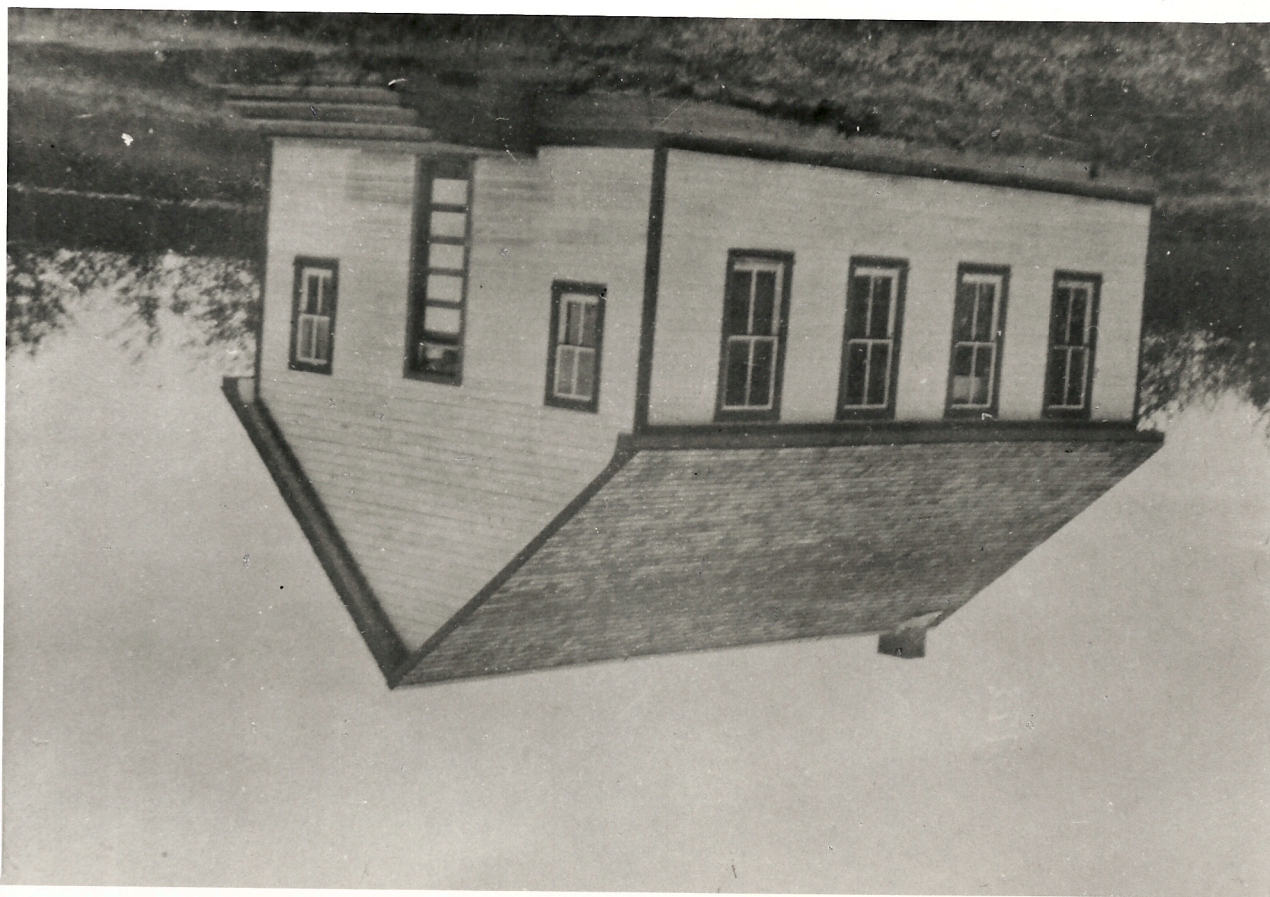


PROCLAIMED BY THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION D.S. MACKENZIE ON
 APRIL 10, 1911, THE FORMATION OF THE RUTHENIA S.D. NO. 2408
 BUILT IN 1912 IN THE N.W. CORNER OF THE N.W. 1/4 OF SEC. 5,
 IN TSP. 59, R. 16, W. 4th M. MR. TEODOR CEBULIAK SUGGESTED
 THE SCHOOL BE NAMED RUTHENIAN BECAUSE THE PEOPLE THAT
 IMMIGRATED TO CANADA FROM THE PROVINCES OF UKRAINE WERE ALL
 REFERRED TO BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AS RUTHENIANS.

FIRST RUTHENIA SCHOOL 1911





FIRST RUTHENIA SCHOOL 1911

PROCLAIMED BY THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION D.S. MACKENZIE ON APRIL 10, 1911, THE FORMATION OF THE RUTHENIA S.D. NO. 2408 BUILT IN 1912 IN THE N.W. CORNER OF THE N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ OF SEC.5, IN TSP.59, R.16, W.-4th M. MR. TEODOR CEBULIAK SUGGESTED THE SCHOOL BE NAMED RUTHENIAN BECAUSE THE PEOPLE THAT IMMIGRATED TO CANADA FROM THE PROVINCES OF UKRAINE WERE ALL REFERRED TO BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AS RUTHENIANS.



