

## **2016 PROGRAMME CHAIR REPORT**

Canadian Association of Slavists/Association Canadienne des Slavistes

As of Thursday, 26 May, there were 100 participants scheduled to take part in the 2016 annual conference of the Association, and 94 had registered with the Congress. This is approximately a 33 per cent increase over last year, so you see, comrades, we have over-fulfilled our quota. For this success, however, the Programme Chair can take no credit. It stems from all of you as individuals and collectively, who came forward with proposals for papers, panels, and round tables. The Programme Chair merely sorted the proposals into more or less congenial (or at least convenient) groupings. Undoubtedly the location of Congress this year in Calgary made the difference in attendance.

For the record, this year proposals for 47 individual papers, 4 round tables, and 15 panels were received and accepted; several individual paper proposals were eventually withdrawn, due to economic or personal reasons, and one round table as well as one panel were cancelled as unviable. In the end, we have as of today 34 sessions, not including business meetings of the Association, its executive, the CAUS, and a book launch; altogether 93 papers were scheduled to have been delivered. Twenty-five of our registrants are students; ten are retired; and eight are unwaged. As to the significance of these data, and whether the Association is doing well or not, this is better left to specialists in organizational theory and demography.

It remains to thank members of our Local Arrangements Committee—Irina Shilova and Svitlana Winters—for their able and energetic assistance in getting quotes and chasing down information, as well as for rounding up the students to man the greeting table. And thanks to those student volunteers also. Special thanks to members of the CAS Executive—in particular Elena Baraban, Heather Coleman, and Maryna Romanetz—for their wise counsel, guidance, and patience from the outset in making all the myriad decisions that went into the fashioning of the programme—from the Call for Papers to the final product. And finally, many thanks to the U of C's local logistics coordinator, Anne Jaggard, who intervened promptly and effectively in tackling the challenges of the Congress system.

Bohdan Harasymiw

26 May 2016