

Ukrainian church reaches milestone

By KEN MACLEOD
Post Staff Writer

When Holy Ghost Ukrainian Parish opened its doors in Whitney Pier in the early years of this century, few believed the church would some day be celebrating its 80th anniversary.

But that's exactly what will happen Sunday at noon, when a special mass will be celebrated at the church in honor of the occasion, followed by a banquet in the church hall.

A special guest for the ceremonies will be Right Reverend Archimandrite John Tataryn, a Whitney Pier boy who rose through the church ranks to his present position of parish priest at St. Dimitrius Parish in Etobicoke, Ont. Another guest will be his sister, Sister Rachel Tataryn.

"They will be coming down to help us celebrate this special occasion," said Tataryn.

The church, a small, historic building, was built in 1912.

"The first Ukrainian mass in the Maritimes was held in the Pier on Nov. 17, 1912; the church itself was finished on Dec. 12, and on May 13, 1913, we got our first permanent priest.

"At that time no one had any idea it would grow to be what it is now. The people were just peasants, really — half of them couldn't read or write. But the church was everything.

"The people wanted a church. (Their religion) was the only permanent thing they had from the old country that they could refer to as their own, (since) the Ukrainian rite was separate from the Latin rite."

In the early 1900s, Sydney's population swelled from about 3,000 to nearly 20,000; many of these new citizens were East European immigrants who came to Sydney to work in the booming steel plant that had just been completed.

The steel plant wasn't the only thing that was taking root and growing in the area. Immigrant communities were working hard to set up new lives for themselves in a new land.

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The Holy Ghost Ukrainian Church is a landmark in the Whitney Pier area.

Recent renovations have restored the building to its former glory.



John Huk (left) and Mike Tataryn stand in front of the newly renovated Holy Ghost Church in Whitney Pier.

they had been addressed to him. So it wasn't a great feat of deduction that Fraser was the most likely one to have given copies to the solicitor.

Now that the solicitor has come clean on this point, the only question is: So what? Campbell insists he got the letters after a sales agreement on the property had been struck with Sobeys, which would make this line of investigation rather pointless.

Should Fraser have made the appraisals available to council while the sale was being negotiated? Yes, even though the appraisals had been done in a different context and even though there is some question whether they have the authority of *bone fide* commercial appraisals. It would be hard to deny that the letters, whatever their status, were not relevant.

City staff should feel obliged to divulge information relevant to an impending council decision, both as a courtesy and as a matter of aldermanic right. If nothing else, the business of the appraisal letters shows that attitudes towards the handling of information still have a long way to go at city hall.

Self-government initiative buried among other issues

A native view on the constitutional failure, from a column by K'watamus in the latest issue of the bimonthly Kahtou News '92 newspaper published by K'watamus Publications Inc.:

I ask you at this time, is aboriginal self-government really a constitutional issue?

The question, an inherent right to self-government for the First Nations, in my opinion, should never have been included.

Instead it should have been a separate question in the referendum;

Canada is still our house. Canada is a great country and it is our home.

The English are in our house, the French are in our house. Recently, we have invited multi-culturalism into our home. But in the last 126 years we have been pushed out of our own house.

The referendum would have been a good opportunity for the dominant society to at least show they preferred justice served on the First Nations in this country.

You know, they had the chance to

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scenery, and with the best in outdoor recreation facilities.

Downtime a problem

It seems that every time you mention problems in the health care field, the contributing factors are downtime in the operating theatres of area hospitals and a shortage of beds.

Surely these two obstacles can be overcome.

Surely money can be found to allow full utilization of the facilities we have in area hospitals.

And surely we can take action not only to keep what specialists we have but to attract others.

Perhaps immediate reopening of closed hospital beds could be one answer.

With more beds at their disposal, surgeons could probably have greater use of the operating theatres, and this in turn could relieve some of their frustrations.

It's time we started realizing that the regional hospital is not going to be the cure-all for our health care ills.

Yes, it will give us up to date facilities, but what's the good of such facilities if we don't have the qualified personnel?

Keep what's here

And the calls were not confined within the city limits.

The fact that our firemen are not only top notch in extinguishing fires but also in freeing people from automobiles should convince our elected officials that this is one department which should be kept intact.

Meanest thief award

There's someone out there who can easily claim the Meanest Thief of the Year award.

It seems that in a recent break at a Sydney establishment, the culprit or culprits took money that was earmarked for the Cape Breton Regional Hospital.

The money was in a Crystal Springs water jar, which the owners had placed on the counter for the benefit of customers who wanted their loose change (or bills, for that matter) to go to the regional hospital.

It wasn't hard to smash open the jar, and those responsible fled with the bills and silver. The pennies were left on the floor.

Nice people.

Interesting race

The fight for the Liberal nomi-