RUTHENIA SENIOR ROOM SCHOOL BUILT IN 1924 IN THE S.E. CORNER
OF THE S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ OF SEC. 6, TSP. 59, RGE. 16. W-4th M.
JUNIOR ROOM TEACHERAGE IN ~~BACK~~GROUND BUILT IN 1912.



1918 RUTHENIA PUPILS PICTURE TAKEN BY TEACHER MRS. APPLEBY.

X= UNKNOWN, BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT

X - ZYTARUK, HARRY STACHARUK X X X X

JOHN CEBULIAK X

2ND ROW, WM. ZUKOWSKY, NICK CEBULIAK, STEVE ROMANCHUK

ZYTARUK, NICK ELASCHUK X

WM. ELASCHUK, JOHN PHILLIPS X

SAM TURCHINSKY

TOP STEVE PILLOTT, MIKE BASARABA, GEORGE VITEYCHUK

STEVE RUBULIAK, PETER FALEBRENZA (WHITE SCARF)

WM. OLEKSIUK X X X X

ANDREW STACHARUK ON TOP WITH VIOLIN



BOTT., L. TO R. 1923

ROSE PALYLYK, KAYE BASARABA, DORIS VITEYCHUK, KATIE CEBULIAK
LUCY PALYLYK, ALICE KOTYK

BACK ROW

LILLIAN PONICH, MARY WITWITSKY, KATERINE BASARABA, MARY WAKARUK,
MIKE PILLOTT, GEORGE ROMANCHUK, ANDREW CEBULIAK, WM. ROMANCHUK,
HARRY PILLOTT.



BOTT., LEFT TO RIGHT 1925

HARRY PILLOTT, JOHN BOLECHOWSKY, LUCY PALYLYK,
KATIE CEBULIAK TEACHER WM. KOSTASH, KATHLEEN BASARABA,
MARY WAKARUK, MARY BOLECHOWSKY, ROSIE PALYLYK, DORIS VITEYCHUK
TOP ROW

JOHN RUBULIAK, NICK KUZIEMSKY, STEVE ROMANCHUK, ZUKOWSKY GIRL,
ALEX KUZIEMSKY, LILLIAN PONICH, NICK VITEYCHUK, LENA ZAHARY,
ALICE KOTYK, KATHERINE BASARABA, MARY WITWITSKY X MARY ZAHARY,
X KATIE OLEKSIUK



1925 - 26 FRONT ROW L. TO R.

MATTY WITWITSKY, JOHN RUSNAK, NICK MORGOCH, JOHN ZUKOWSKY,
METRO RUBULIAK, STEVE VITEYCHUK, ALICE BASARABA, BELLE RUBULIAK,
SOPHIE WITWITSKY, MARY BASARABA, ROSIE RUBULIAK (WHITE DRESS),
HELEN PILLOTT

2ND ROW

BILL CEBULIAK (ABOVE) METRO PONICH, NICK WAKARUK, WALTER PALYLYK,
(ABOVE), GEO. RATSOY, STEVE RUSNAK, JOHN KOTYK, SADIE RUBULIAK,
JOHN SKREPNYK, KATIE CEBULIAK, ALEX VITEYCHUK, VERONIA RUBULIAK,
ANNIE CEBULIAK, (BEHIND IS KATRINA KOTYK), KATIE ZAHARY,
BACK OF KATIE IS ALICE ROMANCHUK, EVA CEBULIAK, HELEN WITWITSKY,
ABOVE HELEN IS SADIE WENNEK AND TEACHER MISS MARY HOWARD.



1929. PICTURE TAKEN BY TEACHER PETER MERONIUK
 FRONT ROW L. TO R.
 BILL BASARABA, ROSIE KORBUTT, KATIE BASARABA, WINNIE WENNEK,
 WASYLENA LEWCHUK, KATIE MORGOCH, KATHERINE TOMASCHUK, STEVE
 NYKOLYCHUK (ON SHOVELS), JOHN HRESKOWSKY, STEVE CEBULIAK
 SEC. ROW. LOOKING BACK UNKNOWN, ANNE LEWCHUK, VICTORIA PILLOTT,
 ROSIE WITWITSKY (CHECKED) METRO RUBULIAK
 3RD. ROW.
 BILL WAKARUK, ON BACK IS BILL HRESKOWSKY, MATTY WITWITSKY,
 ROSIE RUSNAK, MARY PONICH, SANDRA KORBUTT,
 TOP 3 GIRLS ANNE ROMANCHUK, KATHLEEN NEKOLYCHUK, KATIE WAKARUK
 BOYS WITH HOSE JOHN RUSNAK, STEVE VITEYCHUK



1938 - 39 TAKEN BY TEACHER MR. PETER MERONIUK
 BILLY LEWCHUK, DAVID ZAHAR, STEVE KORBUTT, DARK HAIR, FRED
 REWEGA, TALL BEHIND FRED IS BILL PONICH, NICK REWEGA, EFFIE
 GRANDISH, MARY KRESOWATY, BILL KRESOWATY, MARY REWEGA,
 PETER DERENOWSKY, JOHNNY BASARABA, ABOVE JOHNNY IS
 ELLEN DERENOWSKY, DORIS KORBUTT, KATHERINE PONICH.

