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Registered Charity #853912194RR0001

# WINTER 2025



**As 2024 and our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary comes to a close, thank you for your continued support of NASHI'S lifechanging work.**

**To the volunteers – you have made so many impactful contributions over the past 2 decades that it would be impossible to list them all. You have put in countless hours to make NASHI the success it is. Your strengths and skills have been essential in making this world a better place. We are so grateful for all you have done.**

**We could not have possibly reached this milestone without the continued support and commitment of our donors. Whether it is through your individual, church, organization or business donations you have believed in our mission of educating the public on human trafficking and building our safehouse, The Maple Leaf Centre.**

**We look forward to continuing this mission. Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is a milestone that belongs to all of you. Please continue with us in building another chapter of this journey.**

## **TO 20 YEARS AND BEYOND**

## **Bev Patruk Visited NASHI Girls in Poland 2024**



As a member of Nashi for 17 years, I had the opportunity to travel to Poland for part of my summer. I started my journey in Wroclaw Poland and made my way Krakow. It was there that I met Olena. She had just finished her university year and was anxious to get home to her large extended family. We took the bus from Krakow and about three hours later we arrived in a small village where the Nashi girls are currently calling home. Maria welcomed me, and I instantly felt the love and happiness in their

home environment. I got to witness, firsthand, how our Nashi group in Saskatoon has made such a huge difference in the lives of these young girls. They love Maria so much and take pride in everything they do. I spent the evening visiting with everyone and playing charades with the girls. They were anxious to read stories and show me their English skills. In the morning, I woke up to giggles and laughter as the girls were making waffles and breakfast for the group. It warmed my heart when I was greeted with many hugs and smiles. As Savelia says, everyone in this world should be doing something. I am so thankful that these girls are safe and thriving and that I get to be a part of this amazing group.

### **NASHI's AutoLotto Raffle and 50/50 Draw**

Thank you everyone for supporting NASHI's Auto Lotto and 50/50.

For the 2005 T-Bird Convertible we thank Brian Knoblauch for the generous donation of his prize car.

Winner of the T-Bird—Peter A.

Winner of the 50/50—Kristy G.



Peter enjoying his new ride

## PERSONAL NOTE FROM MARIA, OUR MAPLE LEAF HOUSE DIRECTOR ON HER VISIT TO CANADA

After thousands of kilometres – we are in Canada! How long I have waited for this moment! How often I have been with you in my thoughts! I never could fathom how people living in far-away Canada could care so deeply about the fate of Ukrainian children, about those devoid of parental love and care.

This was an unbelievably deep and sincere encounter. These days were, for me, extremely special. I received so many warm, loving embraces, so much attention and there were so many tears of joy. I am thankful beyond measure for the great personal gift you have given me! You, in the short time of my stay in Saskatoon, did so much for us! We became acquainted with the city of Saskatoon with its beauty and peace, its history. Saskatoon is truly a lovely place! I met so many fine people there who respect and love their country.

I thank everyone, who in one way or another, is part of the great NASHI family! You have changed many lives for the better! How many children's dreams have become reality, thanks to you! The impossible has become possible! Our hearts will always be grateful for your support for our children who need it so much! How important this is for every little girl who comes to live in our Maple Leaf House. How much it means for them to realize that they are loved and that someone is actively concerned for their lives – that they have a kindred shoulder on which to lay their heads, those with whom they can share their experiences and sorrows, and not be afraid that their pains will be multiplied.

Our Maple Leaf House is not merely walls, or a roof over the head, or food, although these things are important for daily life. The Maple Leaf House is about something bigger. It is about love, human values, refuge, traditions and many other good things that the girls learn when they come to live here. Our House is a place of hope and growing self-confidence for every girl who steps over its threshold.

In the passing years, how good and pleasant it is to see the girls' positive transformations as they learn the value of education, and self-care and development. The little successes that they experience daily are, in reality, very meaningful for them. You not only provide love and support for the girls, but by your example, you are showing them the importance of loving and caring for others, far beyond oneself.

Our House is about love, family and refuge. When children grow in love and dignity, and someone remembers their needs, meets those needs, then they are truly fortunate and blessed.

I am thankful beyond measure to God for providing for us the great family that is NASHI. I embrace and implore God's deepest blessing on each one of you. Thank you for the wings on which you have carried me!





# SNAPSHOTS FROM

Greeting our guests from Ukraine at the airport



Live Music to greet Gala guests



Edmonton Guests



Some stylish local supporters



Off to the Western Development Museum in Style



Visiting the Wanuskewin Heritage Park





# NASHI'S 20th Anniversary GALA



Students Helping at Gala



Guests from Toronto and Ukraine with Savelia



Rider Fans are Everywhere!



