



Canadian Polish Congress BC

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January 26, 2022

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President's report for 2021

AGM January 26, 2022

I would like to start off with a warm welcome to our KPK board members. I know, 2021 has not been easy for the Polish community. The unpredictable BC and Canadian government have made it difficult to organize events and promote Polish culture, tradition, and values. However, at the end of the tunnel there is always light. I hope that 2022 will bring forth a more normal environment for all our organizations to flourish and expand.

Secondly, I feel obliged to thank the wonderful board members of KPK BC for 2021. You all have tremendous help our Polonia out and myself included. When there was something that needed to be done, someone volunteered to help. When we needed to figure out something last minute, someone knew someone and we made things happen. When I was facing backlash from defamation of my character, you all chipped in and encouraged me to stop it. For this, for the past, and for the future, I thank each and every one of you.

A MAJOR THANK YOU TO all members working in KPK BC as well as all volunteers.

Iwona Swiatczak,

Filip Jaworski,

Beata Grotkowska,

Ryszard Sławski,

Izabela Sobieski,

Urszula Sulińska,

Janina Freyman,

Danuta Potworowska,

Elzbieta Skrzymowska,

Liz Nardowski,

Andrzej Dobrowolski,

Andrzej Kopczyński,

The following achievements were met due to action from KPK in 2021. We have produced a lot of positive things in 2021 which has set us up for an exciting 2022 with many new opportunities and events.

The following achievements KPK BC 2021 has accomplished or was part of in 2021:

Polonia Day Video, prepared by Polonia Organizations and KPK was posted on Facebook and reached over 3500 views across Canada

Maintain current info on Facebook group which expanded from 561 to 805 followers

The creation of Instagram (125 followers) and LinkedIn (58 followers)

Worked on Walter Zebrowski panel to be installed at Eve lake Park (Fully funded by the city of Whistler)

Happy Kids day - President KPK visits children in St. Casimir School - 1500 views across Canada

President attended Worlds Migrants Day - an eventful Refugees Mass at the Holy Rosary Cathedral (Special thanks to invitation of Jania Freyman and Polish Women Federation)

Attended mass and Uprising of Warsaw exhibition organized by SPK to commemorate the heroic fights

Letters of support from Ministers Mike Farnworth, Melanie Mark, Rachna Singh, Mayor Lisa Helps, Mayor Mary-Ann Booth,

Public Statements Justin Trudeau, Tom Kmiec, and Irek Kusmierczyk

BC front cover about Martial Law

Donation campaign 2021- website, Facebook promo, getting ready to 2022 fundraiser

Attended the PVA Martial Law Mass and ceremony,

President M. Dembek was St. Nicholas at St Casimir's Polish School on Dec 5th 2022

Meeting with Georgian Ambassador in Polish Veterans Hall

SPK's 75 anniversary

Independence Day Mass took place in St. Casimir's, President KPK BC and KPK Flag were present

Speak at 'Kongres Mlodziezy Polonijnej

Radio interview - Winnipeg

Story About Carol Coulson who run Polish Dance Group in PT Zgoda- KPK website

History of 'Kelowna Polish Cultural Society

Barka voted to join KPK

Black Ribbon Day with Lithuania - Vancouver communities joined at Jericho Beach to commemorate victims of communism

Vice President Filip Jaworski attended the graduation ceremony in Polish School at St. Casimir

I am very satisfied with the first year serving as the President of CPC BC, my thanks to all of you once again, for the support.

I am looking forward to events in the upcoming 2022!

Sincerely,

Michael K. Dembek