TEACHERS 1913 - 1951

REV. PIKE
MISS F. STONE
MR. KETTLE
MR. MICKLEDUFF
MRS. MCLENNEN
MR. GARDINER 1916
MR. GRIFFIN 1917
MRS. APPLEBY 1917
MISS WARD 1922
MISS HICKMAN 1923
MR. WM. PANCHUK 1924
MRS. PALMER 1925
MR. WM. KOSTASH 1925
MRS. LAMBERT 1925
MR. WOODHOUSE 1926
MR. STEITH 1926
MRS. HOWARD 1927
MRS. APPLEBY 1928 -?
MR. JACK APPLEBY 1929
Mr. NICK KUSIW 1922

MR. JAMES APPLEBY 1932 - 33
MR. GEORGE MERONEK PART OF 1933
MR. JOHN LIEBE 1934 - 1935
MR. PETER MERONIUK 1934
1935 - 36 - 37 - 38 - 39 - 40 - 43
MR. STEVE PILLOTT 1937
MR. JOHN HANNOCHKO 1938 - 1939
MR. GEO. KOKOTAILO 1939 - 1940
MISS BELIDA 1941
MR. JOHN STARCHUK 1941
MR. BILL WOROBETS 1941
MR. WM. NECYK 1942
MRS. HELEN STANSKE 1942 - 43
MR. TONY HORON 1944 - 45 - 46
IN 1946 THERE WERE 46 PUPILS IN
ONE ROOM.
MR. NICK MAKARENKO 1945 - 46
MISS OLGA GAVINCHUK 1945 - 46
MR. MIKE SOKOLOWSKY 1947 - 48 - 49
MISS MARY PILYPIUK 1950 - 51

NOTE

DATES OF TEACHERS ARE NOT CERTAIN. DEPT. OF EDUCATION HAD
NOT KEPT RECORDS OF TEACHERS TEACHING IN SCHOOLS IN CERTAIN
YEARS.

SMOKY LAKE, ALTA.

Oct 2nd 1922 N^o 39

THE STANDARD BANK OF CANADA.



PAY TO

Miss. Kusio

OR BEARER

\$ *70.00*
70
100 DOLLARS.

Seventy
W. Parton Salary as Teacher.

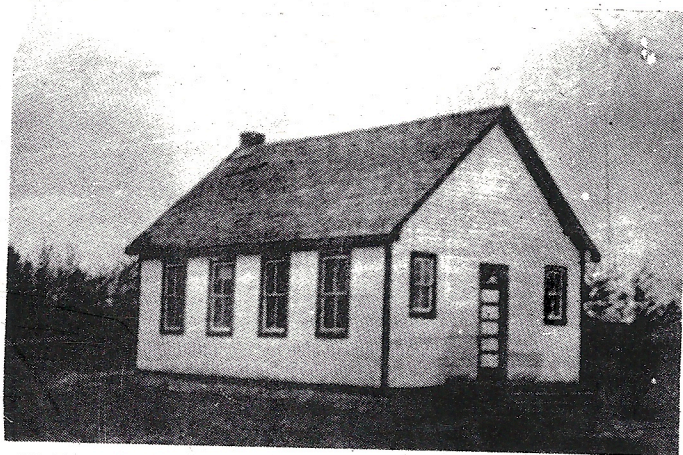
A.P. Pilot
H. A. Boleyshuk
Ruthenia St-2408. Sec Treasurer



2nd School

Ruthenia School Reunion

District No. 2408



1911 - 1952

AUGUST 16 - 17, 1986

SMOKY LAKE COMPLEX

SMOKY LAKE, ALBERTA

Program

Saturday, August 16, 1986

Registration	- - - - -	1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Coffee	- - - - -	3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Cocktails	- - - - -	4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Supper	- - - - -	6:00 P.M.
Program	- - - - -	7:00 P.M.
Dance	- - - - -	9:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.

Sunday, August 17, 1986, 10:00 A.M.

Reunion at the Ruthenia School site.

Tour of the School

Wiener Roast

Baseball Games, Lawn Darts, Horse Shoes, etc.

