



BEA2017

Gala

15th Annual

Business Excellence Awards Gala

Recognizing Excellence in the
Croatian-Canadian Community

May 12



CANADIAN • CROATIAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Bell



150

MNP

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Celebrating leaders in the business community.

At CIBC, we're committed to building strong and vibrant communities across Canada. That's why we're proud to sponsor the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce's 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala that recognizes leadership, innovation, and excellence.



Welcome



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to welcome you to the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards. We are delighted that you have joined us this evening to honor all the well-deserving award recipients. Tonight we are truly pleased to host Mate Rimac, Founder and CEO of Rimac Automobili, who has created one of the world's fastest electric super cars and who has accomplished this in the heart of Croatia. His vision follows that of so many great Croatians who have produced inventions and innovations that have forever changed the way we live.

My own passion for green energy and a greener future drove me to make my company, Baka, Toronto's Greenest Corporation in 2014 and so I take personal delight in welcoming Mate into our midst.

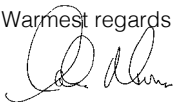
It has been a busy and successful year for the Chamber as well as for our Croatian-Canadian community at large. Her Excellency Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović made her first visit to Canada in her capacity as the President of Croatia in November, and we were honored to host her at various events and meetings in and around Toronto, including a Youth Mentorship Mixer with over 250 Croatian-Canadian students in attendance. She finished her stay by delivering the inspiring keynote address at our sold-out gala dinner and fundraiser for the Vukovar Tower Restoration Project.

We have been working on a program to expand the Chamber across Canada to establish a national organization. To that end we are pleased to announce the recent formation of the British Columbia Chapter of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce. The formation of other chapters will be following in the near future. This Canada-wide expansion will truly make the Chamber a powerful voice for all Croatian-Canadians.

We continue to network Croatian-Canadians and Croatian-Canadian businesses, to better connect Canada and Croatia, and to support our young people through various events, programs, and initiatives. I encourage you all to become involved in the Chamber and to add strength to our motto "Together We Make Success".

I wish you all a wonderful evening.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Marion', written in a cursive style.

John Marion
President and Director



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

May 12, 2017

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala, hosted by the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce (CCCC).



Since 1995, the CCCC has promoted Croatian-Canadian businesses, increased awareness of bilateral trade between our two countries and sponsored cultural and educational programs. This event provides a wonderful opportunity to celebrate your achievements and to set goals for a future of continued prosperity.

I would like to commend the members of CCCC, as well as this evening's award recipients, for their important contributions to the Croatian-Canadian business community.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable event.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

Embassy of Canada



Ambassade du Canada



13. 04. 2017

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to convey greetings of the Embassy of Canada in Zagreb, celebrating the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce's business excellence awards. Sincere congratulations to this year's winners.

The CCCC continues to be an indispensable partner for me and my team in advancing relations between Canada and Croatia. In the past year, I had several opportunities to consult with the CCCC executive and individual members, in Croatia and in Canada. As a result of this cooperation, we continue to see relations between Canada and Croatia develop and deepen – in the past year, there have been important successes, including the signature of contracts between the Croatian government and Vermilion Energy and the launch of the first of five bulk carriers built in Rijeka for Algoma Central.

Most important, the free trade agreement between Canada and the EU has been signed and ratified. On 15 February, this innovative agreement was approved by the European Parliament – with the unanimous support of Croatian MEPs. The CCCC played a direct role in this excellent result, by engaging with Canadian and Croatian stakeholders, hosting the visit of a Croatian Member of the European Parliament at a critical time, and working with us to communicate the benefits that CETA will bring to both sides.

Just today, the Croatian government approved ratification of CETA at the national level, making explicit reference to the important role of the Croatian-Canadian community. I hope that by the time you read this letter, CETA will be well on the way to receiving a strong positive vote in the Sabor, making Croatia one of the very first European countries to fully embrace free and fair trade with Canada.

Last Fall, President Grabar-Kitarović made an important visit to Ontario, to open the door wide for the new trade, investment, and technology partnerships that CETA makes possible. The CCCC played a critical role in all aspects of her visit. The President's visit clearly advanced Canada-Croatia relations, and I am grateful to all of you, and in particular the executive, for welcoming her so warmly to Canada.

The President's leadership, together with Prime Minister Andrej Plenković's commitment to supporting growth, investment and entrepreneurship in Croatia, is leading to more favourable economic conditions in Croatia – notwithstanding one or two important challenges. Now is the time for Canadian companies to consider how much more competitive CETA will make them in the EU market and how their businesses could grow stronger by working with EU partners. This is absolutely the case with regard to Croatia. Over the year to come, I will be relying on you even more, to fully seize the opportunity of CETA and develop trade, investment, and technology partnerships with Croatia and beyond.

Sincerely,



Dan Maksymuk
Ambassador

Canada



Premier of Ontario - Première ministre de l'Ontario

May 12, 2017

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala, hosted by the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce (CCCC).

Ontario is known internationally for its dynamic business climate, for its strong and supportive entrepreneurial environment, and for being home to one of the world's most educated, highly skilled workforces. The talent and skills of our people are our biggest competitive advantage.

I commend the CCCC for the important role it plays in supporting and celebrating excellence and innovation within the business community, and in strengthening the ties between Canada and Croatia.

I want to recognize all those who have been instrumental to the success of this event, including the speakers, generous sponsors, and hard-working volunteers. I also want to thank everyone in attendance for supporting the CCCC's important work.

