

 <p>Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village Село спадщини української культури</p>	<p>Located: 25 minutes east of Edmonton along Hwy. 16 (just east of Elk Island National Park)</p> <p>E-mail: uchvbookings@gov.ab.ca</p> <p>Send mail to: Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village c/o 8820-112 St. NW Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2P8</p>
<p>www.ukrainianvillage.ca </p>	

Emigration Gamble

(Grades 6 to 12)

Following pre-visit readings and activities, students assume roles of prospective European immigrants to North America. Immigration policies and economic issues at the turn of the 20th century are discovered when students debate reasons for leaving their homeland. Living history interaction with costumed interpreters is the research base for learning about pioneer achievements in Alberta.

Intended Outcomes

- Appreciation for the stories, experiences and values of Ukrainian immigrants to rural Alberta.
- Application and development of decision-making and debate skills.
- Comprehension of the factors that led to Ukrainian cultural retention in east central Alberta.
- Knowledge of a variety of factors that affected settlement patterns in western Canada.
- Knowledge of the various reasons for eastern European immigration to Canada.

History

The first Ukrainian (Galician) pioneers arrived in Alberta in 1891. In May 1894, four immigrants from eastern Galicia (the village of Nebyliw) applied for homesteads on four quarter sections near Star-Edna, creating the first Ukrainian settlement in Alberta. Between 1892 and 1914, roughly 200,000 Ukrainian immigrants arrived in Canada from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In the 1920s another 60,000 Ukrainian immigrants entered this country.

Human emigration is a gamble. “Should we stay or should we go?” was a historical question that was discussed by thousands of individuals. Why did such a question surface? What caused the massive human migration? Was it famine, over-population, disease, persecution, or something else? These questions are at the heart of the examination of the pre-1930 Ukrainian immigration to Canada.

Program Activities

This education program focuses on the Ukrainian exodus from Galicia and Bukovyna (part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire) in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Using profiles of prospective immigrants, students take on a role. Drawing on information from the pre-visit preparation and from their profiles, students debate the question of “Should we stay, or should we go?” After the debate, students visit several historic buildings to discover the realities of life in Canada after immigration. Through interactions with the costumed interpreters in each building, students witness the quality of life of the first Ukrainian settlers and experience the results of the choice to immigrate to Canada.

Program Duration and Delivery

Emigration Gamble begins at 10:00 a.m. and runs to 2:00 p.m. The program begins with an interpreter-led debate in the morning. After a 30 minute lunch break, students will visit a variety of buildings in smaller groups with a supervisor or teacher. Please see the Teachers’ Information Booklet for more detailed information.