

Promoting and
Preserving the Slovenian
Culture in Manitoba



Canadian Slovenian Cultural Society Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2013

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

CSCS Membership
Card Unveiled

Great fun had by all at
annual sleigh ride!

OLL 50th anniversary
celebrations June 16,
2013

Father's Day Picnic to
be held June 23, 2013

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A Message from the President



Pozdravljeni!

Welcome to the first CSCS print newsletter. I would like to begin by thanking Marc Schuster for organizing it. It's great to have new initiatives, new projects and new ideas coming into the community. As long as that continues to happen we will continue to be an active, vibrant organization.

So what are the advantages to belonging to a community organization like the CSCS?

1. You belong to an organization. Membership itself is an important aspect of any community identity. The CSCS ensures a Slovenian cultural presence within the greater multicultural mosaic of Manitoba.
2. The CSCS gives both financial and volunteer support to projects of the CWL and Church Council.
3. When you are a member of the CSCS you can enrol your child/children into any of the 3 dance groups and participate in all the cultural activities which go with it like performing at Folklorama and subsidized group social activities. Comparable opportunities of weekly instruction and supplies/costumes would cost many hundreds of dollars.
4. When you are a member you get regular news updates via email and regular post.
5. All organizations have operating costs; items like website fees, insurance, rent, utilities, and general office expenses. Your membership dues support these ever increasing expenses. The CSCS has no employee overhead because all office work is done with volunteer time.
6. Only individuals or families who have been members of the CSCS for 2 years or more are eligible for the \$400 Founding Fathers Bursary for post secondary education.
7. Members discount on rentals. BBQ rental (propane included)- Members \$50 Non Members \$100. Picnic Grounds Rental Members \$250 Non Members \$350

8. In 2009 the CSCS provided \$15,000 in cash support to families of the Triglav and Rozmarin Dance groups tour of Slovenia. CSCS applied for funding from the Slovenian government which provided another \$15,000 in paid expenses like food, lodging and transportation. The CSCS will be involved in other such projects in the near future.
9. The CSCS subsidizes the admission ticket cost of bringing in Slovenian entertainment for social functions and community events. The CSCS runs these events at a break even cost.

Also in this newsletter you will find the design of our new membership card. Once we finalize our membership list for this year we will issue them to our members.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Lep pozdrav,

Bryen Lebar
President CSCS/KSKD



New Elevator for Our Lady of Lourdes!

“The three year project finally came to completion on December 8, 2012 as Fr. Dado blessed the official opening of the new handicapped access elevator”

Bryen Lebar

On December 8, 2012 Father Dado Parrenas of Our Lady of Lourdes blessed and officially opened the elevator. This project took three years to complete from start to finish and went through many changes along the way.

Discussions for an access elevator have been going on since 2005 in our parish. As more and more people found it difficult to use the stairs and without any wheelchair access to the church it became apparent that something had to be done. The original plans were for a simple lift attached to the side of the church building providing access to the basement hall and the church itself. It seemed simple enough and the cost was within what was available in parish savings. Plans were presented for a building permit and that's when things became a whole lot less simple. Soon every city department had requirements which had to be met. Our church is over 100 years old which makes it a Heritage site and any alterations to the building have to be approved by the City. Our original plans

for a simple lift were rejected. We now had to build an addition consistent with the architecture of the original structure which would house the elevator.

New plans were drawn and presented to the City. Heritage approved the plans but Fire and Safety rejected the plans as insufficient for proper wheelchair safety. We needed a larger entrance area. Our little addition was growing in size and in cost.

Overseeing this endless trail of bureaucratic red tape and constant changes was Mr. Stan Vrsnik. He was the main force behind getting the plans approved and the building completed; dealing with City regulations; working with the architect, the builders and the suppliers. He was also hands on in saving the original bricks which were removed from the old church walls and incorporated into the present structure. He and a number of volunteers spent hours cleaning the mortar from the old bricks so they would give continuity to the addition. Without his diligence and persistence this project would have never been completed as well as it has.

Funding for the project came from individual contributions, parish savings and the generous donation of \$100,000 from an anonymous donor. As well Cropro Funeral Home contributed \$15,000 to the project. The architectural firm Verne Reimer Architecture worked with us throughout the whole process and donated many hours of their time to make sure the project was completed properly.