To those being honoured this evening – congratulations! I am delighted that you are being recognized for your distinguished contributions, and I wish you much continued success.

Please accept my sincere best wishes for an enjoyable and inspiring evening.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kathleen Wynne'.

Kathleen Wynne
Premier



Republic of Croatia
President



**Letter of Greetings from the
President of the Republic of Croatia Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović
for the Program Book on the Occasion of the
Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce's
15th Annual Business Excellence Awards
May 15, 2017**

Dear Mr. Marion,
Esteemed members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce,
Distinguished dignitaries, dear friends,

I am pleased to extend greetings to you on the occasion of the Annual Business Excellence Awards presentation that the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce is hosting for the 15th time to award successful companies. I congratulate the companies awarded as well as the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce for the successful organization of this ceremony.

I still cherish fond memories of the fundraising dinner for the renovation of the Vukovar water tower which you organized during my working visit last November. The renovation of the water tower is an issue of national security and respect for the Heroic City of Vukovar, the heroism of Croatian defenders and all the victims who sacrificed their lives for freedom and independence. Our victory in the Homeland War was realized thanks to the spirit of community shared by the Croatian diaspora and Croatians in the Homeland. That evening I felt the strength of that community spirit for which I sincerely thank you and I hope that we will further make use of this synergy for Croatia's economic development.

During our working meeting we discussed a series of economic issues, and most of all possibilities for strengthening economic cooperation between Croatia and Canada. At that time we affirmed that if there is room for unlimited possibilities and potential for cooperation, then it is certainly in the area of economic relations.

Therefore Croatia continues to express its full support for enhancing our economic relations. We confirm this with the initiation of the process of ratification of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union and its Member States. We expect that within the framework of this new European-Canadian partnership we will reinforce economic relations, create a broader and more secure market for goods and services and establish clear, transparent, predictable and mutually beneficial rules for future trade and investment.

I am confident that, with CETA's entry into force, new possibilities and business opportunities for entrepreneurs on both sides of the Atlantic will be available, bringing a series of positive features to be taken advantage of as soon as possible. For Croatia, it means the possibility of greater exports, more investments and higher employment, which is indispensable in order to reach the standard and quality of life of most developed states.

In this context I particularly welcome Mr. John Marion's efforts, as well as the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce members' willingness to improve trade and economic relations between the Republic of Croatia and Canada. We value your ideas, experience, know-how and visions for new business endeavors and successes. I want you to know that Croatia appreciates your love for your Homeland and everything you are doing.

I would like to express my support for all the efforts of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce and for all of the efforts of all of you gathered at today's ceremony. I am confident that you will continue to contribute to the development and expansion of economic relations in order to enhance and strengthen comprehensive relations between the Republic of Croatia and Canada.

With these wishes I once again congratulate all recipients of the Business Excellence Awards and wish everyone much success.

Sincerely yours,



Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović

Zagreb, May 2, 2017



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
PRIME MINISTER



Zagreb, 9 May 2017

Dear Mr. Marion,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere greetings to you and to all the members and supporters of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Evening.

Canada and Croatia always had a good bilateral relationship but we can do much more when it comes to the strengthening of the cooperation in the field of the economy, tourism and culture. In this regard, the role of Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce is indispensable.

One of the best indicators that there is an interest from both sides is the success of the seasonal direct flights from Montreal and Toronto to Zagreb introduced last year, that will now have two flights per week.

Croatia, as a member state of the EU, supported the signing of Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, and we plan to ratify it as soon as possible. We strongly believe that both of our countries will greatly benefit from it.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the award recipients for their accomplishments and thank the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce for all you are doing for the development of bilateral trade.

Andrej Plenković



*Veleposlanik Republike Hrvatske u Kanadi
Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Canada
Ambassadeur de la République de Croatie au Canada*

Ottawa, April 18, 2017

*Dear Mr. Marion,
Dear Members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce,*

On behalf of the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations to Mr. President Marion and to all members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Evening.

In the past twenty two years the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce has come a long way and done a great deal of commendable work. The passion for connecting and representing businesses and sharing knowledge has never diminished over the years. The Chamber has been helping to move Croatian – Canadian relations forward and supporting the business community in driving growth and prosperity forward.

The Chamber and its members prove all the times their commitment to bring together businesses, organizations and professionals with strategic relationships (economic, commercial, political and cultural) in both Canada and Croatia.

The EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), which aims to boost goods and services trade and investment flows, was approved by the European Parliament on February 15, 2017. The landmark trade deal could apply provisionally from as early as June or July 2017.

"By adopting CETA, we chose openness and growth and high standards over protectionism and stagnation. Canada is a country with whom we share common values and an ally we can rely on. Together we can build bridges, instead of a wall, for the prosperity of our citizens. CETA will be a lighthouse for future trade deals all over the world" European Parliament's rapporteur for the CETA agreement said after the vote.

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere congratulations to the award recipients for their accomplishments.

Over the years, the Chamber has provided invaluable support to the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Canada in their efforts to enhance cooperation between the two countries. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you. We are looking forward to our future cooperation.

Wish you all a great success.

Sincerely,

Marica Matković
Marica Matković
Ambassador



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
MISSISSAUGA
918 Dundas St. E., Suite 302, Mississauga, ON, L4Y 2B8
Tel: (905) 277-9051 Fax: (905) 277 5432
e-mail: croconsulate.miss@mvep.hr

April 24, 2017

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia in Mississauga, I take great pleasure in extending congratulations to the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce on the occasion of the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Evening. I also wish to congratulate the Chamber on its productive and successful work in bringing together many successful business people and for continually becoming more and more important and influential in Croatian, as well as in Canadian circles.