Admission:

Cost for both days - \$20.00 per person. A deposit of \$10.00 per person, with registration form, is requested before May 1, 1986. Make cheque payable to:

RUTHENIA SCHOOL REUNION, 1986

Your cancelled cheque is your receipt.

RUTHENIA SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 2408

Source: SD2408A Orders, Alberta Education

Date of Establishment: April 10, 1911

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
Edmonton, Saturday, April 15, 1911
Vol. 7 #7 page 176

"Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of The School Ordinance in that behalf, that, by order of the Minister of Education, the following lands, namely: Sections 31 and 32 and those portions of Sections 19, 29 and 30 lying north of the Saskatchewan River in Township 58 Range 16; Sections 35 and 36 and the north halves of Sections 25 and 26 in Township 58 Range 17; Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18 in Township 59 Range 16; and Sections 1, 12, 13 in Township 59 Range 17 west of the Fourth Meridian, have been erected into a School District under the name of The Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta.

Senior Trustee: Nikolai Gologhan, ~~Smoky Lake~~. PAKAN

D. S. MacKenzie
Deputy Minister of Education"

Source: SD2408A Orders, Alberta Education

"Edmonton, Saturday, December 2, 1911.

Under the provisions of section 46 of the School Ordinance I hereby approve the site selected by the Board of Trustees of the Ruthenia School District No.2408 of the Province of Alberta situated on the south-east corner of the north-east quarter of section 1, township 59, range 17, west of the fourth meridian.

(signed) C. R. Mitchell
Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

"Edmonton, March 5, 1912.

The undersigned hereby cancels his approval of the school site of the Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta, at the South-east corner of the North-east quarter of Section 1, Township 59, range 17, West of the Fourth Meridian, given on December 2, 1911, it having been shown by the Board of Trustees of the said district that a suitable location for the school may be obtained nearer the centre of the district.

(signed) C. R. Mitchell
Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

"Edmonton, March 5, 1912.

Under the provisions of Sections 46 of the School Ordinance I hereby approve the site selected by the Board of Trustees of the Ruthenia S.D. No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta situated on the North-west corner of the South-west quarter of Section 5, Township 59, Range 16, West of the Fourth Meridian.

(signed) C. R. Mitchell
Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

"Edmonton, April 18, 1912.

Under the provisions of Clause 2 of Section 7 of The School Ordinance, I hereby appoint Robert Fletcher of Lamont to be Official Trustee to conduct the affairs of the Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta from the date hereof and during the pleasure of the Department.

(signed) C. R. Mitchell
Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

EXTRACT FROM: The Alberta Gazette
 Edmonton, Saturday, November 30, 1912.
 Volume 8 # 22 Page 859 & 860

"Edmonton, Monday, November 25, 1912.

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of The School Ordinance in that behalf, that the Minister of Education has authorized the Board of Trustees of The Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta to borrow the sum of Eight hundred dollars, upon the security of the said district, for the purpose of erecting and furnishing school house, building teacher's house.

Treasurer's address: Robert Fletcher, Lamont
 D.S. MacKenzie
 Deputy Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

Extract from: The Alberta Gazette
 Edmonton, Friday, October 31, 1919
 Volume 15 #20 Page 725

"Edmonton, Thursday, October 9, 1919.

.....withdrawing therefrom the following lands, namely:
 Sections 16, 17, 18 in Township 59 Range 16; and east half and north-west quarter of Section 13 in Township 59 Range 17; all west of the Fourth Meridian; and by adding thereto the following lands, namely: The east half of Sections 34 in Township 58 Range 17; the east half and south-west quarter of Section 2, the south-east quarter of Section 3, and the east half of section 11 in Township 59 Range 17 west of the Fourth Meridian;....

The order, of which the above is notice, shall take effect December 31, 1919.

J. T. Ross
 Deputy Minister of Education"

8
Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

"Edmonton, March 11, 1920.

The undersigned hereby cancels his approval of the school site of the Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta, situated at the north-west corner of the south-west quarter of Section 5 in Township 59, Range 16, West of the Fourth Meridian.

(signed) C. Smith
Minister of Education"

7
Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

"Edmonton, March 11, 1920.

Under the provisions of Section 46 of the School Ordinance, I hereby approve the site selected by the Board of Trustees of the Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta, comprising three acres, situated ninety yards west of the south-east corner of Section 1, Township 59, Range 17, West of the Fourth Meridian.

(signed) C. Smith
Minister of Education"

"Edmonton, April 28th, 1920.

The undersigned hereby cancels his approval of the of the school site of the Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta, given on March 11th, 1920, situated ninety yards west of the south-west corner [sic] of Section 1, in Township 59, Range 17, West of the Fourth Meridian.

(signed) C. Smith
Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

"Edmonton, Wednesday, April 28th, 1920.

Under the provisions of Section 46 of the School Ordinance, I hereby approve the site selected by the Board of Trustees of the Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta, situated on the south-east corner of the south-west quarter of Section 6 in Township 59, Range 16, West of the Fourth Meridian.