Looking after the financial responsibilities was the Parish Council led by Maureen Gimpelj and Andy Slejko. This was a long and expensive project and a lot of attention had to be paid to finances considering the large expenses. We hope to finish our fundraising in time for our 50th Anniversary coming this June.

But no matter what the problems, or the effort or the cost, at the end of it we have wheelchair access to all areas of our building. We have an attractive structure which adds to the aesthetics of the church, and finally have put a foot firmly into the next century.



Sleigh Ride and Supper enjoyed by all!

Nina Vrsnik

On February 16th, 2013, the CSCS hosted a Family Day sleigh ride and supper. The sold out event saw about 50 people gather at Bird's Hill Park stables on a sunny and brisk Saturday afternoon.

Two horse drawn sleighs left the stables for a one hour ride through the beautiful trails. While many participants relaxed taking in the sights and sounds of nature, some of the more daring folks took advantage of getting a little extra exercise. Push your neighbour off the sled was the name of the game, and the young boys and girls especially demonstrated their strength

and skills at this.

After the sleigh ride, the afternoon activities continued back at the church hall at 95 MacDonald Ave. A hearty supper of chilli, hot dogs, coleslaw and hot chocolate were served to a hungry crowd. It goes without saying that the event would not have been as delightful without the tasty food prepared by Stan Casar and Juliska Casar.

While most of the adults stayed warm and enjoyed some refreshments and games after supper, the kids, with energy to burn, tackled the massive snow hills in the church parking lot. With or without toboggans, it was fun to watch the kids come tumbling down! If any parish-

ioners noticed the parking lot was unusually colourful on the Sunday following, the kids had loads of fun colouring the snow with spray bottles filled with food colouring!

The afternoon concluded with a small bonfire and marshmallow roast in the backyard.

We were very happy to welcome some non-members to this event and we hope they enjoyed our hospitality. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this event such a success!

“50 people gathered at Birds Hill Park Stables on a sunny and brisk afternoon in February for this sold out event!”



News from the Dance Groups

*Performances
by Zvonček in
2013 will
highlight
dances from the
Dolenjska*

Zvonček

Nina Vrsnik

The Zvoncek Group has been busy preparing for another Folklorama performance since early February. This year's group is made up of 6 boys and 5 girls ranging in age from 4 to 9 years. We are excited to have two new young dancers, Andrea (Age 4) and Adam (Age 5).

Along with some new faces, we also welcome to the group Martina Gornik-Marion who is co-instructing with Nina Vrsnik. Martina brings 17 years of teaching experience with her, and although this is her first time teaching the youngest age group, she is no stranger to the traditional dances from the various regions of Slovenija.

Our performance for this year's

Folklorama will highlight dances from the Dolenjska region. Along with the dances, our upcoming performance will also focus on Slovenian folk songs and games with which we hope will engage the audience and make them laugh too!

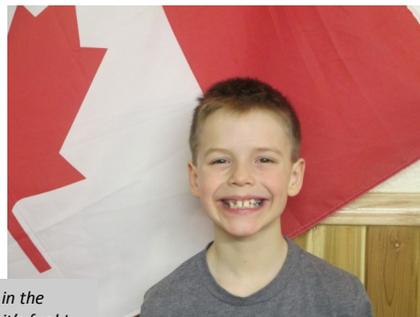
If you are interested in having your child join the Zvonček Group, it's not too late! Please contact Nina Vrsnik. secretary@canadianslovenian.mb.ca



Adam (Age 5) & Andrea (Age 4)



"the reason I like dancing in the Zvonček Group is because it's cool and I get to experience the culture. I think it's really cool to get to see my cousins at practice and dance with them." Izabella (Age 8).



"The reason I like dancing in the Zvonček Group is because it's fun! I like dancing for Folklorama because I like the food." Logan (Age 8)

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for the Second Annual Family Fun Day at the Slovenian Picnic Grounds, July 21-22, 2013. Volunteers are needed to plan this event. If you are able to help, please sign the volunteer sheet in the church hall entrance or contact either Nina Vrsnik or Myranda Terry. ninamvrsnik@hotmail.com, myranda_brynn@hotmail.com



The Picnic Grounds Project

Community involvement will ensure that the picnic grounds will remain the "Slovenian picnic grounds" for the next generations.

Myranda Terry

Let's bring back the fun the Slovenian Picnic grounds once held for our families!

In a recent CSCS meeting, we discussed the advantages and disadvantages of selling our beloved grounds, with the final decision in support of keeping them. Being a strong supporter of preserving tradition and maintaining a place for the youth of our community to unite, myself and my partner Richard have volunteered to host and help with events held at the grounds.

