conferences and the Congress.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any application for travel subsidy either be offered by the SUSK National Executive, or be applied for no less than two weeks prior to the Delegates departure to the concerned event.

**RESOLUTION 9 – Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees the importance of an inter-national organization of Ukrainian Students needed to facilitate communication among Ukrainian students worldwide.
- AND WHEREAS the Central Union of Ukrainian Students (CeSUS) has fallen inactive and not fulfilled its mandate in recent years.
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive contact the former Member Organizations of CeSUS about the possibility of re-organizing an International Ukrainian students' movement.

**RESOLUTION 10 - Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees the financial longevity of SUSK crucial to its long term continuity and suffers shortages in operating funds;
- BE IT RESOLVED that SUSK create a managed Contingency Reserve Fund to sustain the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union;

**RESOLUTION 11 - Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important to maintain financial integrity at any level of organization;
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive use widely accepted financial procedures

**RESOLUTION 12 - Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees the importance of financial accountability;
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive enforce the payment of membership dues from Member Organizations;
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that only fund transferred to SUSK by constituent Member Organization USOs that will be considered as 'Membership dues' as outlined in the SUSK Constitution, be those funds explicitly designated as dues at the time of transfer of said funds.



**RESOLUTION 13**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important to maintaining the long term continuity of an active SUSK Executive;
- AND WHEREAS all outgoing Executive Members hold an ex-officio position as per section XI.7 as outlined in the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union Constitution.
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK National Executive establish a Past-Executive Committee consisting of all outgoing SUSK Executive Members, with the objective to be responsible to act in an advisory role to the current SUSK Executive.

**RESOLUTION 14 - Carried**

- WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it problematic of the systemic and targeted closure of post-secondary institutions in Ukraine;
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important to show solidarity with our colleagues in Ukraine;
- BE IT RESOLVED that the 53rd National SUSK Congress call for the return of certain post-secondary institutions in Ukraine who have had their status and funding revoked by the current Ukrainian President and the current Ukrainian Government.

**RESOLUTION 15 – Carried**

- WHEREAS the year 2011 marks the 120th Anniversary of the first Ukrainian Immigrants' arrival to Canada;
- AND WHEREAS the year 2011 marks the 150th Anniversary of the death of Taras Shevchenko;
- AND WHEREAS the year 2014 marks the 200th Anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko;
- AND WHEREAS there is a seeming disconnect for Ukrainian Canadians in identifying with Ukraine;
- AND WHEREAS the year 2013 marks the 60th Anniversary of the creation of the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union;
- BE IT RESOLVED that the 53rd National SUSK Congress call upon the Ukrainian Canadian Congress as well as all Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union Member Organizations to plan and execute an inclusive and cohesive event to promote Ukrainian consciousness.

**RESOLUTION 16 - Carried**

- WHEREAS the Ukrainian Canadian Congress intends to open an office in Ottawa, Ontario;
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK Executive negotiate with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress exclusive rights to mainstreaming students and/or alumni into an internship/mentorship program



RESOLUTION 17 - Carried

- WHEREAS as reported by the official agent and observer of the Ukrainian Canadian Students` Union to the SUSK National Executive, of the less than favourable conditions of the SUSTA Conference;
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it important to further cooperation between both the Ukrainian Canadian Students` Union and the Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress sees it mutually beneficial to have active Ukrainian Student umbrella organizations in North America;
- AND WHEREAS the 53rd National SUSK Congress is aware of other National Ukrainian Student Organizations outside of SUSK`s respective jurisdiction such as the Ukrainian German Students` Union (SUSN), and where be it there may be a Ukrainian diaspora with students;
- BE IT RESOLVED that the incoming SUSK Executive consider and make an active effort to organize a dual Congress for the Ukrainian Canadian Students` Union and the Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations of America, but not limited to these two organizations.