

EPARCHIAL CONVENTION 2017 REPORT

[Submitted by Bro. William Gulka, KSV]



The 36th Eparchial Convention was held at St. George's Cathedral, Saskatoon, SK, on Saturday and Sunday, October 28 and 29, 2017. A total of 101 delegates - 17 UCBC delegates, 72 UCWLC delegates, and 12 UCY delegates – plus guests attended Convention 2017.

17 UCBC delegates and 2 guests took part in the UCBC sessions. Matters of concern that were raised were the Catholic schools appeal of the recent court ruling to stop funding of non-Catholic children in Catholic schools, the issue of funding HOLODOMOR resource materials for the province's schools, and UCBC membership cards.

In addition to UCBC business, delegates enjoyed a presentation from Bishop Bryan Bayda and Deb Larmour on the Covenant of Care and Transitions initiatives being promoted in the Eparchy of Saskatoon. Theresa Makowecki (Vegreville) spoke on reaching out to the younger generation and inviting them to become involved in our church organizations. The dinner speaker at the evening Banquet was Brenda Robinson who talked on the importance of communication generally, and intergenerational communication, in particular.

A historic decision was made at Convention 2017. After several years of debate and discussion, the delegates overwhelmingly voted to dissolve the Ukrainian Catholic Council of Saskatchewan (*TSENTRALIA/Централія* as it was commonly referred to). The matter is now in Bishop Bryan's hands to execute the dissolution process. The Council's funds are to be used to assist with the expenses of CONVENTION 2017 if needed, with any remaining funds to be donated to the Eparchial Youth Ministry.

The Eparchial Executive will remain in Saskatoon for another term of two years. The new Executive consists of Bro. Bernie Bodnar, KSV (Bishop Roborecki, Saskatoon) President, Bro. Mark Woitas, KSV (St. Athanasius, Regina) Vice-President, Bro. William Gulka, KSV (Bishop Roborecki, Saskatoon) Secretary, Bro. Basil Kuzyk (St. Athanasius, Regina) Treasurer, Bro. Robert Wuschenny, KSV (St. Athanasius, Regina) Past-President, and Rev. Fr. Janko Kolosnjaji (St. George's Cathedral, Saskatoon) Spiritual Advisor. The Eparchial Treasurer will appoint Auditors from his area.