Over the years Slovenian bands, socials, and many family events were held at the grounds, and our four picnics a year are not measuring up. In 2002, I participated in a youth camp that was put on by our parents and teachers; there were games, friendly competitions, and also face painting. This camp was so special because we were able to create our own t-shirts, to keep as a memory of our time there. I

would like to add that to this day I still own that t-shirt and I am positive that I am not the only one. We would love to have families come to spend the day, and participate in Summer Olympics, team sports,



and water games. What about a Slovenian Idol competition? Or a potica or strudel bake-off! And why can't we make use of them in the winter, to have Winter Olympics and a snowman building competition to start. Last year, Nina Vrsnik designed a family weekend camp-out event that had a great turn out and the attendees raved about for weeks. This enthusiasm would be greatly appreciated for picnics and

also other events that we plan on holding this year! The picnic grounds can also be a great income for us, for example renting it out for Girl Guides and Boy Scout camps or also for work BBQ's and fundraisers for community or non-community members. We would like to create a family oriented, pet friendly environment where people want to spend their time on the weekend in the company of friends and food!

Community involvement and interest will ensure the picnic grounds remain the Slovenian picnic grounds for

the next generations. We are looking for your input for possible events and also for volunteer help! Please email us at myranda_brynn@hotmail.com, or richardclapperton@live.ca if you have any ideas and/or would like to volunteer for future events!



We're Steppin' up for Dementia!



Stan Casar

Hello All!

I recently registered online as the captain of Team Slovenia for the Investors Group Memory Walk and I'd like you to join my team! Please join me and other group members in showing our support for the Alzheimer Society!

The Investors Group Memory Walk is taking place on Thursday, June 13th at The Forks

beginning at 5pm.

Memory Walk is a great, family friendly evening and I am proud to be a part of it. I hope that you will bring your family and friends and join the team as we walk united for all people with dementia. I'd like to recruit 20+ team members from the Slovenian community because I know that together we can make a difference! Visit the website for more event details:

<http://alzheimer.mb.ca/memorywalk2013/>

One in every three people has a family member or close personal friend that is affected by Alzheimer's disease or another dementia-including my family.

Let's help make the 2013 Walk a successful fundraiser for the Alzheimer Society! You can register and collect pledges quickly and conveniently online or call the Alzheimer Society at 204-943-6622

"One in every three people has a family member or friend that is affected by Alzheimer's disease or another dementia"



International News

Football: Slovenia Defeats Turkey 2-0



Photo: Aleš Fevžer

Slovenia scored the first goal through striker Milivoje Novaković, who performed a header in the 11th minute after a pass from defender Bojan Jokić. Tim Matavž scored the second in the 65th in his tenth goal for the national line-up.

Despite the absence of some of the key players, Slovenia finally managed to snap the losing streak after four defeats ahead of the resumption of qualifying for the 2014 World Cup, where the team is all but out of the hunt for a berth.

Slovenia are at the bottom of the group E standings with only three points from five matches. They will face Iceland in a return qualifier in Reykjavik on 7 June after losing on home turf 1:2 in March.

Slovenia Times

Slovenia's national football team defeated Turkey 2:0 in Germany's Bielefeld on Friday, May 31 in a warm-up ahead of the 7 June World Cup qualifier against Iceland.

International News (con't)

Energy company Petrol was the biggest Slovenian company revenue-wise in 2012, while pharma company Krka made the most profit.

Krka Biggest Slovenian Profit-Maker

According to the daily Delo, the 300 companies with the biggest revenues made EUR 35.86bn in total revenues, which is 42.5% of all revenues reported by the Slovenian economy. Half of the companies generated EUR 54.28m or more in revenues, Sanja Filipič of the Bisnode consultancy told the daily.

She noted, however, that the list did not include banks and insurers.

In 2012, only Petrol, Slovenian power utility HSE, electricity trader Gen-I, grocer Mercator and Krka brought in more than EUR 1bn in revenues. The five companies generated almost 11% of all revenues of Slovenian companies, according to Filipič.

Companies on the list reaped a total of EUR 424.1m in total profit, which is 78.3% of all Slovenian companies. However, one in five of the companies incurred losses, which added up to a total of EUR 592.9m.

The highest losses were reported by Mercator (EUR 77.6m), the state-run pension fund manager KAD (EUR 61.3m) and NLB Leasing (EUR 51.89m).

