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**CONTRIBUTION OF THE UKRAINIAN DIASPORA TO THE
DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN CANADA**

Today, all over the world, we can observe a trend towards mass emigration of the population to various parts of the world, and Ukraine is no exception. Looking for the best conditions for life, development, education and employment, Ukrainians are increasingly traveling abroad. In this paper, the emigration of Ukrainians to Canada and their contribution to the development of education and culture in the country will be observed.

Canada is a country of emigrants, and people who study in this country feel at home. Here everyone is equal, there is no discrimination or neglect, which provides a very good moral environment for learning. In addition, Canada has been recognized as one of the safest and most attractive countries in the world for many years. Among the ten cities in the world recognized last year as the most favorable for living, four cities were Canadian ones: Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal and Calgary.

Higher education in Canada is offered by universities and colleges. The main difference between colleges and universities is that colleges do not have Master's programs. There is a strong belief in Ukrainian society that without a Master's degree the higher education is considered as incomplete. In Canada, the view on this matter is opposite: people who want to get a higher education often limit themselves to a Bachelor's degree and are proud of it. The Master's program is mainly attended by graduates who are going to devote themselves to science or teaching. Sometimes the Master's degree is even a disadvantage in the process of employment. A person has an extra qualification and it is more difficult to find a job. Nowadays, for example, «among economists overqualification is widely regarded as one important dimension of measuring the inefficiency of a labour market» [7, p. 93].

The feature of the Canadian education system is the availability of programs aimed at obtaining practical professional skills. These programs, that provide a specific specialty and a certificate of education, last from one to three years. The distinctive feature of these programs is that they are actually focused on the existing demand of the labor market and provide practical skills and experience through internships, which are included in the training program [5].

Mass migration of Ukrainians to Canada began in the late nineteenth century, when the Canadian government actively encouraged large-scale emigration from Central, Southern and Eastern Europe. After the Second World War a large wave of Ukrainian emigration began. From 1947 to 1955, almost 35 thousand Ukrainians joined their countrymen in Canada. Most of them came from Galicia and Bukovina, but there was also a significant group of emigrants from Eastern Ukraine.

In 1934 Ukrainian National Youth Federation of Canada was founded [1, p. 53]. The main task of this federation was to organize Ukrainian schools. Thanks to the representatives of the Ukrainian Diaspora, the names of Ukrainian writers had become famous in Canada. In the 1950s the monuments and museums to Taras Shevchenko and Ivan Franko were opened in Palermo and Winnipeg corespondingly. Canadian-Ukrainian festivals of song, music, and dance have become traditional. An important monument to Ukrainian culture is Kalyna Country Ecomuseum. There are popular tourist attractions such as the Village of Ukrainian-Canadian cultural heritage and the city of Vegreville with the largest Pysanka in the world [2].

In the late 60s and early 70s of the twentieth century the Ukrainian Diaspora in Canada created an extensive system of national education and upbringing. In 1944 the first Department of Ukrainian studies in North America was established at the University of Saskatchewan. In the early 50s of the twentieth century Ukrainian studios began to spread in other universities of Canada. The faculty of Slavic languages was founded in Manitoba, the students began to study Ukrainian subjects at Ottawa and Toronto universities [4].

The Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences are active in Canada. There are Ukrainian schools where teaching is carried out in Ukrainian and English, as well as Sunday schools where Christian history is studied in Ukrainian.

In Toronto there are galleries of Ukrainian fine art such as «Focus», «Canadian-Ukrainian Art Fund» and the gallery at the Institute of St. Volodymir. One of the most prominent Canadian visual artists of Ukrainian origin Vasyl Kurylyk (1927-1977) was a member of the Association of Ukrainian arts in Canada. He was an honorary doctor of the University of Windsor and the author of more than 7 thousand paintings as well. From the first years of emigration Ukrainians organized national choirs, dance ensembles, drama clubs, and orchestras in their Canadian settlements. There was not a single Ukrainian organization or society, regardless of the political or religious preferences of its members, where there were no amateur clubs. The choir «Bandurist» at the Church of St. Volodymir, the choir «Canada» in Winnipeg, the choirs of the folk houses in Toronto and Montreal used to be famous [3].

During the period from 1939 to 1974, there had been 10 general Canadian festivals. The Canadian national Ukrainian festival in Dauphin founded in 1965, the Pysanka festival in Vegrevilli and the festival «The Spring» in Saskatoon both held since 1973 have become traditional in Canada. In 1988 The Alberta Council of Ukrainian art organized «The Festival-88», dedicated to the Millennium of the Baptism of Rus.

The cultural achievements of Ukrainians in Canada, which demonstrate their commitment to national traditions, include the creation of the museum called «Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village». This is an open-air museum located 80 km east of the city of Edmonton.

In many cities of Canada there are many monuments of outstanding Ukrainians. In 1951 the first monument to Taras Shevchenko on the North American continent was erected in Toronto. Later the monuments to this symbol of Ukraine were also erected in Winnipeg, Timminsi, and recently in Toronto.

The monuments to Lesia Ukrainka and Ivan Franko are located in Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Toronto and in Winnipeg, correspondingly [6].

Summing up all the above mentioned, it may be said that the role of Ukrainians in the development of education and culture in Canada is quite significant. Ukrainians were able not only to emigrate to another country in order to meet their own needs, but also to successfully adapt and make a great contribution to its development. So, on the one hand, Ukrainians began to spread their culture in Canada, but in this way they diversified, enriched, and coloured whether their lives or the lives of Canadians. Nowadays many Ukrainians are involved in various fields of activity – medicine, education, IT technologies, technical specialties, where they have distinguished themselves as highly qualified specialists. Ukrainians have always been motivated to the best conditions, and Canada has strongly encouraged them to do so.

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