One of the excellent events organized by the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce is the Annual Business Excellence Awards Evening during which the leaders of the Canadian-Croatian business community are acknowledged. Those individuals are not only successful as entrepreneurs, they also play an indispensable role in promoting business development and cooperation between Canada and Croatia. It is our pleasure and privilege to extend our congratulations to them and to show them our recognition and support.

On behalf of the Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia in Mississauga I thank the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce for this evening, as well as for the great cooperation and generous support they continually provide to the Consulate in organizing our many joint activities. We also thank the celebrants of this evening for their hard work and wish them success in future business endeavours.

Sincerely yours,

Andrea Javor

Consul General



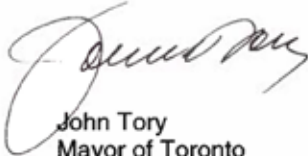
Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala hosted by the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

The City of Toronto is proud of organizations and individuals that are committed to making a difference and recognizes their contributions to the economic and social well-being of our communities. Their tremendous efforts and talents impact the lives of many and make our city better.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I thank the organizers and wish everyone an informative and enjoyable event.

Yours truly,



John Tory
Mayor of Toronto



May 2017



Personal Message from Mayor Bonnie Crombie

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Mississauga and Members of Council, I would like to acknowledge the members, volunteers and leadership of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce on organizing the *15th Annual Business Excellence Awards*.

This award ceremony celebrates the accomplishments of Canadian-Croatian entrepreneurs – men and women with the vision, knowledge, and determination that transformed ideas into successful businesses.

The nominees and award recipients have helped create employment opportunities. Their talents continue to make positive, important and lasting contributions to the economies of communities like Mississauga. Congratulations to all the winners being celebrated this evening; they have rightly earned their recognition.

In closing, I offer my sincerest best wishes to the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce on hosting another successful event to celebrate the accomplishments of local entrepreneurs and thriving businesses.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bonnie Crombie".

Bonnie Crombie, MBA, ICD.D
Mayor, City of Mississauga



CITY OF KITCHENER
Office of Mayor and Council
200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7
Phone: 519.741.2300 Fax: 519.741.2800

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dobro došli. Welcome to everyone attending The Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce's (CCCC) 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Evening on Friday, May 12, 2017.

On behalf of Kitchener City Council, I would like to congratulate all of this evening's winners. Your leadership, excellence and innovation has not gone unnoticed by those in the Croatian-Canadian business community.

Organizations such as the CCCC are vital to our communities, providing professional development support, fostering entrepreneurship, and building cultural and educational ties between many different groups in our communities. Thank you to The Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce for providing the support these entrepreneurs need to build successful businesses.

Naša zajednica je puno postigla kroz zadnjih nekoliko godina. Kroz zajedničku suradnju, naš narod i naša poduzeća mogu postignuti još više u budućnosti.

I trust in the coming years the CCCC will see many more successes and will continue to grow, supporting many new Canadian-Croatian professionals along the way.

Once again, congratulations as you celebrate the 15th anniversary of your dinner gala.

Uz srdačan pozdrav/Sincerely,

Berry Vrbanovic
~Mayor~
City of Kitchener





Mayor Rick Goldring
City of Burlington

City Hall, 426 Brant Street
Burlington, Ontario L7R 3Z6

Tel.: 905-335-7607
Fax: 905-335-7708
mayor@burlington.ca
www.burlington.ca

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



May 2017

Greetings from Mayor Rick Goldring

On behalf of the city of Burlington and all members of City Council, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the award recipients, guests, members and volunteers who are here this evening for the 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards Gala hosted by the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

My sincere congratulations go to all the award recipients – both individuals and organizations – who are being recognized tonight for their leadership, innovation and excellence, and community achievement within the Croatian-Canadian business community. It is citizens and organizations like these who continue to grow our community into what it is today – a great place to live, work, and play.

I would also like to offer my thanks to all members of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce for your ongoing efforts to promote and to develop Croatian-Canadian business and relationships between our two countries through your many cultural and educational networking opportunities and events.

Najbolje želje za sve vas.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Rick Goldring". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Rick Goldring
Mayor, City of Burlington



THE OFFICE OF
MAYOR FRED
EISENBERGER
CITY OF HAMILTON



It is my pleasure to welcome you the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce, 15th Annual Business Excellence Awards.

Tonight's event recognizes leadership, innovation and excellence within the Croatian-Canadian business community.

In addition to providing networking opportunities to its members, the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce plays an integral role in the development of bilateral trade relations between Canada and Croatia, as well as being proud community supporters.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the organizers and volunteers who play a vital role to ensure an enjoyable evening.

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable event.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Eisenberger".

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor





Canadian Croatian Chamber of Commerce

Croatia in recent years has initiated a process of change where economic priorities have become more relevant than specific political agendas. With a focus on lowering debt, decreasing unemployment, utilizing EU funds and establishing an economic climate that promotes long term stability Croatia has made positive steps forward. In 2017 Croatia is no longer in recession and is reporting positive growth with an increase in GDP expected over 3% in 2017. A new wave of development is occurring in the tourism sector with over 3 billion Euro's of investment in new hotels and infrastructure this year. With growth in the market a new hope has encouraged many young entrepreneurs to open small businesses including a whole new wave of trendy restaurants and businesses catering to the needs and wants of today's society. This is being further motivated with the availability of low interest loans funding new businesses and real estate. With stable politics and support from government agencies this resurgence of growth could become even greater in the years to come providing Croatian's the opportunity to improve their standard of living and establish them selves for a better tomorrow.