44% of the companies listed made more than one million euros in profit, with Krka leading the field with EUR 154.6m. The Novo mesto-based drug maker was followed by another



Krka: No. 1 (Photo: Krka)

pharma company, Lek, which yielded EUR 75.9m, and HSE with EUR 54.7 in profit.

According to Delo, companies on the list gave jobs to 26.1% of all those employed by the Slovenian economy. An average company on the list employed 420 people. Mercator, post operator Pošta Slovenije, household appliance maker Gorenje, Krka and telco Telekom Slovenije alone employed 5.5% of the people working in the Slovenian economy.

The Back Page...

How do you picture your retirement?

By Terri Williams



In January and February people start thinking about saving for their retirement due to a looming deadline. If you put money into your Registered Retirement Savings Plan by the end of February, you can deduct that amount from your income and as a result pay less taxes.

Unfortunately, many people make RRSP contributions due to the tax deadline without looking at the bigger picture. Retirement planning is not necessarily about beating the taxman in the short term, it is mostly about meeting long term retirement goals.

Do you know what your desired retirement lifestyle will cost, and therefore how much money you will need in retirement?

Using data from Statistics Canada, the Investor Education Fund (www.investored.ca) offers a list of retirement lifestyles and the average income needed to support those lifestyles. If you live in a big city, your income may need to be in the higher range to maintain that lifestyle.

1. Happy Homebodies. These folks stay home most of the time and their needs are very simple. (\$27,100 - \$42,200)
2. Home entertainers. Similar to the homebodies, but these folks spend more money on home entertainment such as movies and computer games. (\$32,400 - \$47,600)
3. Social butterflies. Costs for social butterflies can be high if they go out a lot but can also be controlled if they entertain in their homes.(\$32,700 - \$54,000)
4. Super shoppers. These retirees spend most of their free time in stores although they may not buy much. (\$37,000 - \$54,000)
5. Active seniors. These people are always busy with hobbies. Costs can depend on the type of hobby they have. (\$38,900 - \$61,500)
6. Community-minded. These are active volunteers that may have higher transportation and social expenses. (\$31,100 - \$58,900)
7. Travelers. Travelers' budgets can vary dramatically. (Varies)
8. Worker bees. Still working, these seniors have the highest incomes but also have the costs of being employed. (\$52,800 – \$73,900)

Support for the CSCS provided by:

CONSUMER CHOICE RECIPIENT FOR 2011 & 2012

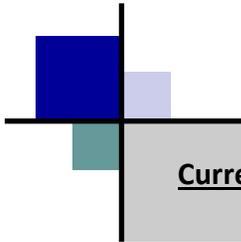
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WHO'S WHO ON THE CSCS EXECUTIVE



Current Executive 2013/14

President: Bryen Lebar
president@canadianslovenian.mb.ca

Vice President: Stan Casar
vicepresident@canadianslovenian.mb.ca

Treasurer: Stan Majowski
treasurer@canadianslovenian.mb.ca

Secretary: Nina Vrsnik
secretary@canadianslovenian.mb.ca

Directors:
Matthew Sobocan
Joe Pikel
Philip Vrsnik
Marc Schuster



www.canadianslovenian.mb.ca

CSCS is always interested in contributions for upcoming newsletters. If you have any articles/questions/comments about the newsletter please direct them to the Newsletter Editor: Marc Schuster at marc_schuster@hotmail.com



CSCS (Kanadsko Slovensko Kulturno Društvo)
Calendar 2013



January

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December

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|--|--|
| January - Membership Drive | August 04 to August 10 – "FOLKLORAMA" |
| March 2 – Sleigh Ride | August 30 to September 2 – Family Camp Weekend |
| May 12 – Mother's Day | September 8 – Last Picnic |
| May 19 – First Picnic - <i>cancelled</i> | October 19 – "Volunteer Appreciation Evening" |
| June 16 – Slovenski Dan & Father's Day Picnic | October 26/27 - Kolime |
| July 20/21 – Kid's Fun Day&Campout/Sunday Picnic | November 9 - Martinovo |

Meeting Dates: **Sunday January 27, 2013, Sunday, April 7, 2013, Sunday September 29, 2013**
Sunday November 24, 2013 (Annual General Meeting)

Meeting Time: 11:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall

Contact Us: Mail – P.O. Box 2054, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 3R3
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