(signed) C. Smith
Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
Edmonton, Saturday, May 15, 1920.
Volume 16 #9 Page 312

"Edmonton, Wednesday, May 5, 1920.

.....withdrawing therefrom the following lands, namely:
The north half of Section 9 and the North-east quarter of
Section 8 in Township 59 Range 16 west of the Fourth
Meridian;.....

J. T. Ross
Deputy Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
Edmonton, Monday, February 28, 1921.
Volume 17 #4 Page 105

"Edmonton, Monday, February 21, 1921.

.....by adding thereto the following lands, namely: The
north-west quarter of section 34 in Township 58 Range 17 west
of the Fourth Meridian;.....

J. T. Ross
Deputy Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
 Edmonton, Saturday, April 14, 1923.
 Volume 19 #7 Page 194

"Edmonton, March 22, 1923.

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of Section 63 of The School Assessment Act, that, by order of the Minister of Education, The Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta has been declared to be a village district for the purposes of the said Act and any assessment and taxation for school purposes thereunder.

J. T. Ross,
 Deputy Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
 Edmonton, Friday, June 15, 1923
 Volume 19 #11 Page 798

"Edmonton, June 5, 1923.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of The School Act and The Public Utilities Act in that behalf, that the Board of Public Utility Commissioners has authorized the Board of Trustees of the Ruthenia S.D. No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta, to borrow the sum of two thousand dollars on the security of the said district for the purpose of building a second room to school house.

Treasurer: K.A. Boleychuk, Smoky Lake, Alberta.

G. A. Thibault

Secretary, Board of Public Utility Commissioners."

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
Edmonton, Saturday, January 31, 1931,
Volume 27 #2 Page 89

"Edmonton, January 19, 1931.

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of Section 63 of The School Assessment Act, that, by order of the Minister of Education, the Ruthenia School District No. 2408, of the Province of Alberta, has been declared to be a rural district for the purposes of the said Act and any assessment and taxation for school purposes thereunder.

J. T. Ross
Deputy Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
Edmonton, Saturday, April 30, 1937
Volume 23 #8 Page 257

"Edmonton, April 22, 1927.

....by withdrawing therefrom the following lands, namely: South-west quarter of Section 13, in Township 59, Range 17, west of the Fourth Meridian;.....

J. T. Ross
Deputy Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from Department of Education

"Edmonton, September 1st, 1938

Under the provisions of Section 135 of The School Act, I hereby approve an addition of one acre to the school site of the RUTHENIA School District No. 2403 of the Province of Alberta, which is located in the South East corner of the South West quarter of Section 6, in Township 59, Range 16, West of the Fourth Meridian, such additional acreage lying immediately East of the said school site, and being more particularly described as follows:

"All that portion of the South East quarter of Section 6, in Township 59, Range 16, West of the Fourth Meridian, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at a point on the south boundary of the said quarter-section distant ten (10) rods East from the South-West corner thereof: thence Northerly and parallel to the West boundary thereof Sixteen (16) rods to a point; thence Westerly and parallel to the South boundary thereof ten (10) rods more or less to a point on the West boundary of the said quarter-section; thence Southerly along the said West boundary sixteen (16) rods more or less to the South-West corner of the said quarter-section; thence Easterly along the South boundary of the said quarter-section ten (10) rods more or less to the point of commencement, containing one acre more or less."

(signed) William Aberhart

Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from Department of Education

"Edmonton, October 19th, 1938

(formation of School Division No. 39
by Minister of Education)

(2) That the said school division shall be and the same
is hereby divided into the following subdivisions:

.....

Sub-division 4, comprising the following:

Prosvischenia S.D. #1476
Bavilla S.D. #1477
Edward S.D. #1632
Kotzman S.D. #2325
Ruthenia S.D. #2408
Irondale S.D. #2532
Bear's Lake S.D. #2898
Bellis S.D. #3185
Lilyfield S.D. #3316
North Kotzman S.D. #3881
Volunteer S.D. #3933
Dickiebush S.D. #3984
Low Level S.D. #4024
Kildonan S.D. #4644

....."

Smoky Lake Alta
July 19 - 26 1945

The Trustees of School District no 39
Smoky Lake Alta.

Dear Sir -

We of the Board and ratepayers
of Ruthenia School District no 2408 demand
from you trustees of Sarge Unit no 39 that we
want to have open 2 room's schools for year
1945 - 46 for the ~~same~~ reason that our pupils or
children not getting good Education from one
teacher, its very hard for 1 teacher to teach all
the grades and give them good Education

Therefore we demand to reopning 2 rooms
school 1945-46

Yours Very Truly

Chairman P. Falcbrunza
Trustee Steve N. Rubuliak
Trustee V. M. J. Basaraba.
Sec Treas

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA

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Accession No. 74.380

August 1st, 1945.