The Croatian diaspora in Canada can play a vital role in supporting this growth and in taking advantage of the opportunities that exist today. By considering opportunities for investment in Croatia as a individual investor with a new opportunity for the Croatian/European market or partnership with a local company where transfer of knowledge or expertise can improve an existing business and open new markets. Croatia has never been more ready for investment and new growth and now is the time to take advantage and seriously evaluate opportunities in Croatia.

The Canadian Croatian Business Network and the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce have important roles in supporting and promoting these opportunities. We must encourage and help prepare the foundations for positive and stable future growth. With the CETA agreement coming into effect in the next year clear trade advantages will occur between Canada and Croatia that will only further affirm and provide potential investments a clear competitive advantage.

As President of the Canadian Croatian Business Network I can confirm that we believe positive advancements in the economic climate have occurred and will support stable future growth for Croatia. We encourage Croatians in Canada to strongly consider investments in Croatia to take advantage of these trends and recognize the potential opportunities that now exist. The CCBN will be happy to assist and provide support and guidance if required providing a strong support network of people and companies who already are successfully operating businesses in Croatia.

The Annual CCCC Awards Dinner is a great example of how the Croatian Canadian Business Community is committed to supporting stronger ties between Canada and Croatia and we hope that your success will promote and support future growth in Croatia.

Sincerely,

Joe Bašić

President of the Canadian-Croatian Business Network (CCBN)



Leaders in Canadian Business Law. Worldwide.

"They bring **tremendous legal skills and practicality** to business transactions. They are very easy to work with."

Client interview, Chambers Global

"We **wouldn't get business done without them.**
They're that good."

Client interview, IFLR1000



Contact:
Ivan T. Grbešić
Partner, Stikeman Elliott
igrbesic@stikeman.com

STIKEMAN ELLIOTT



We Make It Our Business To Make Our Communities Stronger

Living and working in your community, MNP recognizes the importance of organizations like the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce in celebrating leadership, innovation and excellence within the Croatian-Canadian community locally and nationally. We congratulate the recipients of this year's Business Excellence Awards and applaud your contribution.

At MNP, we believe in protecting what's important to our clients and communities—our children, our families and the enterprises that support them. Leveraging our experience working with diverse organizations across the country, MNP delivers a full suite of solutions tailored to help you achieve your unique business goals.

Contact Joe Draganjac at 905.270.9154 or joe.draganjac@mnp.ca

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takes you.



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About the Chamber

Founded in 1995, the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit network of Croatian-Canadian individuals, professionals, businesses and organizations that has emerged as the voice of Croatian-Canadian business in Canada.

The Chamber brings together a vibrant and dynamic group of individuals, professionals, businesses and organizations who have developed strategic relationships in both Canadian and Croatian economic, commercial, political, and cultural worlds and is able to draw on these relationships to the benefit of its members.

The Chamber's objectives include:

- Providing networking opportunities both in a social and business setting
- Sponsoring and promoting cultural events, educational lectures, seminars, exhibitions, and conferences on relevant and timely topics
- Acting as a source of information and counsel to government bodies and the public in matters affecting Canada-Croatia business and trade and the Croatian-Canadian community in Canada in general
- Promoting the development of bilateral business relations, trade, and investment opportunities between Canada and Croatia and working with the Canadian-Croatian Business Network, the Croatian Chamber of Economy and other organizations on opportunities that advance our common goals and interests

Beyond the wide variety of benefits that the Chamber offers to its members (including business connections, access to government, professional development), membership increases your business' visibility and exposure in the community.

Your investment represents a commitment to the future growth and development of our whole community.

Together, we make success!



The Chamber's recent achievements include:

Business Opportunities

- Providing networking opportunities through business, community and social events
- Connecting members with members to facilitate significant trade and commerce
- Organizing various educational and business related seminars including co-organizing (in affiliation with the Canadian-Croatian Business Network which is based in Croatia) recent Croatian trade missions to Canada hosted in Toronto

Youth Involvement

- Supporting our youth through a scholarship and bursary fund developed in conjunction with the Croatian-Canadian Library
- Establishing a mentorship program for Croatian-Canadian post-secondary students and recent graduates
- Placing co-op students with Chamber members

Community Involvement

- Working with and supporting local Croatian organizations and endeavours, including, among others, the Croatian-Canadian Library, various folklore groups, the Croatian Embassy (Ottawa) and the Croatian Consulate (Mississauga), to preserve our common heritage
- Promoting community events and news through our community web portal at www.croat.ca
- Recognizing excellence and leadership in the Croatian-Canadian community through the annual Business Excellence Awards Evening
- Supporting and promoting Croatian-Canadian artists and authors
- Financially contributing to Croatian demining program
- Co-organizing a fundraising campaign and dinner in support of the Vukovar Tower Restoration Project
- Formation of the British Columbia Chapter of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce

Advocacy and Lobbying

- Educating Canadians on our history in Canada through support of historical research and representation at relevant Canadian organizations
- Building ties with Croatia by receiving and hosting Croatian representatives visiting Canada, attending meetings with contacts in Croatia, and presenting at business seminars in Croatia

Agenda for the Evening

- 6:00 PM Cocktail Reception
Opening Bids for Silent Auction
- 7:15 PM Welcome Address, Ivan Grbešić
National Anthems, Danijela and Julijana Hajdinjak
Dinner
- 7:30 PM Scholarship and Bursary Awards Presentation
- 8:00 PM Awards Ceremony
- 9:15 PM Keynote Address, Mate Rimac
CEO/Founder at Rimac Automobili d.o.o.
- 10:45 PM Raffle *Red Label* Silent Auction Closes
- 11:00 PM *Blue Label* Silent Auction Closes

