



Ukrainian Genealogy Group

National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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January 24th UGG-NCR Webinar

Using Canadian archives to enrich our understanding of First World War internment and prosecutions

Dr. Mark Minenko is a legal historian and has been a lawyer for over thirty-five years practicing law in Manitoba, Ontario and Alberta. He was awarded a Doctorate in Law at King's College London, England in 2021. Dr. Minenko has been researching legal aspects of the internment of Ukrainian 'enemy aliens' for many years and based his presentation on this research.



Dr. Mark Minenko, our January Speaker

He began the presentation on how the outbreak of the First World War on August 4, 1914 and the War Measures Act on August 22, 1914 affected the internment of 'enemy aliens' including the Ukrainians in Canada who fell into this category. Other laws such as Registration Laws, Firearm Laws and Employment Laws also had an important impact on the legal status of the 'enemy aliens'. In addition, the Federal Cabinet passed Orders-

in-Council that dealt with the internment situation. He explained the various categories of 'aliens' and their treatment according to the current laws. Legal restrictions increased during the war but there were a few exceptions in the enforcement of some laws.

Mark gave a detailed description of internees' life at the Jasper Camp during 1916. He provided lists of names and described the physical appearance of the Camp. He mentioned the daily routine, work schedules, job categories and the use of interpreters. Some internees were allowed to work both inside and outside the camps and were paid according to various schedules. He also gave examples of their diet, food rations, distribution of clothing and bedding, health and dental care including sick reports.

He described the administration of discipline and the application of the Hague Convention. Records were maintained about discipline in the camps and on individual internees. Mark also included a list of the various archival, municipal and court records that he accessed in his research. For some of this information, he used local histories and military records.

As an example, he mentioned his 'research trail' in search of information on one internee. Mark gave examples of 'mug shots' with photos of individual internees that were disciplined as a source on individual internees. He explained that his research began with stories in local newspapers dealing with internment and names of individual cases. He visited the Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa, provincial archives in Alberta and Ontario, city and police archives including records of the Royal North West Mounted

Police. He also had access to judicial archives including Justice of the Peace records for information on specific cases.

Mark demonstrated how access to a variety of archival sources offer researchers new insights into the daily life of Ukrainian ‘enemy aliens’ who were interned or were required to register and report. Mark has been researching two books on the internment of ‘enemy’ aliens and their publication will be announced when the books are available.

Material from Mark Minenko's Webinar presentation will be used in his two forthcoming books. As a result, only a podcast version of his presentation is available on the UGG webpage. There is also a video recording of the ‘Introduction’ segment. Mark has provided written answers to questions submitted by attendees during the presentation and this information can be found on the [UGG website](#).

Search for Post-1935 Immigration Records

*Information was submitted by Ethan Coudenys
Genealogy Consultant, Access and Services Branch
[Library and Archives Canada](#) / Government of Canada*

Records of immigrants arriving at Canadian land and seaports from January 1, 1936 onwards remain in the custody of federal government department, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). The Library and Archives Canada (LAC) does not hold copies of post-1935 immigration records. To request a copy of another person's immigration record, you must mail a signed request to:

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
(IRCC)
Access to Information and Privacy Division
Ottawa, ON K1A 1L1

The request should include the full name at time of entry into Canada, date of birth and year of entry. Additional information is helpful, such as country of birth, port of entry and names of accompanying family members. The application for copies of records should indicate that it is being requested under Access to

Information. It must be submitted by a Canadian citizen or an individual residing in Canada. For non-citizens, you can hire a free-lance researcher to make the request on your behalf. The request must be accompanied by a signed consent from the person concerned or proof that he or she has been deceased for 20 years. Please note that IRCC requires proof of death regardless of the person's year of birth. There is a fee of \$5.00 (by cheque or money order made payable to the Receiver General for Canada).

To obtain a copy of your own landing record, you must submit an Application for a Verification of Status (VOS) or Replacement of an Immigration Document to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

Alternatively, you can apply for a Permanent Resident Card. If you are doing other family history research, information about census, immigration, land, employment and other types of records, including how and where to access them, can be found on the LAC Genealogy and family history page:

<https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/collection/research-help/genealogy-family-history/pages/genealogy-family-history.aspx>

Information about genealogy-related subjects like military heritage, can be found on the LAC website under Help with your research:

<https://library-archives.canada.ca/eng/collection/research-help/Pages/research-help.aspx>

You can click on A to Z tools and guides for all topics. For some LAC records, you can search the LAC genealogy databases on Collection Search database:

<https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Search>

Choose Advanced Search, then choose Search in Genealogy. Under Database the drop-down menu shows the list of which databases you can search individually.

Each database includes its own Help page that explains the records and how to access them.

Searching for Relatives in Brazil?

Submitted by Roman Hruby, former Canadian diplomat in Brazil

Parana is the centre of Ukrainian life in Brazil. Some 85% of all Ukrainians live in Parana. Curitiba is the state capital, with numerous Ukrainian churches, a seminary with an extensive library and active Ukrainian associations. There are Ukrainians in other smaller cities of Parana - Ponta Grossa, Prudentópolis (where some 75% of that city's population is of Ukrainian descent).

As to the population of Ukrainians in Brazil, they number perhaps 600,000 and are a political factor in the state of Parana (which is an advanced state and one of the most wealthy Brazilian states). Ukrainians account for some 3% of the state's population. In many respects, the Ukrainian community in Curitiba and Parana resemble the Ukrainian communities in Canada. There are Ukrainians in some other Brazilian cities, including São Paulo and the states of Santa Catherina and Rio Grande de Sul, but they are not all numerous or that influential. The best way to connect with distant relatives in Brazil would be to contact the Ukrainian Brazilian Central Representation (the equivalent of our UCC in Canada) preferably in Ukrainian (or Portuguese).

The email of the Ukrainian Brazilian Central Representation is: rcubras@gmail.com The telephone number is: +(554) 199-981-54-02. The address is: Alameda Augusta Stellfield 795, Centro Curitiba, PR 80410-140, Brazil.

Donation to the Ukrainian Genealogy Group

The UGG would like to thank Helen Gillespie for her donation of the recent publication on the Holodomor entitled, *Five Stalks of Grain* by Adrian Lysenko and illustrated by Ivanka Theodosia Galadza, (University of Calgary Press, 2022). Helen is an active member of The Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe (<https://www.sggee.org/>).