Mr. P. Falebrenza, Chairman,
Ruthenia School District,
Smoky Lake, Alberta.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of July 19th,
I wish to advise you that the Board is not able
to fulfill your request as there is a great shortage
of teachers, and as a result Ruthenia will have to
remain a one room school for the year 1945-46/

Yours truly,

Secretary Treasurer.

K:OR.

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Accession No. 74-380

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from Department of Education

"Edmonton, Tuesday, January 7, 1947.
(re-subdivision by Minister of Education)

.....

Subdivision No. 2 shall consist of the following
school districts:-

Victoria S.D. #75
Toporoutz S.D. #1935
Kotzman S.D. #2325
Ruthenia S.D. #2408
Pakan S.D. #3530
White Earth S.D. #3582
Wild Deer S.D. #3650
Smoky Lake S.D. #3880
North Kotzman S.D. #3881
Cossack S.D. #4468

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from Smoky Lake School Division No. 39

"July 9th, 1947

.....

Due to low pupil enrolment in the Ruthenia S.D.
No. 2408 we have closed the senior room in that school.

We are now seeking your approval to move the
Senior room building from the above mentioned district to
the Smoky Lake S.D. [#3880] in order that we may accomodate
[sic] the puils [sic] of the Smoky Lake School District
satisfactorily. [sic]

Trusting that the approval will be granted.

Yours truly,
S. Antoniuk
Secretary-Treasurer.

Approved: This 25th day of July, 1947.

R. A. Ansley

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: Department of Education

"November 28, 1956.

Sale of site and buildings Ruthenia School District No. 2408

.....

located on southwest quarter Section 6, Township 59 Range 16
W. 4th Meridian.

.....

APPROVED this 30 day of November, 1956

A. O. Aalborg
Minister of Education"

Source: SD 2408A Orders, Alberta Education

extract from: The Alberta Gazette
Edmonton, Saturday, October 15, 1960
Volume 56, No. 19, 1609.

[formation of County of Smoky Lake #13
by A. J. Hooke (Acting chairman)
O.C. 1481/60]

"Edmonton, Thursday, October 6, 1960"

DUTIES OF CARETAKER

- Washing: 1. Wash windows inside and outside once a year. (August)
2. Wash desks and woodwork once a year (August)
3. Wash and disinfect toilets twice a year (Aug. & Apr.)
4. Wash and oil floors four times a year. August, November, February and May. Oil more often if necessary.

- Cleaning: 1. Clean out pipes stoves or furnaces in August
2. Clean the snow of steps and paths to toilets and gates.

- Daily Work: Evenings:
1. Sweep floors in classrooms, cloakrooms and porches.
2. Dust blackboards, blackboard rails and blackboard brushes and dusters. NEVER WASH BLACKBOARDS WITH WATER.
3. Fill up wood boxes and prepare kindlings. Additional wood needed during the day to be brought by the older pupils in turn.
4. Empty water containers and pails. Any damages due to neglect of the caretaker will be charged against the caretaker.
5. Wash up wash basins.

Mornings:

1. Clean out ashes every morning.
2. Start fires in sufficient time to have the rooms at a temperature of 68 degrees 15 minutes before opening of school.
3. Dust teacher's desk, pupils' desks and seats and window sills and other furniture found in school.
4. Fill up water containers, where water is obtained in the school yard or not farther than one-eighth of a mile.

CASUAL and General Work:

1. Minor repairs, tightening screws in desks, coat hooks heaters etc. repairing gate hinges, catches, door locks, door hooks, etc. putting in window glass, and all minor repairs that may arise.

All work must be satisfactory to the teacher and the Local Board.

WEST OF 4 TH MERIDIAN.

Range 17

Range 16

[illegible]

Ruthenia

S.D. No. 2408

1. Indicate the location of school house thus (X).
2. Write the name of each resident across the quarter section on which he resides.

①
Ruthenian S.D. 2408 1911-1958

The Ruthenia District is located about 6 miles S.E. of the town of Smoky Lake and 2½ miles north of the North Saskatchewan River in Tsp. 58 and 59 Rge 16 and 17. It was settled by Ukrainians and a few Romanian settlers between the years 1899-1905.

This area was best suited for mixed farming, due to the different types of soil it consists of. It is rather level land with the Smoky Lake Creek running through, but has no lakes for fishing or recreational use.

As usual when an area was settled the need for a school soon arises. The pioneers were anxious that their children receive an education, which many of them themselves lacked in their homeland. Early in the year of 1911 a committee was formed for this purpose, which consisted of Nikolai Galagan, Ivan Stacharuk, Kefa Baleychuk and Teodor Cebulick and presented the government with this proposal. Mr. Cebulick suggested that this school be named the Ruthenian School, because the people that immigrated to Canada from the provinces of Ukraine were all referred to as Ruthenian at that time.