Featured Performers

Danijela and Julijana Hajdinjak

Danijela and Julijana have been a part of the Croatian music scene, entertaining at weddings, festivals and banquets. They have shared the stage with Croatian artists including Mate Bulić, Gazde and other notable artists at last years Christmas concert with the Croatian Radiotelevision Tamburitza Orchestra. Julijana has just recently teamed up with filmmaker, Stephanie Vizi, and has finished scoring her documentary *Mistissini Healing*, which will be premiered on June 7, 2017 at the Bloor Hot Docs Cinema. Meanwhile Danijela is busy recording and arranging her original songs in studio. If you are interested in booking them for an event, please contact Julijana at 416-705-4874.

Grupa Volta

Realising that no wedding is complete without traditional tambura music, Grupa Volta was formed in 1993 to help people celebrate their weddings with a taste of our beloved Croatia. Grupa Volta can be still be found entertaining wedding parties Saturdays, but they also play for wedding receptions, banquets, and other festivities. We are proud of our Croatian heritage and are pleased to be able to share it with all! To book your event please contact Grupa Volta at 519-658-6115 or email tambura@crolinks.com. www.crolinks.com/tambura

Looking back at some activities over the last year

March 2016



Croatian Authors Book Presentation and Signing Event

May 2016



14th Annual Business Excellence Awards

September 2016



Stipe Miocic vs. Alistair Overeem

September 2016



Meet and Greet with Stipe Miocic, UFC Heavyweight Champion

September 2016



14th Annual Taste of Croatia

November 2016



Her Excellency Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic with Members of the Croatian Catholic Clergy from Southwestern Ontario

November 2016



Youth Mentorship Mixer with Her Excellency Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic and Danny Pehar

November 2016



Her Excellency Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic in the City of Kitchener and a Tour of the University of Waterloo

November 2016



Her Excellency Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic meets with the BOD and Benefactors of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce

November 2016



Her Excellency Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic visits U of T's Downtown Campus

November 2016



Gala and Fundraising Dinner in Support of the Vukovar Water Tower Restoration Project

December 2016



Community Celebration – "Hrvatski Božić"/ Croatian Christmas



Keynote Speaker

Mate Rimac

Croatian inventor, entrepreneur, founder and CEO of Rimac Automobili and Greyp Bikes.

Mate has been very passionate about cars and electronics from his early age. As his final high school project, Mate created iGlove, a glove that implemented functionalities of keyboard and computer mouse. Next project, which was later patented and sold to one car manufacturer, was Active Mirror System – system of moving mirrors that helps solve the blind spot problem while driving. These two patents were very soon recognized both nationally and globally, took Mate to innovation competitions all around the world, and made him win dozen of innovation awards. In 2014 Mate won “Order of Danica Hrvatska”, medal given by Republic of Croatia, for his continuous contribution to innovation.

After earning his first money by selling the abovementioned patent, Active Mirror System, Mate bought himself a BMW e-30 that he used to compete in drag and drift races. When on one of the races his engine exploded, Mate decided to combine his two passions – cars and technology, and started the process of converting the internal combustion engine car into an electric one. That car, which was later officially homologated as “Rimac Automobili e-M3”, is holding 5 FIA and Guinness World records for acceleration (100km/h in 3.3 seconds) and represents the beginning of Mate’s commitment to build the next generation of supercars.

In 2009, Mate founded Rimac Automobili Ltd., the company that focuses on the development and production of high-performance electric vehicles, powertrains and battery systems. This small high-technology company from Croatia is the company behind the idea and production of Concept_One – world’s first electric hypercar with more than 1000 HP, an exceptional supercar with a new propulsion system as well as the revolutionary approach to vehicle dynamics - All Wheel Torque Vectoring (AWTV).

Only two years after founding the company, Mate and his team introduced their first Concept_One at the 2011 Frankfurt Motor Show. The majority of its components are developed and manufactured in-house. In collaboration with FIA Formula E the Concept_One is used as the official zero-emission race director’s car during Formula E events.

An emerging tech start-up and car producer, Rimac Automobili can be considered a driving change in the automotive industry as well as a pioneer in the Croatian automotive industry.

