T
he global cult of Stepan Bandera is represented in Canada by the League of Ukrainian Canadians (LUC). It was formed in 1949 by activists loyal to his faction of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN-B). LUC joined the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC) in 1959 and has dominated its leadership for decades. LUC affiliates include the Ukrainian Youth Association (UYA) and the Society of Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) Veterans. By 1990, LUC had 57 local chapters (with 38 in Ontario), and 15 cultural centres. These centres, often funded by government, besides having great practical value, are also powerful unifying symbols of this community’s far-right politics.

Canada’s Bandera youth
LUC centres often focus on aiding the Bandera youth movement. Structured along military lines, the UYA scouting movement was begun in the 1920s by fascist Ukrainians fighting an “armed struggle against the forces of Bolshevism.” In 2016, a UYA event at Montreal’s Ukrainian Cultural Centre praised former UCC presidents Paul Grod (2007-18) and Eugene Czolij (1998-2004) as “lifelong members and products of place portraits of Stetsko and Yevhen Konovalets.

Shukhevych Ukrainian Youth Centre, Edmonton
Canada’s largest Ukrainian centre, the Roman Shukhevych Ukrainian Unity Complex in Edmonton, is named after another nationalist war hero. Shukhevych, a Ukrainian war criminal, fought communists, fascists, and patriots during and after WWII. The 27,000-sq.ft centre named for him includes classrooms, a library, gym, pool and a huge meeting hall with portraits of Bandera, Shukhevych and other revered “heroes.”

Leaders of Canada’s Bandera youth pose with then-UCC Pres. Paul Grod, flanked by photos of the Queen and Bandera.
Global Bandera youth movement
The Banderite Ukrainian Youth Association (UYA) has branches in Argentina, Australia, Canada, Germany, Ukraine, the UK and US. In 2009, its World Executive Cttee. met in Munich to plan their 8th world meeting (held in Vancouver during the 2010 Olympics).

The Munich event, scheduled for Bandera’s 100th birthday, allowed UYA activists to join church leaders and others on a pilgrimage to his tomb in the Waldfriedhof cemetery where Yaroslav Stetsko is also buried. At Munich’s Ukrainian centre, the UYA held an event to honour Bandera. Youth performing patriotic songs included two Toronto groups: the Batyryn marching band and the Prolisok Youth Ensemble choir. A huge Bandera image rose behind them on stage.

Sheltered from history by their elders, Bandera youth are unaware that their nationalist heroes were fascists with leading roles in the genocide of Jews, Poles and communists. Being raised in the Bandera cult, these youth are taught to denounce such facts as Russian lies, smears and propaganda.

References
2. The UYA was based on Britain’s Boy Scouts, begun in 1907 by Lt.Gen. Sir Rob’t Baden-Powell, who served British imperial interests in India and in South Africa.
3. History of the Ukrainian Youth Assoc., UYA website bit.ly/UYAhistory
10. See dozens of photos from this event: bit.ly/2ulNT7e and bit.ly/2JhpmUu

In 2015, Canada’s government gave $279,138 to the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex in Edmonton

Roman Shukhevych
Assassin, terrorist, ethnonationalist, war criminal and cult hero in Canada

In 2007, Ukraine’s government declared him to be a “Hero of Ukraine.” In 2017, the city of Lviv celebrated Shukhevychfest and in the capital city of Kiev, streets were named for “heroes” Shukhevych & Bandera.

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oman Shukhevych conducted his first political assassination in 1926 at age 19. In 1934, he was jailed for his role in killing Poland’s Interior Minister. By 1940, he was attending a Nazi military intelligence (Abwehr) academy in German-occupied Poland.

Shukhevych was an organizer of Bandera’s faction of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN-B). In 1941, he helped create their founding policy. It called for the ethnic cleansing of “non-Ukrainians” and the liquidation of “Polish, Muscovite and Jewish activists” in a future Ukrainian state.

Shukhevych was the top-ranking Ukrainian in the Nachtigall Battalion (aka the Konovalets’ Legion). Trained, armed, funded and led by the Nazis, and attached to a German special-forces regiment, its Ukrainian soldiers wore German uniforms and joined their Operation-Barbarossa invasion of the USSR (June 22, 1941). Eight days later, on his 34th birthday, Shukhevych’s Nachtigall marched into Lviv with the Nazis. The OUN(B) then declared Ukraine a state under President Yaroslav Stetsko, with Shukhevych as Deputy Defense Minister.

In 1942-1943, Shukhevych led Schutzmannschaft Battalion 201. Based in Nazi-occupied Belarus, this Ukrainian legion selecting targets using what historian Wartman Beon called “Jew-Bolshevik-partisan calculus.” By this ideology, “all Jews were Bolsheviks, all Bolsheviks were partisans, and thus, all Jews were also partisans or partisan supporters.”

By 1943, Shukhevych was commander of the OUN-B’s Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) which carried out ethnic cleansing and genocide in western Ukraine (1943-44). During that time, the UPA massacred several thousand Jews and as many as 130,000 Poles.

Shukhevych led the UPA til his death in 1950. Vassy Koval then took command until the Soviets defeated it in 1954. (See p.23) CIA covert operations chief Frank Wisner estimated in 1951 that the UPA had killed 35,000 Soviet police and communists inside the USSR since 1945.

References