On April 15, 1911 it appeared in the Alberta Gazette that by order of the Minister of Education D.S. Mackenzie the following lands, namely Sec. 31-32, 19, 29, 30 in Tsp. 58 Rge 16 and Sec. 35, 36, 25, 26, Tsp. 58 Rge 17, Sec. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18 in Tsp. 59, Rge 16 and Sec. 1, 12, 13, in Tsp. 59, Rge 17, west of 4th Mer.

have been formed into a School District under the name of Ruthenia School District No. 2408 of the Province of Alberta. Senior Trustee Nikolai Galagan, P.A.S., Alberta.

There were throughout Canada other areas and businesses having the name Ruthemian for example.

The Canadian Ruthemian Newspaper, Winnipeg Man.

Ruthemian Post Office in Manitoba

Austro - Ruthemian S. D. # 2954 in Tsp. 55 Rge 5 west of 4th M. about 40 miles east of the town of Two Hills.

Ruthemian Teachers Training School 1915, Brandon, Man.

Ruthemian Co-operative Office, Vegreville, Alberta

Ruthemian Catholic Church Zawale, Alta.

Ruthemian Farmers Elevator Co. Winnipeg

Ruthemian Farmers Elevator Co. Ethelbert, Sask.

Ruthemian Book Store 631, Simpson St. St. William Ont.

Ruthemian Sales House Selkirk Ave. Winnipeg

Ruthemian Book Store Craig St. Montreal Que.

And probably a few more. For some unknown reason the N was dropped and it was known as Ruthenia.

On Dec. 2, 1911, the Minister of Education C. R. Mitchell approved a school site in the S.E. corner of the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 1, Tsp. 59, Rge 17 west of 4th M. a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west and a half mile north of the present school ^{on the hill on the farm of Gregory Rutabika}

On March 5, 1912 the Minister of Education cancelled this approval on request of the Board of trustees that a more suitable location may be obtained nearer the centre of the district, and on this same day approved the new site selected by the Board of trustees being on the N.W corner of the S.W $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 5, Tsp. 59, Rge 16 west of 4th M. a half mile south 1 mile east and a half mile north on the farm of Anna Falebrezza.

On April 18, 1912 the Minister of Education

(3)

appointed Robert Fletcher of Lamont to be the Official Trustee to conduct the affairs of the Ruthenia S.D. on Nov. 25, 1912 the Deputy Minister of Education authorized the Board of Trustees to borrow the sum of \$800.00 for the purpose of erecting and furnishing a school house and teacherage.

The trustees hired a contractor, ^{Mr. Burke} from Bruidersheim. He then hired eight local teams, went to Bruidersheim and brought all the building material needed to build the school. He hired a few men and paid them \$1.00 per day. The building was well under construction when one unfortunate day he came off the roof to do some sawing and suddenly collapsed and died. The school was left for others to finish off. This was a one room frame building, built on a stone foundation banked with earth to conserve heat.

The school was open for teaching in 1913 and during the first few years school was taught only from April to Christmas.

During this time the war broke out and all the ratepayers had to register at the school and fill out a form.

Some of the first students attending school were from the following families.

Basaraba, Balechowsky, Abuliak, Chakley, Chiastka Dwernichuk, Falebrenza, Gurneza, Halagan, Kotek Kuzimsky, Morgoch, Nickolychuk, Oleksuk, Ostowa, Palylyk Pillott, Pawluk, Prokopchuk, Romanchuk, Rubuliak, Rusnak, Stacharuk, Vitvitsky, Vitychuk Wasylenchuk, Wennak, Zytaruk, Zukowsky.

In the next few years the children of school age had increased and by the year

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1919 the student enrollment was more than 60 pupils.

At this time the trustees decided that another school room was required and a more suitable and centralized site also.

Then on March 11, 1920 the Minister of Education cancelled this site and on the same day approved another area on the S.E corner of the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 1, in Tsp. 59 - Rge. 17, west of 4th M. a half mile south and one mile west on the farm of Gora Kozma.

Some of the ratepayers did not agree with this location so the Minister of Education again cancelled it and selected another site a half mile east in the S.E corner of ^{Sec 6} Dec 6, in Tsp. 59, Rge. 16 west of 4th M. where it is located to this day.

In 1920, 2 acres of land were purchased from Mrs. Vitychuk and the trustees assigned Mr. John Palylyk to organize the moving of the school to the new site. ^{in May} The school was put on skids and moved, by a few teams through Stacharuk's and Gurmeg's farm to the new location.

During these years some of the lands were either added or withdrawn from the school district as the students could attend Kotzman school to the north or Victoria school to the south-west in the Hudson Bay Reserve.

On June 5, 1923 the Board of Public Utility Commissioners had authorized the Board of Trustees of the Ruthenia School District to borrow the sum of \$2,000.00 for the purpose of building another school and teacherage, as by this time there were over 70 pupils in one room.

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G. A. Thibeault appointed Kefa Baleychuk as treasurer. The duties of the trustees were to loan after the water, and wood supply, collect taxes, and maintaining the building.