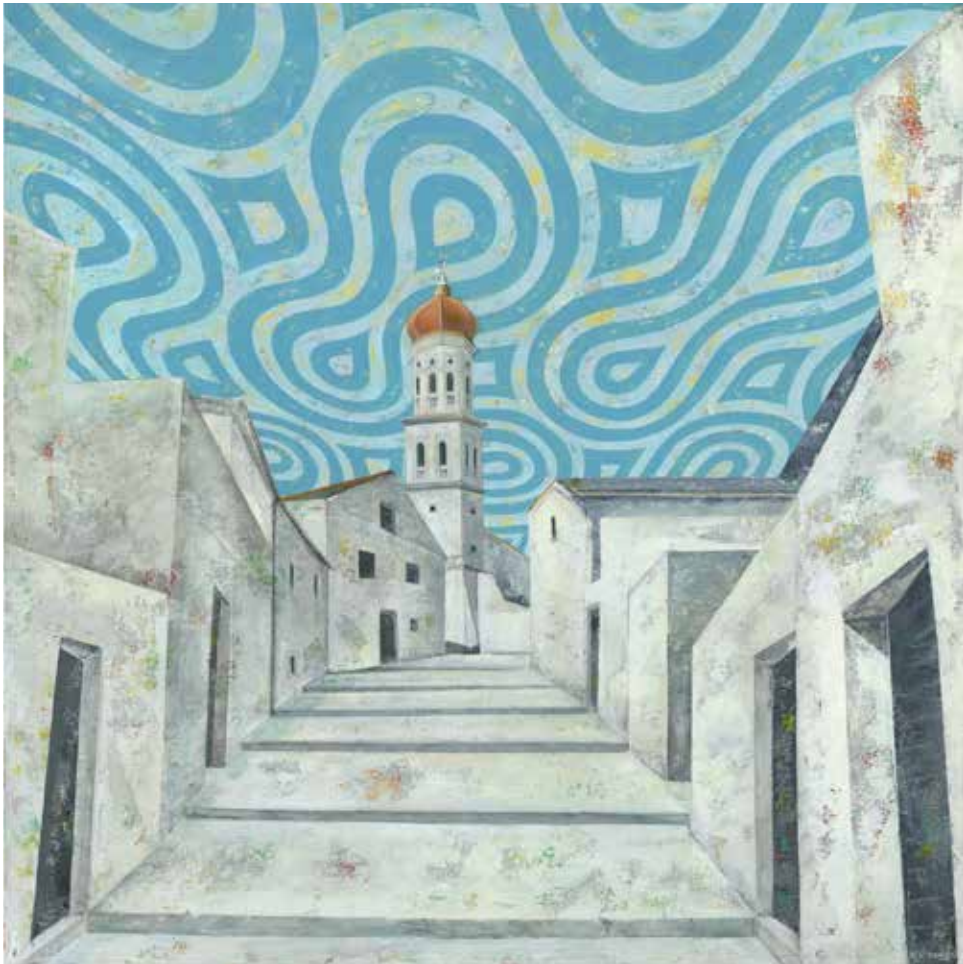
2013 Mate founded a new company – Greyp Bikes, with the purpose of manufacturing high-tech two wheelers. After the extremely successful Greyp G12, which was delivered to 26 countries on 5 different continents, its successor, the new Greyp G12S, with its stunning performance (90 km/h top speed, 80 minutes recharging time, range up to 120 km) takes the whole experience even further.

Rimac Automobili has been voted the best employer in Croatia three years in a row (2014-2016) while being the only high-tech manufacturing company among high-profile companies in the country allowing the company to attract the best talents in the industry. Along with Greyp Bikes, Rimac family already counts more than 200 employees, with almost half of it as Rimac Research and Development Department. Rimac R&D team is the one making the change in the automotive industry, developing and improving the technology on a daily basis, providing engineering solutions not only for Rimac electric sports supercars, but for companies all around the world.



This year's award print

"City of Dreams" is a combination of abstract and realistic styles, made in acrylic and oil on canvas. It is a combination of three-dimensional characters in counterpoint with two-dimensional backgrounds, where the intention is to draw the viewers' attention into the whole atmosphere.



Martina Vrbanić
Visual artist

Phone: 416-705-5086
mail@martina-vrbanic.com
www.martina-vrbanic.com

About the Artist

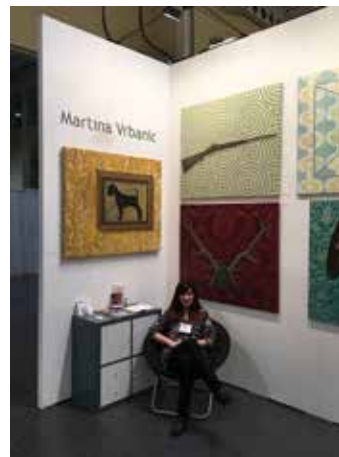
Martina Vrbanić is a contemporary painter living and working in Toronto, Canada. Born in Zagreb, Croatia, Martina moved to Canada in 2012. She received her Bachelor and MFA Degree in Painting from the Academy of Fine Arts at the University of Zagreb in 2008 in class of Professor Emeritus Duro Seder. In 2006 she received a scholarship for fall semester at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, USA where she focused on painting and printmaking. She also studied Marketing and Management and she received her MBA Degree in 2013.

Martina has been a member of the Croatian Artists Association (HDLU) in Zagreb since 2008 and she is a member of the Statutory Committee at HDLU since 2010. Since 2009 she was actively involved in coordination of different art projects with Croatian Artists Association (HDLU) – 30th Salon of Youth, Artomat Christmas Fair, Uptown Art Colony and many other. She coordinated Uptown Art Workshops in collaboration with the Zagreb Tourists Bureau, as the primary sponsor for introducing open Art events to the general public during the summer months in the historical part of the city - Strossmayer Promenade.

Martina's paintings consist mainly of oil and acrylic on canvas and at the heart of her artistic research is her engagement in the relationship between the object, material, movement, and poetic expression.

Martina has been proactively involved in many personal and group art exhibitions, art workshops as well as in projects in public space. For a better look at her work visit her website.

www.martina-vrbanic.com





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The Youth Mentoring Program was established to offer post-secondary students with an opportunity to communicate with professionals and entrepreneurs in order to discuss career aspirations, work initiatives, and other career related matters. The program has been extremely well received and has benefited both the students and the Mentor volunteers. Matches are established based on the students' career aspirations, interests, location, and other factors.

Mentors participating in the Youth Mentoring Program are carefully selected individuals who have proven themselves successful in their careers and/or businesses, and who support the endeavours of the program to provide a service of high standards and quality, and are prepared to make time available to assist our youth in making career related decisions.