Sydney and David on the Red Carpet



Some of our beauties



The auction table



Attendees at the Gala

# WASN'T THAT A PARTY!

Wasn't that a party?! Just like a 3-day Ukrainian wedding on Oct.11 & 12, NASHI celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Gala to be remembered. It started with Friday's Meet and Greet organized by Terri's team and 100 people in attendance.

On Saturday guests, from all over Canada, walked the red carpet for a photo op and were greeted by lively toe-tapping music by the Harasymchuks. Guests were reunited with travelling companions and people who they did not know but were united in a common goal to save the lives of vulnerable girls and making the world a better place. The atmosphere was electric and abounded with laughter, hugs and tears. Our catered meal was delicious. We wanted to give our fabulous volunteers to dress in their finery instead of our usual kitchen aprons! It also allowed our team the opportunity to sit back, relax and enjoy our guests.



Volunteers at the Meet and Greet – Elena, Donna & Joanne

NASHI'S Maple Leaf House director, Maria, along with her daughter Olena and one of the girls from our house, who has lived there for 8 years, Nastya, were guest speakers from Ukraine. They delivered heartfelt stories and we were so touched by their bravery, love for each other and love towards all of us. There were so many hugs these days as we all met our extended family from Ukraine and throughout Canada.



Gwen celebrating her birthday at the Gala

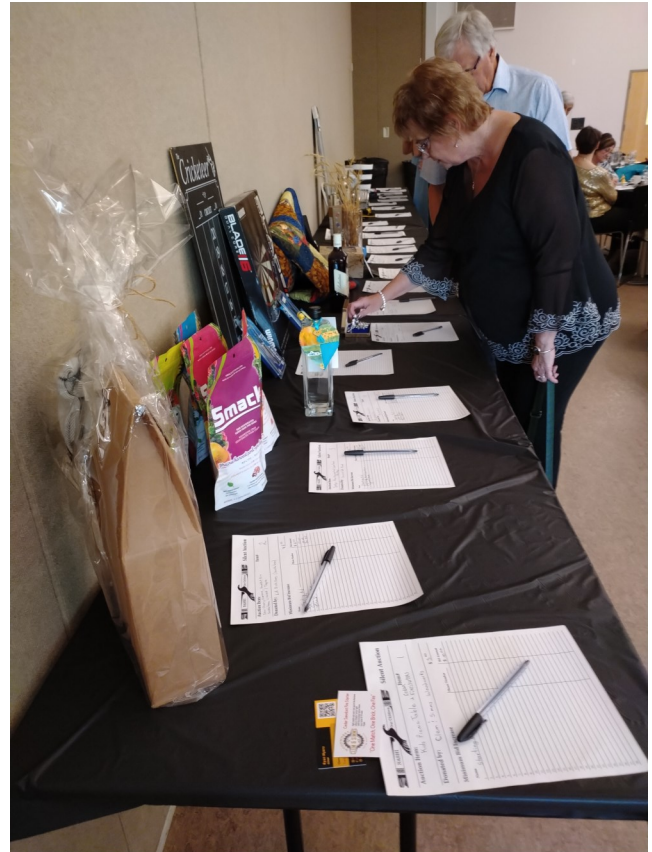
Other guest speakers included Victor Malarek, NASHI'S godfather. Victor has written 9 books as an investigative journalist and has visited NASHI'S Maple Leaf House on a few occasions. Throughout all NASHI'S 20 years, Victor has been with us on our journey. We also had the pleasure of hearing from Sydney Fream, who along with her husband, visited the girl's temporary home in Poland.

Carey emceed our Gala night and had a chance to don his purple zoot suit jacket as well as his Saskatchewan Roughrider jersey. He was masterful. To the many volunteers, you made this event such a success and you indeed are the BEST!

To our donors, attendees and volunteers, our Gala committee of Eva, Elena, Betti, Freddie and Savelia, would say how much we appreciated your attendance and THANK YOU for an amazing event.

**Joanne Boys, Gala Chairperson**





## REWARD

To donate and volunteer is to contribute your goodness to humanity unselfishly without seeking any rewards.

**MAKE A DONATION: Transform Lives Today**

### Donations through:

Cheque

E-transfer – [admin@nashi.ca](mailto:admin@nashi.ca)

Pay Pal

Canada Helps

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Credit Card – phone: 306-653-4646

Mailing address: 535 8<sup>th</sup> Str. E., Saskatoon, SK. S7H 0P9.

### Follow NASHI on:



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**YOUR DONATIONS HELP YOUR GIRLS HEAL FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA AND BUILD HEALTHY INDEPENDENT FUTURES.**



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