In 1924 a larger school was built on a cement foundation by a contractor R. Mackay. He hired boys to single the roof at 15¢ an hour. This was the senior room, while the other school was the Junior Room.

No exact records of the first school teachers are available but according to the students of the time they recall these teachers.

Rev. Pike who lived in Paken and travelled to school by buggy and at times by bicycle also Miss Stone a part time teacher who came from the Kolokweka Mission. MR. KETTLE

Teachers prior to 1930 were MR. MCKELEDUFF MR. MCLENNEN
Mr. Gardiner, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Appleby,
Mr. Kusiw, Miss Ward, Miss Hickman, Miss Moore
Wm. Panchuk, Miss Palmer, Mr. Wm. Kostash
Miss Lambert, Mr. Woodhouse, Mr. Steith
Miss Howard, Mr. Jack Appleby.

Teachers that taught after 1930 were
Mr. James Appleby, Mrs. Appleby, Mr. Peter Meronuk
Mr. George Meronuk, Mr. John L. Pilbe, Mr. Stephen
Pillott, Mr. John Donnacko, Mr. George Kokotailo
Mr. John Starchuk, Mr. Bill Worobitz, Mr. Wm
Necyk, Mr. Helen Stanske, Mr. Tony Horon,
Mr. Nick Makarenko, Miss Olga Yavrichuk
Mr. Mike Sokolowski, and Miss Mary Pylypuk.

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In the late thirties a horse barn was built and this was the fifth building on 2 acres of land which left very little space for ball diamonds.

The Trustees applied for another addition of one acre of land and on Sept 1, 1938 the Minister of Education approved of this proposal, but it was not purchased, as in the early 40's the School District was centralized and some schools were moved into the Town of Smoky Lake, others were sold to Community Associations. Our Junior Room which was built in 1913 was moved to Smoky Lake and is still standing, back of the County Office.

It was suggested to the Smoky Lake Cultural and Heritage Society to have it restored and considered as a local historic building. The senior room was kept and they continued teaching till 1950 with Mary Pylypiuk (Kysowaty) being the last teacher.

After 1950 it was used for meetings by the Farmers Union Local, which were mostly under the direction of Wm. N and Mike J. Basaraba devoted members to the union and district.

During this time the Smoky Lake School Division received approval from the Department of Education to sell any school property only to local chartered organizations and they were given first priority, even if higher tenders are received. An individual would pay 100% of the reserve price, a Community Organization not chartered 75% of reserve price and a Chartered Organization would pay 50% of the reserve price. The people of the Ruthenian District wanted it to be donated, or bought for a

minimum legal amount because they owned it in the first place, but the School Board Committee disapproved of this proposal and asked a reserve price of \$350.00. However the F.U.A. Local over 30 in number formed another organization. The Ruthenia Community Centre and purchased it in their name for the amount of \$150.00 in 3 payments, and in July of 1960 received title to this property.

There were many activities held in this school such as meetings by church groups, F.U.A. Ruthenia Community Centre, political and agricultural, polling location, shows by Pete Kohut ^{Admission \$10⁰⁰}, picnics, and dances held to orchestra's like Metro Radomsky Woychuk's, The blair of Metro's trumpet to the tune of The Star Spangled Banner would be heard for a mile around. Peter Klufas, Eddie Albiston, Metro Kostyshen, John Lewchuk and Bill Cebuliak. The Ruthenia Community Centre operated with a declining membership until March of 1980 when the remaining 6 members decided to dissolve the Association and sold the property to S.F. Cebuliak.

Some of the vivid memories recalled by some of the students attending the rural school were,

The Christmas school concerts put up by the students and all the proud parents attending. also the school festivals that students travelled to towns, like Wasketonaw, Lamont, Fort Saskatchewan, Smoky Lake etc, and participated in a program of singing, reciting, and drama.

The 'soft ball' teams that the students competed with neighbouring school districts

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and travelled to and from by wagon.

The students were active in winter skating with home made skates which were made of a board and two heavy wires parallel under.

Some recalled doing janitor work for \$2.00 a month and during extremely cold temperatures the classes sat by the heater, while their lunches froze in the cloakroom.

Some students recalled being strapped for speaking Ukrainian in school or the school yard. No one thought at that time that the second generation of the students would have to take Ukrainian classes in school to retain their language.

Wood which was supplied to school by cord was 3 ft. long, split and piled into a cord 4x4x8 and was often sold at \$2.00 a cord.

Many students wore home made clothes, sweaters, scarves, mitts and stockings were knitted of sheep wool. During the summer months the students walked barefooted to school.

One student recalled being absent from school so the teacher asked, Why were you absent from school yesterday? Pupil: The threshing machine was at our place:

Teacher, We'll couldn't the threshing machine thresh without you?

Pupil: No, I was the bagger man, and had to hold sacks.

Such memories of the good old days still linger on.