Should you feel you fit the profile of a Mentor and you would like to get involved in the program, please e-mail the following details to contactus@croat.ca. (name and surname, telephone number, email address, business address, and area of expertise) and we will contact you in due course.



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This scholarship is awarded primarily on the basis of financial need as well as academic merit/ scholastic achievement, previously demonstrated capacity for successful completion of studies, and a capacity for high achievement.

The deadline for submissions is May 31, 2017.

The scholarship recipient will be notified by June 16, 2017.

To apply, students must review and submit a completed application package to:

Attention: Scholarship and Bursary Committee
Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce
630 The East Mall
Toronto, ON M9B 4B1

To receive a copy of the application package or to obtain further details please visit us at www.croat.ca or email us at contactus@croat.ca.

The In2ition Scholarship Award is managed by the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund, which is a joint program developed and administered by the Croatian-Canadian Library and the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.



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Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund: Scholarship and Bursary Award Recipients (2016/2017)

We are pleased to announce that the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund has awarded two (2) scholarships and one (1) bursary for the 2016/2017 school year. The funds have been awarded in order to help further the education of full-time post-secondary students in Canada.

Congratulations to each of the recipients!



Agnes Crnic

\$2,000 Scholarship Award Recipient

Agnes is studying towards her Doctorate in Medicine at the University of Ottawa, having already completed a Bachelor and Master of Science. Agnes is a very active volunteer, dedicating her time to the Rape Crisis Centre, Mothercraft Birthing Centre and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada. She has been granted the unique opportunity to pursue an additional year of training in her field of study.



Igor Huskic

\$2,000 Scholarship Award Recipient

Igor, a student at McGill University has completed a Bachelor and Master of Science from the University of Zagreb and is pursuing his PhD in Chemistry. With six (6) published scientific papers, Igor has already achieved great success in his discipline. He has received two T. Sterry Hunt Awards and he is co-chair of the Gordon Research Seminar in Crustal Engineering.



Mateo Menalo

\$1,500 Bursary Award Recipient

Mateo is currently a student at the University of Toronto studying Paramedicine. Mateo is a councillor for underprivileged youth at Camp Ozanam and a cross country enthusiast. He is a member of the University of Toronto Varsity Track and Field Team and was awarded Engineering Idol Champion in 2015.

Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund



The Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund is a joint program developed and administered by the Croatian-Canadian Library and the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

We take great pride in our ability and commitment to help further the education of full-time post-secondary students in Canada.

Scholarship and bursaries will be awarded to students enrolled in a full-time post-secondary program at a university or college in Canada.

For details about the Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund,
please visit www.croat.ca

The application submission deadline for the 2017/2018 school year
is February 2, 2018.

Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund

DONOR RECOGNITION LEVELS



KING TOMISLAV (\$100,000+) - King Tomislav was a ruler of Croatia in the Middle Ages. He reigned from 910 until 928, first as Duke of Dalmatian Croatia from 910 until 925, and then he became the first King of the Croatian Kingdom in 925 and reigned until 928. He is celebrated as the founder of the first Croatian state, uniting the Croats of Dalmatia and the Slavs of Pannonia into a single Kingdom. He ruled over the territory of today's Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, rounding off his state from the Adriatic Sea to the Drava River, and from the Raša River in Istria to the Drina River.



QUEEN JELENA (\$50,000-\$99,999) - Jelena of Zadar was the queen consort of the Kingdom of Croatia, as the wife of King Michael Krešimir II, from 946 to 969, a period which was allegedly marked by "peace, order and expeditious growth". She became the queen of Croatia after her husband died and reigned until her death in 976. Also known as "mother of orphans and protectress of widows", she was revered by her subjects and most adored for her charity and known for bringing peace to the Kingdom.



KING PETAR KREŠIMIR IV (\$25,000-\$49,999) - Petar Krešimir IV was a notably energetic King of Croatia from 1059 until his death in 1075. He was the last great ruler of the Krešimirović branch of the House of Trpimirović. Under his rule the Croatian realm reached its peak territorially, expanding Croatia along the Adriatic coastland and in the mainland eastwards and bringing Slavonia into the Croatian fold. This expansion earned him the sobriquet "the Great".



KING DMITAR ZVONIMIR (\$10,000-\$24,999) - Dmtar Zvonimir was King of Croatia from 1076 until his death. He also ruled as Ban of Slavonia (1064 to 1074), and was named Duke of Croatia in around 1075. His native name was Zvonimir, while the name Dmtar was adopted at his coronation. He took a hard line against the Byzantine Empire. He was the last native king who exerted any real power over the entire Croatian state, which he inherited at its height and ruled it from the city of Knin.



PRINCE BRANIMIR (\$5000-\$9,999) - Branimir was a ruler of Dalmatian Croatia who reigned as Knez from 879 to 892. He was recognized by Pope John VIII as the Duke of the Croats. During his reign, Croatia retained its sovereignty from both Frankish and Byzantine rule, and became a fully recognized state.



NIKOLA ŠUBIĆ ZRINSKI (\$2500-\$4999) - Nikola Šubić Zrinski was a Croatian nobleman and general in service of the Habsburg Monarchy, Ban of Croatia from 1542 to 1556, and member of the Zrinski noble family. He was known across Europe for his involvement with the Battle of Szigetvár and is today seen as a hero by both Hungarians and Croatians.



VICEROY JOSIP JELAČIĆ (\$1,000-\$2499) - Viceroy Josip Jelačić of Bužim was the Ban of Croatia from 1848 to 1859. He was a member of the House of Jelačić and a noted army general, remembered for his military campaigns during the Revolutions of 1848 and for his abolition of serfdom in Croatia. On April 19, 1848, he proclaimed the union of Croatian provinces, and the separation from the Kingdom of Hungary.



MARKO MARULIĆ (\$500-\$999) - Marko Marulić (1450-1524) was a Croatian moral philosopher and poet and Christian humanist, known as the Crown of the Croatian Medieval Age and the father of the Croatian Renaissance. He is one of the most important figures in Croatian literature. He was also the first to use the term "psychology" in his Latin treatise, *Psichiologia de ratione animae humanae*.

Croatian-Canadian Scholarship Fund

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The Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia warmly invites all members of the Canadian-Croatian community to join us in the City of Toronto's Parade of Nations celebration of Canada's 150 birthday on July 1, 2017.

Who?

All Canadian-Croatian individuals and organizations.

When?

June 2017 - Volunteers are needed to help prepare or parade floats.
July 1, 2017 - Walk the Parade of Nations with the Croatian community.

How to get involved?

Register by May 26, 2017 by emailing canada150parade@gmail.com.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Help us create the most beautiful and memorable floats with your financial and/or in-kind donations. For further information, please email canada150parade@gmail.com.



The Croatian-Canadian Library's Membership Campaign has started!

Membership fees are:

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2017 memberships will be valid to the end of the 2018 Calendar year!

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Limited edition Giclée print (signed and numbered) on canvas of Eric Christensen's watercolor "Destination Napa" featuring Grgich Hills Estate's Cabernet Yountville Select.

Master watercolorist Eric Christensen is known for his hyper-realistic wine still life paintings. Christensen has painted many of the Napa Valley wines and is a celebrated Wine Country Artist. He is Self-taught, and invented a watercolor technique that allows him to create images of vibrant color that go beyond the look and depth of a high quality photograph. Christensen is the only known artist capable of hyper-realism through the use of standard watercolor. Christensen loves to capture the romance of the wine country which he points out "is so much more than the wine".

By pushing watercolor paint to its absolute limits, Christensen has invented a new way to paint with this traditional medium. Using non-standard watercolor paper and employing a dry brush technique, Eric starts out with thin washes then builds meticulously to over 30 subsequent layers of paint. Eric's technique allows him to achieve much stronger colors and shadows than can be found with traditional watercolors.

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cold swimming pool, relaxing areas, water beds, wellness bar)

SPAeVITA centre of beauty and care

(massage chambers, facial and body treatments, hammam,
private spa with a whirlpool)



Numerous hospitality facilities

(Restaurant Lati, a la carte restaurant
Castle Mihanović, Element bar - Mexican cuisine,
Infinity bar with an atrium, Terra lounge bar)

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CROATIA

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THE CLUB

SUMMER HOURS

Monday-Friday 5 p.m.-1 a.m.

Saturday-Sunday PRIVATE PARTIES

Having a birthday, wedding rehearsal, anniversary, or any other party?

Our staff can supply an assortment of buffet and beverage options to make your next gathering a great success!

To make reservations or book your family event, **please call 905-662-8333**.

ALSO! Have the entire restaurant to yourself! This summer we will be closed to the public on weekends to make our space available for your private party!



FACILITY RENTALS

For information about the banquet hall, party room, canopy, and other amenities for your next gathering or event, please check **rentals.hamiltoncroatia.com**, or contact facility rental manager Frank Perin at **905-928-3808** to book your function!

SUMMER EVENTS!

SUNDAY, MAY 28



Kick off summer 2017 with the Croatia Day 'BIG' Picnic!

SUNDAY, JUNE 11



FIFA 2018 WC Qualifier:
Iceland vs. Croatia, 2:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17



Youth Team's Stag & Doe:
Fundraiser for Cleveland!

SATURDAY, JULY 29



60th Anniversary Banquet

SUNDAY, AUG. 27



Super Sunday Picnic, feat.
House League Awards and
the HamCro HotDog Contest!

FRIDAY, SEPT. 1



Annual Youth Awards Night

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2



FIFA 2018 WC Qualifier:
Croatia vs. Kosovo, 2:45 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 5



FIFA 2018 WC Qualifier:
Turkey vs. Croatia, 2:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10



19th Annual Golf Classic

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16



3rd Kotlovina Cook-Off

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Baka Gallery Cafe is a great place to relax, work or socialize, while enjoying a cup of Toronto's best coffee, specialty tea, or a cold, refreshing drink.

Every aspect of our cafe highlights local Toronto culture - from the unique atmosphere, to the decor promoting local artists. Indulge in an elegant yet casual cafe environment, while enjoying one of our freshly made sandwiches, pizzas or homemade gourmet delights.

Come check out **our brunch menu** served Saturdays and Sundays 9:00 am to 2:00pm. Indulge your taste buds with Challah French Toast or the perfect poached eggs on potato latkes, accompanied by a fresh Mimosa or Baka Caesar.

Baka Gallery Cafe is the ideal contemporary event space to entertain up to 60 guests in trendy Bloor West Village.

Complete with beautiful exposed brick, incredible Italian bar, original artwork and customizable catering menu, the Gallery is ready for your next big event. Located on the upper level of our Cafe, the Gallery's sleek design, sophisticated atmosphere and state-of-the-art AV equipment makes it the perfect venue for your next party, workshop or business meeting. Our friendly and dedicated staff will work with you to create the ultimate experience and an unforgettable event.

bakacafe.com

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